

## Food Stamp Program Competing for Farm Bill Dollars

The picture is starting to come into focus. Congress wants to commit \$15 - \$20 billion in new spending over the next five years to the programs in the Farm Bill. Nutrition (mostly the Food Stamp Program) will get a slice of that. So will cotton, rice and wheat growers, specialty crop growers, ethanol producers, land grant universities, rural development commissions and water and soil conservationists. How much will go to nutrition? That depends on how agriculture committee politics shake out over the next three months.

And on whether Congress can find the money. "We're a long way off from seeing how the agriculture committees are going to come up with financing," said Ellen Vollinger of the Food Research Action Center. The \$15-\$20 billion in new spending is just a goal; to become reality, it must be funded by

spending cuts and tax increases. Under the pay-as-you-go rules adopted by the Democratic Congress, no new spending is guaranteed.

Anti-hunger groups are making the best of it. "The Farm Bill comes along once every five or six years and has a huge impact on whether we have more hunger or less," said Joni Rabinowitz of Just Harvest in Pittsburgh. "It's important to let Congress know why investing in nutrition is both the right thing and the smart thing to do."

Anti-hunger advocates are in general agreement on what needs to be done to strengthen the Food Stamp Program.

- Benefit amounts need to be raised so that families have the buying power to follow a healthy diet; the current benefit level (about one dollar per meal on average) may be enough for a high calorie diet but won't buy many fruits and vegetables.

- The minimum benefit amount and asset standards need to be adjusted for inflation; outdated and artificially low limits make it more difficult than it used to be for the elderly and the working poor to qualify.

- Legal immigrants and able-bodied adults without children should be permitted to participate in the

*Continued on page 6...FSP Dollars*

### IN THIS ISSUE

April 2007

Volume XXVIII Issue 2

Gardening .....	2
Rural Summer Food .....	2
Federal Budget .....	3
Column .....	3
Child Wellness .....	4
Food Stamps .....	6

Visit our website at  
[www.pahunger.org](http://www.pahunger.org)

## Supper Program Grows in PA

After-school programming for children is a hot topic. Those open hours between the end of class and mom's or dad's arrival home from work are fraught with dangers. Many schools, youth centers and congregations across the state are providing structured activities to engage the children and transform the dangers into enrichment opportunities.

"But what will we feed the kids?" That question has an answer in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), which provides reimbursement for snacks and suppers provided by community-based programs that offer enrichment activities for at-risk children and teenagers after the regular school day ends. To qualify for the reimbursement, the enrichment program must be offered in an area where at least 50 percent of the children are eligible for free or reduced price meals in school.

During October (the most recent month for which data is available), nearly 200,000 suppers were served in after-school programs across the state. On a typical school day, just over 12,000 children received such a supper. Another 20,000 children received a daily snack.

*Continued on page 7...Supper Grows*



## Gardening Boosts Healthy Eating and Nutrition Knowledge

Gardening is a growing emphasis among anti-hunger groups, especially the Community Food Security Coalition, as gardening creates inexpensive healthy food and greater sustainability within regional food systems. This month's *Journal of the American Dietetic Association* features gardening as an effective means to promote consumption of fruits and vegetables in schools and at home.

In one article, "Frequency of Eating Homegrown Produce is Associated with Higher Intake among Parents and Their Preschool-Aged Children in Rural Missouri," authors found that families that eat homegrown produce were several times more likely to eat five servings of fruits and vegetables per day. As compared to those families that "rarely or never" eat homegrown produce, parents that indicated that they "almost always" eat homegrown produce were 3.2 times and their children were 2.3 times more likely to consume five or more fruits and vegetables per day.

In another article, "Garden-Based Nutrition Education Affects Fruit and Vegetable Consumption in Sixth-Grade Adolescents," researchers investigated the effects of garden-based nutrition education on adolescents' produce consumption. They compared a control school, a school with a nutrition education (a 12-week curriculum, *Nutrition in the Garden*) intervention, and a school with the same nutrition education intervention and also supporting gardening activities. Researchers found that the youth in the school

that combined nutrition education with the hands-on garden-based activities had a significantly higher intake of fruits (1.13 servings), vegetables (1.44 servings), vitamin A, vitamin C, and fiber than the other schools. These children also reached their daily recommendations for vitamin C and vitamin A, and quadrupled their fiber consumption. Interestingly, the site with just the nutrition education curriculum did not have any significant increases in consumption of produce or nutrients.

