Hunger & Food Insecurity in North Carolina

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MomsRising.org
MamásConPoder.org
OPENING THE CUPBOARDS ON HUNGER IN NORTH CAROLINA

WHO IS HUNGRY IN AMERICA?

1 IN 8 STRUGGLES WITH HUNGER

1 IN 6 CHILDREN STRUGGLES WITH HUNGER

NORTH CAROLINIA IS THE...

10TH HUNGUERIEST STATE IN THE U.S.

1 IN 5 CHILDREN STRUGGLES WITH HUNGER IN N.C.

IN 18 N.C. COUNTIES

1 IN 4 CHILDREN STRUGGLES WITH HUNGER

WHAT DOES HUNGER LOOK LIKE IN NORTH CAROLINA?

PEOPLE IN NEARLY 590,000 NC HOUSEHOLDS DON’T HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT EACH DAY

NC HAS THE 3RD HIGHEST RATE OF SENIOR HUNGER IN THE U.S.

14.4 PERCENT OF NC HOUSEHOLDS ARE FOOD INSECURE

WHAT ACTIONS CAN YOU TAKE?

1. Join our campaign to raise awareness about hunger in North Carolina and reduce food insecurity in our state. Add your name to our million member movement for moms and people who love them. Text MOMS to RISING (747464) to join!
PROVEN POLICIES TO DECREASE HUNGER

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Women, Infants & Children (WIC)
- School Nutrition Programs
- Food Banks & Food Pantries

MomsRising.org
MamásConPoder.org
CHARITY ALONE IS NOT THE ANSWER
We will never food bank our way out of hunger because the charitable response could never meet the demand. Even the nation’s largest anti-hunger organization can’t make a dent in ending hunger in America.

2015 budget for the nation’s largest anti-hunger organization

$2.2 billion ÷ $1.66 = 1,323,024,055 total meals ÷ 42.2 million meals per person per year (enough for a little over a week)

# of Americans living in food insecure households

MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
Why are People Hungry?

One of the root causes of hunger is “economic inequality driven by poor wages.”

“Racism is a contributing factor to the disproportionate rates of poverty and food insecurity among persons of color.”

-Andrew Fisher
Pre-COVID19 Snapshot in NC
What did SNAP and WIC look like in NC?

- > 42% of SNAP recipients are in working families
- Almost 31% of SNAP recipients are in families with members who are elderly or have disabilities
- > 65% of SNAP participants are in families with children
- 32.8% of children 0-3 receive SNAP benefits
- SNAP helps 1 in 5 rural and small town households & 1 in 8 households in metro areas
- 212,000 women, infants and children participate in WIC
What did School Nutrition look like in NC?

- Approximately 903,000 children eligible for free-and-reduced-priced lunch, or about 59% of children in participating schools
- School Breakfast
- At Risk Afterschool Meals Program
- Summer Meals
Food Banks & Food Pantries in NC

- Feeding the Carolinas Network provides food to 2.3 million Carolinians facing hunger, including over 670,000 children
- Food Bank of CENC:
  - Nearly 600,000 people face hunger across their 34 county service area
  - Last year Food Bank provided nearly 69 million meals to families and individuals
What’s Happening Now
Nationwide Waivers

- Allow parents and guardians to pick up meals
- Temporarily waive meal times requirements
- Allow meals be served in non-congregate settings
- Waive the requirement that afterschool meals and snacks served through certain programs be accompanied by educational activities
- Physical presence waivers
- Remote benefit issuance waivers
Statewide Waivers Approved for NC

- Pandemic EBT
- SNAP Online Pilot Program
Current NC Legislative Session

- $6,000,000 for the 7 Feeding the Carolinas Food Banks
  - Purchase Food
  - Management, Storage, and Transportation
  - Additional labor
- $78,000,000 for School Nutrition Programs
Moving Forward: School Nutrition Programs

- During the last 2 weeks in March alone:
  - 3 million breakfast and lunch meals
  - 40,000 supper meals
  - More than 40,000 snacks
- SNPs expending $7 million a week during the crisis, which comes to $91 million to keep school meal programs running through June 12
- Difference of $13 million between proposed budget and expenditures
Moving Forward: Other Advocacy Areas

- Food Banks
- Access to NC Summer Feeding Programs
- Policies that increase local purchasing and increase access to online SNAP
- 15% bump in the maximum SNAP benefits:
  - It would help both struggling families and the economy!
  - SNAP is a proven form of stimulus for boosting the economy and reducing food insecurity
  - One of the largest, most effective anti-poverty programs
  - It can get food to people quickly
Shifting the Narrative

Voices of Hunger in North Carolina

Presented by:

NORTH CAROLINA ALLIANCE FOR HEALTH

MAZON
A Jewish Response To Hunger
How to get involved

● Join our campaign on hunger & food insecurity
● Join the NC anti-hunger coalition:
  ○ Food Banks & Food Pantries
  ○ NC Child
  ○ MomsRising
  ○ NC Justice Center
  ○ NC Alliance for Health
  ○ End Hunger Durham
  ○ And more!
Contact Information

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