

NJ Synod Child Hunger Task Force

"children need food"

It seems an obvious statement
"children need food"
but in New Jersey today,
one in four children is at risk of hunger.



Children who have not had enough to eat have trouble
focusing in school, fighting sickness, and thriving in general.



The School Lunch Program often provides children
with the only complete meal they eat in a given day.
**New Jersey's proposed budget would eliminate
\$5.9 million in state subsidies to school meals
programs (breakfasts & lunches).**

With even more limited budgets...

- Schools will be forced to compromise the nutritional quality of foods served.
- Some schools may decide not to serve breakfast at all.
- For those families who pay for school meals, it is estimated that the cost will increase by 50¢-75¢ per meal, creating a hardship for working families earning just over the income limit to get free or reduced meals - that is a family of four with a yearly gross income of just over \$40,794

URGENT ACTION NEEDED NOW

We know all of you are very busy, but please take a few minutes
to write and send a letter (*and get a few others to do the same*).

REMEMBER

Hearing from constituents has a big impact on elected officials!

Please mail letters as soon as possible (*sample letter on back*)

The budget decisions are being made now.

*To learn more about the NJ Synod's Child Hunger Task Force,
contact the Synod Office at 609-586-6800 or
Lee Zandstra at 609-699-4133 or Lzandstra@lsmnj.org*

*Help maintain important programs that feed hungry children by
writing to your NJ state assemblyman/woman and state senator.*

Find your legislator at www.njleg.state.nj.us

SAMPLE LETTER:

Dear Assemblyman/Senator _____,

I am a resident of _____, NJ and I am writing because I am
concerned about Governor Christie's proposed cuts to school breakfast
and lunch programs.

In these difficult economic times, so many families in NJ
struggle to make ends meet and feed their families. Now is not the time
to cut necessary funds from school meal programs that provide nutrition
to our children so that they can learn and grow to their full potential.

As your constituent, I am asking you to oppose cuts to school
meals and work to restore full funding for school breakfast and lunch for
our kids.

Thank you for your consideration,

Signature

Name, Address

Expert from the Resolution Approved at the NJ Synod Assembly 2010

RESOLUTION ON CHILDHOOD HUNGER LEGISLATION

Submitted by the New Jersey Task Group on Child Hunger

...Whereas strengthened childhood nutrition programs provide an immediate
and direct way to reduce childhood hunger,

Therefore be it resolved that the 2010 Assembly of the New Jersey Synod of
the Evangelical Lutheran church in America:

- Call on New Jersey's United States Senators and members of Congress
to support both reauthorization of all Federal Childhood Nutrition
programs and expanded funding for them, so that these programs can
become more effective tools in ending childhood hunger in the United
States.
- Call on Governor Christie and the New Jersey State Legislature to
restore state funding that supports the School Breakfast and School Lunch
Programs, but which has been marked for elimination in the state's
proposed 2010-11 Fiscal Budget.

Be it further resolved that voting members of this Assembly communicate this
action to congregations of the Synod, urging members of congregations to learn
about proposals to reauthorize and expand childhood nutrition programs so that
they may advocate for these measures, and...