Kids Cafes and other after-school programs are common sites to find gardening activities for children. Kidsgardening.com is a forum for kids' gardening groups to share their activities and successes. Pennsylvania has 40 schools listed in their school gardening registry.

Although neither of the studies investigated the savings on food expenses from gardening, some have estimated that gardening can yield savings of up to \$500 per season. It has been found that gardeners in general lead healthier lives, they are more active, consume more fruits and vegetables, and consume less sweet foods and drinks.

This year's **Strengthening the Food Resource Safety Net** conference will discuss gardening in greater detail in the session, "Gardening: A Little-Explored Part of the Food Safety Net" on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Please be sure to join us to learn how your program can add gardening to help feed Pennsylvania families.

## Platts, Casey Go to Bat for Rural Summer Food Pilot

Too late for this summer but with an eye toward the future, two legislators from different parties have stepped up to help rural Pennsylvania children.

Representative Todd Platts, the originator of PA's rural Summer Food Service Program pilot three years ago, and newly-elected Senator Bob Casey plan to introduce legislation through the Farm Bill to reinstate the 40 percent rule that has been in place during the past two summers. Under this provision, rural sponsors can operate open feeding sites in areas where 40 percent of the children are from low-income families. Typically, open sites are only permitted in areas where 50 percent of the children are low-income.

If successful, the Platts-Casey effort will benefit Pennsylvania kids during the summer of 2008. Meanwhile, the special 40 percent rule that helped Pennsylvania raise its rural participation rate by 13 percent over the past two summers has expired. During the coming summer, unless affected feeding sites can somehow qualify 50 percent of their attending children as eligible for free or reduced price lunches, they are out of business. That means some rural children will lose access to a healthy summertime lunch.

Platts has been circulating a letter of support among members of PA's congressional delegation. To date it has been signed by Chris Carney and Mike Doyle. Especially if you live in a rural area, contact your U.S. rep and request that s/he endorse the Platts letter. A quick and easy way to do this is to go to [www.pahunger.org](http://www.pahunger.org) and use the e-FAX feature there.

## PA Groups Support Budget Resolution

Over 100 PA nonprofit organizations have endorsed a letter calling on Congress to adopt a 2008 Budget Resolution. The April 11<sup>th</sup> letter, sent to all members of the PA congressional delegation, makes four key points.

1. The separate resolutions passed by the House and the Senate have positively addressed the needs of children and families. But for that good work to bear fruit, a final Joint Budget Resolution must be approved.
2. It is essential that the Joint Budget Resolution follow the lead of the House and commit \$14 billion in new spending to non-defense discretionary programs. This would begin to address the fact that funding for these programs has not been adjusted for inflation in recent years. Some programs, such as the Community Food and Nutrition Program, have been defunded entirely.
3. The committees with jurisdiction over children's health programs should be given the flexibility to secure the \$50 billion in funds needed to reauthorize that program, including the possibility of raising funds from taxes on tobacco products.
4. "It is essential that the 2007 Farm Bill prioritize the real and growing struggle of hunger facing this state's children and families by improving the Food Stamp Program."

The letter's signers include an array of health providers, labor unions, faith-based groups, civil rights advocates, human services providers and anti-hunger activists.

The congressional debate over the next budget resolution has been highly partisan with Republican House leaders alleging that the House plan "gives us the largest tax increase in American history." The accusation is based on the fact that the House plan would require all congressional actions, including the cutting of taxes, be paid for by either reduced spending or revenue increases in other areas. This discipline has not been practiced in recent years; Congress has instead chosen to fund tax cuts by borrowing money and increasing the federal deficit. This practice would end if pay-as-you-go rules are included in a Joint Budget Resolution. Moreover, under the stricter budgeting rules adopted by the House, it would be virtually impossible for Congress to extend all of the Bush tax cuts past their expiration dates at the end of 2010.

