









Status Report on Hunger in Rhode Island: Recommendations

-  Streamline the enrollment process for SNAP and hire more state workers to keep up with the influx of new SNAP applicants. More SNAP users mean more federal dollars for Rhode Island.
-  Double the value of SNAP benefits when used at farmers' markets to encourage SNAP recipients to purchase healthy fruits and vegetables and to boost sales for local farms.
-  Expand the Rhode Island Community Food Bank's "Raising the Bar on Nutrition" program to encourage more food pantry users to cook healthy, low-cost meals.
-  Reauthorize the WIC program with enough federal funding to serve the growing caseload of eligible families requesting WIC food packages and nutrition education.
-  Increase reimbursement rates for school breakfast and lunch so that schools can afford to serve high quality meals.
-  Feed more children by providing breakfast free-of-charge and serving breakfast as part of the school day at schools where the majority of students receive free lunch.
-  Include Rhode Island in federal funding for suppers served at afterschool programs in low-income communities through the Afterschool Meals Program.
-  Add summer meal sites in Rhode Island with sports and fitness activities to help more children eat well and exercise when schools are not in session.