

2005-06 Budget Prep Underway

This is the time of year when state agencies prepare budget requests for the fiscal year that begins next July. Hunger Action has submitted the following recommendations.

- \$2.5 million for the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, an increase of \$500,000. This would enable the Department of Agriculture to serve all of the low-income seniors who are requesting help.
- \$550,000 for Food Stamp Program outreach grants, an increase of \$100,000. This would enable the Department of Public Welfare to include more low-participation counties in its outreach plan.
- \$400,000 for Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) start-up grants. This would enable the Department of Education to spur the success of the new, 2-year federal SFSP pilot in rural Pennsylvania.
- \$18.5 million for the State Food Purchase Program, an increase of \$1.0 million. This would enable the Department of Agriculture to increase by 6 percent the grants it makes to counties to buy food for emergency pantries and kitchens..