## Director's Column



By and large, PA is a conservative state, culturally speaking. Most Pennsylvanians are comfortable with an old-fashioned emphasis on faith, family, work and self reliance. They don't see a need to change the formula.

There used to be a strong relationship between being culturally conservative and being politically conservative. Take President Eisenhower as an example. He was a culturally conservative man who governed modestly. As he left office, he warned us about people in big business and the military who would use government to fuel their ambitions and undermine our democracy. Now the people Eisenhower warned against are in charge. They claim to be conservative but Eisenhower would know better.

What does this have to do with hunger? Well, when we talk about ending hunger, we soon find ourselves on political terrain. If a good and important word such as "conservative" has been twisted out of shape, then the discussion will not be productive.

Recently it was reported that of all U.S. households, only 24 percent consist of a married couple with children. That's about half of what it was in the '50s. To be sure, the decline in intact, two-parent families is one reason why we continue to have hunger in our country. That's a point a true conservative is likely to make.

So what would we call economic policies that help families stick together? I'm referring now to reliable health care, a strong minimum wage, a tax system that bases the rate on one's ability to pay and that imposes penalties on companies that export jobs overseas. Although these policies strengthen families, they are seldom supported by conservatives because somewhere along the line, the get-rich-quick crowd convinced us these policies are liberal.

Currently there is a big fight in Washington over the federal budget. Those who are trying to balance the budget and provide funding for children's health insurance are called "liberals". Those who show little concern for balanced budgets and whose top priority is cutting taxes for the wealthy are called "conservatives." It's enough to make me wish for the '50s again.

## General Assembly to Debate Child Wellness

The General Assembly is gearing up for a tough debate around the Child Wellness Initiative proposed by Governor Rendell in February. Three separate proposals are in play: (1) an increase in state reimbursement rates to schools for meals offered through the National School Lunch and/or School Breakfast programs; (2) an increase in those rates but only to schools that adopt the PA Department of Education (PDE)'s **Guidelines for Nutritional Standards for Competitive Foods**; and (3) a requirement that schools with 20 percent low-income children provide breakfast.

On March 20, the Senate Education Committee, chaired by Senator Jim Rhoades (R – Schuylkill County), was first off the mark by endorsing S. 159, which would raise reimbursement rates but not address the other two issues. The House Education Committee, under the leadership of Representative James Roebuck (D – Philadelphia County), has not yet held a hearing on any of these proposals. Meanwhile, Rep. Tony Payton (D – Philadelphia County) and Senator Vincent Hughes (D – Philadelphia County) have introduced bills that would implement the Governor's recommendation (items 2 and 3 above). Their bills are H.B. 908 and S.B. 753 respectively.

This debate about nutrition is certain to become enmeshed in the broader budget debate. An increase in reimbursement rates, which everyone supports under certain conditions, can only occur if funded by the new budget. That is supposed to be completed by June 30 but is widely predicted to drag deep into the summer.

Meanwhile, food and nutrition activists face an issue that could be highly divisive. For school food programs, the highest priority is an increase in the rates. For healthy food activists, the highest priority is adoption of the **Nutritional Standards** by as many schools as possible. For anti-hunger advocates, the highest priority is breakfast in all schools with a high percentage of low-income students.

It is rare that the General Assembly has a debate about standards for healthy food and school breakfast. This spring it just might have one. If you care about these issues, this is your opportunity to be heard. First, familiarize yourself with the two perspectives featured on these pages. Then communicate your view to your legislator via eFAX at [www.pahunger.org](http://www.pahunger.org)

## SNAPa & PASBO Support Rate Increase

*The Pennsylvania Hunger Advocate invited the School Nutrition Association of PA (SNAPa) and the PA Association of School Business Officials (PASBO) to articulate their positions on the Governor's Child Wellness Initiative. Their joint statement follows.*

SNAPa and PASBO support legislation to increase the reimbursement rates for the school lunch and breakfast programs. House Bill 107 and its companion bill, Senate Bill 159 will increase reimbursement by three cents—two for lunch and one for breakfast. Reimbursements to schools for lunch and breakfast have not increased since 2000 while food costs have increased almost 30 percent since 2002–03.

