

May __, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Assistant Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jon Kyl
Assistant Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Reid, McConnell, Durbin and Kyl:

We the undersigned organizations are writing to ask for your help in achieving passage of a robustly funded and comprehensive child nutrition reauthorization bill before the end of the 111th Congress that will ensure more low-income children have access to these valuable programs and take a strong step forward to meet the challenge of ending childhood hunger by 2015.

According to the USDA nearly one in four children in the United States is food insecure: that is, some 17 million children who face hunger. Child nutrition programs offer the healthiest and most nourishing meals that many children receive each week. For many poor children, they may be their only fully-balanced meals. Moreover, there are many poor children who do not have access to nutrition programs at all. This is particularly true for children living in low-income and rural areas where breakfast, child care and after school, or summer and weekend food programs are not available to them.

Data on child nutrition program participation illustrate the point that there are millions of low-income children who do not have child nutrition programs available to them. In FY2009, 19.5 million low income children received free and reduced price school lunches. This compared to only 9.1 million receiving free and reduced price breakfasts, and only 2.2 million children in summer food programs. Moreover, only 3.1 million children are in child care centers and homes with federally supported child nutrition programs. Clearly these are large gaps in service that must be filled quickly if we are to accomplish an end to childhood hunger, and time is running out to reach this goal by 2015.

Our organizations are united in the call for completion of a strong and fully funded child nutrition reauthorization bill before the end of this year. Two hundred twenty one members of the House of Representatives have written to Speaker Nancy Pelosi, urging her assistance in identifying resources to achieve President Barack Obama's commitment of \$10 billion in additional funding for child nutrition over 10 years. We therefore respectfully request that you bring S.3307 to the Senate floor with the full funding increase proposed by the President, with the right mix of funding, and on a schedule that assures that this year this important legislation can fill the gaps in access that remain for millions of our nation's poorest children.

Respectfully,

National Organizations

9to5, National Association of Working Women
Action for Children
Afterschool Alliance
Alliance to End Hunger
American Commodity Distribution Association
American Community Gardening Association
American Federation of State, County, and
Municipal Employees
American Federation of Teachers
American School Health Association
Americans for Democratic Action, Inc.
Association of Nutrition Services Agencies
Bread for the World
Catholic Charities USA
Center for Law and Social Policy
Children's Defense Fund
Church Women United
Coalition on Human Needs
Community Action Partnership
Community Food Security Coalition
Congressional Hunger Center
Early Care and Education Consortium
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Feeding America
First Focus Campaign for Children
Food Research & Action Center (FRAC)
Half in Ten Campaign
Jewish Council for Public Affairs
Jewish Reconstructionist Federation
Land O' Lakes, Inc.
MAZON-A Jewish Response to Hunger

National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the
Good Shepherd
National Association for Family Child Care
National CACFP Forum
National Collaboration for Youth
National Council of Jewish Women
National Education Association/
National Farmers Union
National Recreation and Park Association
National WIC Association
National Women's Law Center
NETWORK: A National Catholic Social Justice
Lobby
Presbyterian Church USA
RESULTS
Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
School Nutrition Association
Service Employees International Union
Share Our Strength
Sodexo
Sodexo Foundation
The Episcopal Church
The United Methodist Church-General Board of
Church and Society
Union for Reform Judaism
United Church of Christ
United Fresh Produce Association
Universities Fighting World Hunger
Voices for America's Children
WhyHunger

State/Local Organizations

Alabama

Auburn University
Jefferson County Child Development Council Inc.

Alaska

Food Bank of Alaska

Arizona

Arizona Association of Family Day Care Providers
Arizona Community Action Association
Association of Arizona Food Banks
Desert Mission Food Bank
Grand Canyon Synod - ELCA
St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance
United Food Bank

Arkansas

Arkansas Affiliate American Association of Family
and Consumer Services
Arkansas Hunger Alliance
Flint Street Fellowship Food Pantry
Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas
FPC Food Pantry
Project HOPE Food Bank
South West Arkansas Food Bank

California

9to5 Bay Area
9to5 Los Angeles
A World Fit For Kids
California Association of Food Banks
California Breastfeeding Coalition
California Emergency Foodlink
Central Valley Association for the Education of
Young Children
Child Care Food Program Roundtable
Child Nutrition Program of Southern California
CHILDS-PACE
Community Child Care Council (4Cs)
Community Food Bank of San Benito County
Continuing Development Inc.
Contra Costa Child Care Council
Family Resource & Referral Center
FCEOC Head Start
Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano
FOOD Share
Genesis House, Inc.
Good Samaritan Baptist Church
Greater Richmond Interfaith Program
Imperial Valley Food bank

