

Got Funding?

Finding Additional Program Resources While Nourishing Children Through Federal Nutrition Programs

Expanding Opportunities in the Upcoming Child Nutrition Reauthorization

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Richard Russell National School Lunch Act, Declaration of Policy

"It is hereby declared to be the policy of Congress, as a measure of national security, to safeguard the health and well-being of the Nation's children and to encourage the domestic consumption of nutritious agricultural commodities and other food, by assisting the States, through grants-in-aid and other means, in providing an adequate supply of foods and other facilities for the establishment, maintenance, operation, and expansion of nonprofit school lunch programs."

42 U.S.C. Sec. 1751 (1946)

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Food Insecurity in the U.S.

- 36.2 million people lived in households considered to be food insecure.
- Of these 36.2 million, 23.8 million are adults (10.6 percent of all adults) and 12.4 million are children (16.9 percent of all children).
- The number of people in the worst-off households increased to 11.9 from 10.8 in 2005. This increase in the number of people in the worst-off category is consistent with other studies and the Census Bureau poverty data, which show worsening conditions for the poorest Americans.
- Black (22.2 percent) and Hispanic (20.1 percent) households experienced food insecurity at far higher rates than the national average.
- The ten states with the highest food insecurity rates in 2007 were Mississippi, New Mexico, Texas, Arkansas, Maine, South Carolina, Georgia, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2007 3

What is the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act?

- Authorizes all federal child nutrition programs
- Provides funding to ensure that low-income children are surrounded by access to healthy and nutritious food
- Improves educational achievement, economic security, nutrition and health

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Statutory Authority

- Amends two existing statues that authorize all of the child nutrition programs:
 - The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act
 - Created the National School Lunch Program
 - The Child Nutrition Act of 1966

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Child nutrition programs affected by the Reauthorizaiton

- **The National School Lunch Program**
 - Guarantees that millions of low-income children receive a healthy lunch during their school day
 - All children can participate in the program
 - Low-income children qualify for free or reduced-price meals
 - Children who qualify for free or reduced-price school lunch also qualify for the School Breakfast Program

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Child nutrition programs affected by the Reauthorizaiton

• The School Breakfast Program

- Ensures that children across the country have a healthy breakfast at the start of their school day.
- Children are eligible for free, reduced-price or paid breakfasts based on their families' incomes.

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Child nutrition programs affected by the Reauthorizaiton

• The Child and Adult Care Food Program

- Reimburses child care centers, Head Start Programs, family child care homes, homeless shelters and afterschool programs for providing snacks and meals to children
- Generally, children under the age of 12, as well as certain disabled adults can participate,
- Homeless shelters and afterschool programs can serve children 18 and under

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Child nutrition programs affected by the Reauthorizaiton

• The Summer Food Service Program

- Ensures that children (18 and under) who depend on school lunch and breakfast during the school year still have access to free, nutritious meals and snacks during the summer when school is out
- Provides reimbursements to schools, local government agencies and private nonprofit organizations that serve free meals and snacks to children at sites located in a low-income area or that serve primarily low-income children

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Child nutrition programs affected by the Reauthorizaiton

- **The Afterschool Snack and Meal Program**
 - Bridges the hunger gap between lunch and dinner for children who participate in afterschool programs
 - Provides federal funds to private nonprofit and public organizations (including schools) so they can serve nutritious snacks and, in some cases, meals as part of afterschool programs

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Child nutrition programs affected by the Reauthorizaiton

- **The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC**
 - Provides nutritious foods, nutrition education, and access to health care to low-income pregnant women, new mothers, infants and children.
 - The monthly food package is a combination of foods chosen to improve nutrition for pregnant women, new mothers, and their infants

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Child nutrition programs affected by the Reauthorizaiton

- **Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program**
 - Provides funding to schools to serve fresh fruits and vegetables to children during or after the school day
 - Only schools in which at least 50 percent of the students are eligible for free and reduced-price school meals can apply to participate in the program.

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Child nutrition programs affected by the Reauthorizaiton

● The Special Milk Program

- Provides funding to serve milk to children in schools and childcare institutions who do not participate in other nutrition programs

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Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004

- Expanded availability of nutritious meals and snacks to more school children, in outside school hours programs, and in child care
- Contained provisions to improve nutrition quality of meals served in schools
- Simplified application process for children and their parents
- Required all school districts participating in the National School Lunch and/or School Breakfast Programs to establish local wellness policy by 2006-2007 school year

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Eliminate Child Hunger by 2015

1. Feeding and Nourishing America's Children
2. Providing all Poor Children with a Free School Meal
3. Providing Nutrition Assistance throughout the Year
4. Supporting Community-Based Providers

Obama and Biden: Tackling Domestic Hunger, 2008

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CN Reauthorization Basics

Every 5 years, Congress reauthorizes the federal child nutrition programs

Programs include:

- School Breakfast Program
- National School Lunch Program
- Afterschool Snack and Meal Program
- Child and Adult Care Food Program
- Summer Food Service Program
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

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Committee Jurisdiction

House Education and Labor Committee

*Subcommittee on Healthy Families & Communities

Senate Agriculture Committee

*Subcommittee on Nutrition and Food Assistance, Sustainable and Organic Agriculture

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Tentative Legislative Timeline

Spring 2009 House Ed & Labor and Senate Agriculture Committees hold hearings on CN Reauthorization. (Staff begin establishing priorities)

Summer 2009 Senate Agriculture Committee begins mark up of CN Reauth. Bill

House Ed and Labor Committee begins mark up of CN Reauth. Bill

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Tentative Legislative Calendar

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|-------------|--|
| Winter 2009 | House & Senate "conference" (reconcile differences) between House and Senate-passed CN Reauth. Bills and both pass final (conference) bill |
| Early 2010 | President signs Child Nutrition Reauthorization bill and it becomes law. |

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Child Nutrition Forum's Statement of Principles

A well-conceived, adequately funded reauthorization bill can reduce hunger and food insecurity in America, help reduce childhood overweight and obesity, improve child nutrition and health, and enhance child development and school readiness. To this end we call on the Administration and Congress to enact a reauthorization bill that:

- **Assures and strengthens** program access and supports participation by underserved children and communities;
- **Enhances** nutrition quality and provides adequate meal reimbursements; and
- **Modernizes** technology and simplifies program administration and operation.

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Statement of Principles: Access

I. Improving access to nutritious foods in schools, child care centers and homes, in afterschool programs, on weekends, during the summer, and in the home.

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**Statement of Principles:
Nutrition Quality**

II. Enhancing the nutritional environment to promote healthy eating habits for women and children.

**Statement of Principles:
Program Administration**

III. Modernizing and streamlining program operations to improve program integrity and efficiency.

Take Action

1. Sign onto the Statement of Principles, http://frac.org/Legislative/action_center/statement_principles.htm
2. Go to FRAC's Child Nutrition Reauthorization Center, http://www.frac.org/html/federal_food_programs/cnreauthor/cnrc.htm

Organize a Site Visit with Your Elected Officials



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Additional Actions

4. Staying Connected from your agency to Washington, D.C.– Conference Calls
5. Create a Scrap Book/Photo Album of your agency's programs to share with elected officials
6. Postcard Photo Campaign

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For more information

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