Governor Rendell has proposed a school food services appropriation of \$29,633,000 with an additional appropriation (Rx for PA – School Food Services) of \$6,543,000. Combined, this is a proposed increase of \$7.5 million. Under the Governor's plan, to receive an increase in the reimbursement rate, a district must implement the Department of Education's **Nutritional Standards**.

SNAPa and PASBO appreciate the Governor's recognition that an increase in school lunch reimbursements is imperative. School food service programs are struggling to meet the increased cost of purchasing healthier foods.

While we are committed to reducing childhood obesity by improving the diet of children throughout the Commonwealth, we are concerned that the PDE **Guidelines for Nutritional Standards**, which would be tied to receiving the increased reimbursements, are inflexible and overly restrictive. In addition, the cost of meeting the guidelines far outpaces the proposed increase. School districts were required to develop wellness policies in response to the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 and we feel there is no need to impose requirements above those of the federal government.

The PDE **Guidelines for Nutritional Standards**, which are currently voluntary, are a valuable tool when developing wellness policies, but requiring adherence to the guidelines diminishes the local authority of the school wellness committee to determine its own policy. Rate increases should be granted to all schools that meet their locally established wellness policy nutrition requirements. Local education agencies spent significant time in a very public process to collaborate on nutrition standards in compliance with federal law. We do not believe a new state requirement should negate that process and impose new costs.

## Hunger Action Supports Wellness Initiative

Pennsylvania children have access to school breakfast only if their local school district decides to offer it. Compared to our neighboring states, Pennsylvania's approach is archaic and results in the loss of millions in federal dollars. Most importantly, it leaves thousands of children unprepared for academic opportunities in their schools.

For the past 15 years, anti-hunger advocates have asked the General Assembly to address the absence of breakfast in hundreds of schools. These advocates have been ignored. In contrast, the General Assembly has repeatedly responded to requests for higher reimbursement rates. Meanwhile, Pennsylvania has fallen to 42<sup>nd</sup> worst in school breakfast participation.

The Governor sees the big picture and has made the right connections.

He knows that school breakfast is dismissed as a problem for poor kids and that those kids have no clout in the General Assembly. He knows that soda, french fries and sweets are money makers for schools, currently are not subject to external nutrition standards, and yet contribute to the chronic illnesses we so piously lament. So the Governor has said to the General Assembly: let's make a deal.

Hunger Action recognizes that the deal to be made may look different from the one the Governor has proposed. But we are opposed to business as usual, which is to raise the reimbursement rates and leave the discussion of school breakfast and child wellness to another day. That day will never come.

Last December Hunger Action wrote a letter to Governor Rendell asking

him to propose a school breakfast initiative. The letter noted the links between skipping breakfast and obesity and diabetes. It noted the link between eating breakfast and successful academics. It noted how badly Pennsylvania was falling behind its neighboring states. Over fifty organizations signed that letter, including Capital Blue Cross, Highmark, Inc., the PA Rural Health Association, the American Cancer Society – PA Division, the PA Dietetic Association, the Pennsylvania PTA, and the PA State Education Association.

The Governor has responded with a proposal that addresses each piece of the nutritional puzzle. The General Assembly can do no less.



### Sample of Schools That Would be Impacted by Child Wellness Policy

The following schools do not currently serve breakfast and have more than 20% children eligible for free or reduced-priced meals.