Interfaith Food Bank
International Institute of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Coalition to End Hunger &
Homelessness
Lord's Pantry
Napa Valley Food Bank/CANV
National Council of Jewish Women, California
State Public Affairs
Newport-Mesa Federation of Teachers
North Coast Opportunities Rural Communities
Child Care
Orange Children & Parents Together, Inc
Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County
Second Harvest Food Bank Santa Cruz County
Sister Evelyn Mourey Center, Inc
Sparrow Project
St Vincent de Paul, Dixon
St. Vincent de Paul, Concord
The Resource Connection Food Bank
Western Center on Law and Poverty

Colorado

9to5 Colorado
Hunger Free Colorado
Lutheran Advocacy Ministry - Colorado
Luv In Action

Connecticut

Connecticut Association for Human Services
Collaborative Center for Justice
End Hunger Connecticut!
Food Bank for Larimer County
Jewish Federation of Eastern Fairfield County

Delaware

Food Bank of Delaware

District of Columbia

Capital Area Food Bank
D.C. Hunger Solutions

Florida

AME Missionary Society
Boca Helping Hands
Caring For Others Ministries
CharityExpressInc.
Circle of Life
Community Foundation for Palm Beach and
Martin Counties
Community Partnership Group
CROS Ministries-United Methodist Church
Easter Seals of S. Florida

EBPrest
ECHO (Emergency Care Help Organization)
Episcopal Charities of Southeast Florida
Evangelical Christian Bible Ministries
International
Family Assistance Coalition, Inc.
Family Central.org
Florida Conference AMEC Women's Missionary
Society
Florida Impact
Gainesville Commission on the Status of Women
Gulfstream Goodwill
Holy Name of Jesus Food Pantry
Housing Partnership
IBEW #728 AFL-CIO
ISF Group, Inc.
Lutheran Social Services of Northeast Florida Inc
Million Meals Committee
Okeechobee County School District
Palm Beach County Community Food Alliance
Second Harvest North Florida
St. George's Center, Inc.
St. Luke's United Methodist Church
St. Paul A.M.E. Church, Tallahassee
Strong WoMen Network
Tampa Jewish Federation
The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida
The Jewish Community Relations Council of the
Greater Miami Jewish Federation
Treasure Coast Food Bank
True Tabernacle of Jesus Christ Ministries, Inc
United Methodist Women
Zoe Ministries

Georgia

9to5 Atlanta Working Women
Chatham County Nutrition Program
Feeding the Valley, Inc.
Georgia School Nutrition
Savannah Chatham County Public School System

Hawaii

Aunty Jill's Playgroup
Family Support Hawaii
It's A Small World Daycare
Kimberley Limasa's Day Care
Knight's Day Care
Little Learners Preschool, LLC
Maui Economic Opportunity
PATCH
Saint Joseph Preschool
Seagull Schools
Shen's Daycare
Waiokeola Congregational Church
Wesley Childrens Programs

Idaho

Monastery of St. Gertrude
Tables of Hope

Illinois

Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service
Center
Greater Chicago Food Depository
Illinois Hunger Coalition
Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition
Lutheran Advocacy—Illinois
National Council of Jewish Women, Illinois State
Public Affairs
Northern Illinois Food Bank
Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry
Respond Now
River Bend Foodbank
Vital Bridges NFP, Inc.

Indiana

Feeding Indiana's Hungry, Inc.
Food Bank of Northwest Indiana
Indiana Coalition for Human Services
Jewish Community Relations Council-Indiana
KALP NETWORK, INC.
Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central
Indiana

Iowa

Food Bank of Iowa

Kansas

Children's Mercy Family Health Partners
Church
Church World Service-Great Plains Office
Communities In Schools of Kansas
Douglas County Child Development Association
El Centro, Inc.
Family Resource Center, Inc.
First Lutheran Early Education Center
First Street Church of God
GraceMed Health Clinic, Inc.
Heart of Kansas Family Health Care
Heritage Preschool
Hillview Christian Children's Center
Jewish Community Center
Jewish Community Relations Bureau of Kansas
City
Kansas Action for Children
Kansas Association for the Medically
Underserved
Kansas Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Kansas Children's Service League

Kansas City Kansas Community College Campus
Child Care Center
Kansas Health Consumer Coalition
Open Arms Lutheran Child Development Center
Partnership for Children
Rawlins County Dental Clinic
The Family Resource Center
Tri-County Smart Start
United Way of Wyandotte County
Winter Center for Restorative Justice, Inc.
Women's Community Y, Leavenworth

Kentucky

Jewish Community Relations Council of Louisville
Family and Children First
God's Pantry Food Bank