<u>County</u>	<u>School District</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>% Low-Income</u>
BERKS	READING SD	MILLMONT EL SCH	100	62
BEAVER	MONACA SD	HIGH SCHOOL EL	107	61
CLINTON	KEYSTONE CENTRAL SD	BUCKTAIL AREA JSHS	280	60
LEHIGH	ALLENTOWN CITY SD	LEHIGH PARK EL SCH	256	56
BUCKS	BRISTOL TOWNSHIP SD	ROOSEVELT MS	582	51
BLAIR	WILLIAMSBURG COMMUNITY SD	WILLIAMSBURG COMMUNITY JSHS	276	47
ALLEGHENY	WOODLAND HILLS	WOODLAND HILLS SHS	1,785	46
ELK	JOHNSONBURG AREA SD	JOHNSONBURG AREA EL SCH	288	43
ADAMS	CONEWAGO VALLEY SD	NEW OXFORD EL SCH	462	40
CLEARFIELD	PHILIPSBURG-OSCEOLA AREA SD	PHILIPSBURG-OSCEOLA AREA HS	634	40
MIFFLIN	MIFFLIN COUNTY SD	LEWISTOWN AREA SHS	761	40
WESTMORELAND	GREATER LATROBE SD	LATROBE EL SCH	711	37
CUMBERLAND	BIG SPRING SD	FRANKFORD EL SCH	99	30
ADAMS	UPPER ADAMS SD	BIGLERVILLE HS	927	27
ARMSTRONG	FREEMONT AREA SD	BUFFALO EL SCH	626	25

## Food Stamp Update

Fewer rural Pennsylvanians will be eligible for the Food Stamp Program (FSP), based on a recent reduction of localities covered by a waiver from the United States Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). In January, the Pennsylvania Department of Welfare received a list of twenty counties and ten cities in Pennsylvania that are exempt from the time limit on eligibility that applies to Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs). This is ten fewer counties than last year. Those counties no longer included in the waiver are Columbia, Crawford, Fulton, Luzerne, Mercer, Mifflin, Northumberland, Sullivan, Union, and Venango.

FNS uses two criteria when approving an area for an ABAWD waiver: an unemployment rate which is 10 percent higher than the national average or too few jobs.

ABAWDs are individuals between the ages of 18 and 49 without dependents or disability. Federal law dictates that such individuals are limited to only three consecutive months of FSP eligibility during a three-year period, which is currently January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2008.

What should you do if you are subject to this 3-month limit? Go to your county assistance office and request enrollment in an approved "employment and training program". If you are meeting the requirements of such a program, you also will regain FSP eligibility. Also, remember that if you have been employed at least 80 hours in any 30-day period, you regain FSP eligibility for at least an additional three months.

*FSP Dollars...from page 1*

Program on the same terms as everyone else.

- The Program's rules and procedures should be streamlined so that it is not as cumbersome and time-consuming to apply for and stay in the Program.

Strengthening all of these weak areas would probably require much of the \$15 - \$20 billion Congress hopes to spend on the Farm Bill. That obviously won't happen; commodity groups dominate the agriculture committees and national anxiety about oil-driven Middle East wars will prompt Congress to invest a big chunk of Farm Bill dollars in alternative fuels. So the challenge will be to assemble a package of improvements that attracts strong support from other participants in the debate.

Traditionally, anti-hunger groups have allied themselves with big agriculture in this fight. Thus, most of the new money is usually spent on cotton and grain subsidies but some has gone to the Food Stamp Program too. As part of the deal, cotton and grain interests have stood up for the Food Stamp Program when it is targeted by right-wing attacks.

Is that how it will work again this year? That is the billion dollar question. "We were advised early on that this Farm Bill would be different because environmentalism would have a greater focus," said Patrick Druhan, director of food programs at the Montgomery County Community Action Development Commission in Norristown. "We have tried to reach out to partner with people in sustainable agriculture and public health. We think they offer new and exciting approaches to resolving

inequities in our food system that impact both low-income consumers and farmers."

### **A Pennsylvania Proposal to Fight Hunger and Promote Health in the 2007 Farm Bill**

, the consensus statement developed last year by seven PA anti-hunger groups, reflects this approach. It includes the recommendation that Congress invest \$100 million annually in a fruit and vegetable incentive built into the Food Stamp Program. Food stamp consumers who buy fruits and vegetables would receive a discount on that portion of their purchase or, in an alternative model, would receive a voucher (coupon) that could be used for the purchase of additional fruits and vegetables. By buying fruits and vegetables, food stamp consumers would be adding to the buying power of their monthly benefit and would also acquire the ingredients for a healthier diet.