Louisiana

LUNCH Program
National Council of Jewish Women, Louisiana
State Public Affairs

Maine

Catholic Charities Maine
Maine Alliance for Children's Care

Maryland

Maryland Hunger Solutions

Massachusetts

Massachusetts Citizens for Children
New England Farmers Union
Project Bread-The Walk for Hunger
Worcester Advisory Food Policy Council
Worcester County Food Bank

Michigan

Center for Civil Justice
Christian Reformed World Relief Committee
Good Samaritan Family Services
Learning Care Group
Legal Services of Eastern Michigan
National Council of Jewish Women, Michigan
State Public Affairs

Minnesota

Kids Against Hunger
Minnesota FoodShare
Second Harvest Heartland

Mississippi

Public Policy Center of Mississippi

Missouri

American Jewish Congress-St. Louis Region
Harvesters Community—The Food Network
Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis
National Council of Jewish Women-Missouri
State Public Affairs
The Society of St. Andrews

Montana

Child Care Partnerships

Nebraska

Food Bank for the Heartland

Nevada

Food Bank of Northern Nevada
Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada
Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Nevada

New Jersey

Abundant Life Community Development Corp
Abundant Life Fellowship Church
ALPS Daycare & Preschool
Andres Gautier Ministries
Association for Children of New Jersey
Capital Health
Catholic Charities
Catholic Charities BECS
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton
Catholic Charities, Emergency and Community Services
Community FoodBank of NJ/Southern Branch
El Centro Day Care
Elijah's Promise
First Baptist Church Harrisonville
Food Bank of South Jersey
Greater Woodbury Cooperative Ministries Food Pantry
Highland Park Community Food Pantry
HOPES CAP, Inc.
ICNA-NJ
Jewish Federation of Greater Middlesex County
Koinonia Family Life, Inc.
Living Hope Christian Center
Meeting Emergency Needs with Dignity
Mercer Street Friends Food Bank
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
My Brother's Keeper

National Council of Jewish Women, State Public Affairs Network
New Jersey Farm To School Network
Outreach Ministry of Cecil Deliverance Tabernacle
Park Avenue Community Church
Puerto Rican Action Committee of Southern New Jersey, Inc.
Regional Office, Church World Service / CROP Hunger Walks
Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Spoken Word Evangelistic Church Food Pantry
St. Mary Street United Methodist Church
St. Paul's Food Basket
St. Vincent De Paul OLMC Conference
St. Vincent De Paul Society
The Apostles' House
Touch New Jersey Inc.
Wiley Church food pantry

New Mexico

Bread for the World-New Mexico
Lutheran Office of Governmental Ministry-New Mexico
New Mexico Community Foundation
New Mexico Voices for Children
NM Center on Law and Poverty

New York

Brooklyn Food Coalition
Broome-Tioga BOCES
Caroline Food Pantry
Catholic Charities-Brooklyn and Queens
Catholic Charities-New York
Center for Children's Initiatives
Citizens' Committee for Children of New York, Inc.
City Harvest
Colesville Community Pantry
Community Action Agency of Franklin County
E S Foods
Early Care and Learning Council
Family Enrichment Network
Food Bank of Central New York
Food Bank of the Southern Tier
Foodlink
Healthy Kids Initiative
Infant Jesus Church
Islamic Circle of North America
Long Island Cares, Inc.
New York City Coalition Against Hunger
New York School Nutrition Association, Inc.
North Fork Housing Alliance, Inc.
Nutrition Consortium of New York State
Opportunities for Otsego, Inc.
Pro Action of Steuben and Yates, Inc.

Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York
Rural Health Network of South Central New York
Saint Peter Damian Fraternity SFO
Schenectady Inner City Ministry
Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy
SER of Westchester Inc.
Single Stop USA
Springs Union Free School District
The POINT Community Development Corporation
The Salvation Army
Tioga Central School District
Wellsville Central School
West Side Campaign Against Hunger

North Dakota

SENDCAA

Ohio

Attica Community Food Pantry
Banquet Table Food Pantry Trinity Friends Church
CALL Food Pantry
CareSource
Christian Corner Community Center
Churches United Pantry
Cleveland Foodbank
Freestore Foodbank
Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati
Ohio Association of School Nurses
Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks
Ohio Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Ohio School Based Health Care Association
Second Harvest Food Bank Clark, Champaign, Logan Counties
The Center for Community Solutions
The Lord's Pantry
United Way of Ashtabula County
West Ohio Food Bank

Oklahoma

Inter-Tribal Council, Inc of Northeast Oklahoma

Oregon

Adelante Mujeres
CARE Connections
ChangeTakesAction
Child Care Development Services Inc
Children's Institute
Florence Food Share
Jackson-Josephine 4-C Council
Lane Workforce Partnership
Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of Oregon

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency
Montavilla Farmers Market
Neighbors For Kids
North by Northeast Community Health Center
Nutrition First CACFP - Community Action
Oregon Food Bank
Oregon Hunger Task Force
Organic Fresh Fingers, Inc.
Our Savior's Lutheran Church Summer Lunch Program
Portland Chapter of Hadassah
Portland Dietetic Association
Rogue Valley Farm to School
Soroptimist International of Florence
Southern Oregon Child and Family Council
St. Pius X Catholic Church/Faith Cafe
Take Action Now
West Linn Lutheran Church

Pennsylvania

Adagio Health
Ashley Food Bank
Boys and Girls Club, Plymouth Extension
Brashear Association
Bread for the World-Pennsylvania
Bread of Life Food Pantry
Care Net Pregnancy Center
Child Development Council of NEPA, Inc.
Church of God In Christ
Church of the Loving Shepherd
Columbia/Montour Tapestry Of Health
Commission on Economic Opportunity
Community Food Warehouse of Mercer County
East Liberty Presbyterian Church
Faith Assembly of God
Family and Community Service of Delaware County
Family Health Council of Central PA
First Baptist Church, New Castle Food Pantry
Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger
Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
Greater Washington County Food Bank
H&J Weinberg Food Bank of NEPA
Israel Ben Zion Academy
Jewish Family Services of York
Just Harvest
Lincoln Park Community Center, Inc.
Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania
McGlynn Center
Meadow Lands United Methodist Church
Mid-Valley Hospital
National Association of Social Workers-PA Chapter
National Council of Jewish Women, Pennsylvania State Public Affairs
PA Association of Regional Food Banks
Pennsylvania Council of Churches

Pennsylvania Hunger Action Center
Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc.
Presbytery of Philadelphia
Public Citizens for Children and Youth
Rainbow Kitchen Community Services
Second Harvest Food Bank of NW PA
Second Harvest of Lehigh Valley & Northeast PA
St. James Church Social Justice and Peace Committee, Wilkinsburg
Step By Step, Inc.
TREHAB Food Bank
Unitarian Society of Germantown Green Sanctuary
United Way of Beaver County
Volunteers of America-Pennsylvania
Westmoreland Community Action
Westmoreland County Food Bank

Rhode Island

Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

South Carolina

Billie Hardee Home for Boys
Children's Trust of South Carolina
Christ Central Columbia
Christ Central, Inc.
Focus on Kids
Harvest Hope Food Bank
Mental Health America of SC
SC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
Security Federal Bank
South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center
United Way Association of South Carolina
Unity Missionary Baptist Church

South Dakota

South Dakota Voices for Children

Tennessee

Black Children's Institute of Tennessee
Manna-Food Security Partners
Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee

Texas

Alameda Heights Community Center
Amazing Grace Fellowship Baptist Church Food Pantry
Austin RESULTS Domestic Group
Baptist Benevolence of Irving
Baptist General Convention of Texas
Blood 'N Fire Foundation
Calvary Baptist Food Pantry
Capital Area Food Bank of Texas

Care Center Ministries
Catholic Charities of Dallas
Center for Children and Families
Christian Life Commission
Community Lifeline Center
Concord -- Food Pantry
DeSoto Food Pantry
Driscoll Children's Hospital
East Texas Food Bank
Fannin County Community Ministries
Food Bank of the Golden Crescent
Food Bank RGV
Girls Inc. of Metropolitan Dallas
Greater Zion Food Pantry
Houston Food Bank
Islamic Center Of Irving
Jack and Jill Day Care Center
Lake Cities Community Food Pantry
MASDFW
MetroHaven of Love Inc.
Midlothian Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
Montgomery County Food Bank
New Hope Compassion Outreach Ministries
North Texas Food Bank
Services Of Hope, Inc
Share Center
Shared Housing Center
Shiloh Baptist Church
Sustainable Food Center
Texas Baptists (BGCT)
Texas Baptists Christian Life Commission
Texas Food Bank Network
Texas Hunger Initiative

The Shepherd's Storehouse
The Substance Abuse Council
Turtle Creek Recovery
Wolfe City Food Pantry

Vermont

Voices for Vermont's Children

Virginia

Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia
ICNA Council for Social Justice
Islamic Circle of North America VA
Skyline Community Action Partnership
Society of St. Andrew
Voices for Virginia's Children

Washington

Children's Alliance
Food Lifeline
Lawyers Helping Hungry Children
Lutheran Public Policy Office of Washington
State
Olympic Community Action Program
United Way of King County
University District Food Bank
Washington State Food and Nutrition Council

Wisconsin

9to5 Milwaukee

cc: Senator Blanche Lincoln
Senator Saxby Chambliss
Senator Max Baucus
Senator Charles Grassley