National anti-hunger groups have opposed this recommendation on the grounds that it would impinge on consumer choice and could end up causing food stamp consumers to be stigmatized. While other state anti-hunger groups have also expressed support for a fruit and vegetable incentive, few have done so publicly out of deference to the national groups.

"There will not be enough money to fund all the good ideas," said Berry Friesen from Hunger Action. "A fruit and vegetable incentive would be a step forward, but there are other improvements that are just as important. I hope food and anti-hunger activists of all stripes will be very active over the next month or so communicating with Congress. If that happens, the Food Stamp Program will come out fine."

*Supper Grows...from page 1*

Peg Bianca, executive director of the Greater Berks Food Bank, has sponsored the supper program for Reading children since 1997. The local school district as well as local churches, boys and girls clubs, and recreation centers, provide the enrichment activities and the staffing while the Food Bank provides the meals. Bianca has watched the supper program grow to 158,000 meals per year served at 25 sites. "What once was a dream, the Kids Cafes, has become a daily source of nourishment for 1,500 children." For a list of the top 15 organizations providing the suppers, see table below.

Pennsylvania is one of only seven states that can serve after-school suppers as well as snacks. And among those seven (Delaware, Illinois, Michigan, Missouri, New York and Oregon are the others) Pennsylvania is the leader. According to the USDA, Pennsylvania's utilization of the supper program increased 8.4 percent last year, nearly twice the rate of any other state. This trend is also seen in data provided by the PA Department of Education, which shows the monthly supper total jumping from 58,000 to nearly 200,000 in just four years.

If your organization would like to provide suppers in a low-income community, please contact Sue Still, the CACFP supervisor, at the PA Department of Education (800-331-0129).

### **At-Risk Suppers Served October 2006**

A list of the 15 largest providers follows.

<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Number of Suppers</b>
Archdiocese of Philadelphia	41,410
Congregation Beth Solomon-Phila.	28,403
Allegheny Co. Dept. of Human Services	26,598
Twilight Feeding Program - Phila. SD	22,458
Greater Berks Food Bank	15,946
Channels - Camp Hill	9,447
Central PA Food Bank - Harrisburg	6,170
Comm. on Econ. Opp. - Wilkes Barre	4,413
Today's Kidz - Beaver County	4,400
To Our Childrens' Future - Phila.	2,730
Young Inspirations - Fayette County	2,705
Children's Village - Phila.	2,516
Manchester Youth Dev. Ctr. - Pbgh.	2,115
Academic Success - Erie	1,661
Boys & Girls Club of Erie	1,200

### **This and That**

Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski and his wife Mary Oberst will live one week this spring limiting their food spending to \$65, which is the amount a household of two would qualify for in food stamps. Several legislators have also taken up the challenge. It's a week on macaroni and cheese to acquaint themselves with the real world.



A new study of tax data from the Internal Revenue Service shows that those making the top 1 percent of income (\$348,000 annually) saw an increase in earnings of 14 percent in 2005 while the earnings of the bottom 90 percent actually declined. The study also shows that nearly 22 percent of the nation's income in 2005 went to just 1 percent of the earners. That is the most disproportionate result since 1928 when Calvin Coolidge was President.

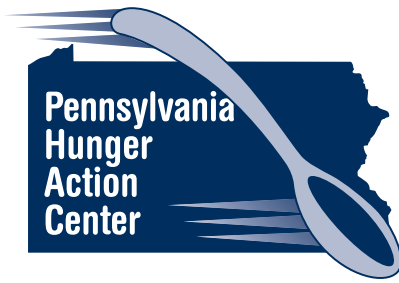


Nineteen states have an earned income tax credit (EITC) that adds dollars to the household budgets of low-wage workers. Like the federal EITC, these state credits offset burdensome payroll taxes and strengthen the work incentive. Representative Dwight Evans (D - Philadelphia) has introduced House Bill 377 to adopt an EITC here in Pennsylvania. The state credit would be pegged at 30 percent of the federal credit and would pay around \$1,400 to a low-income family with earned income. The bill has picked up Republican support and has a decent chance of moving through the House.

**Do you enjoy reading  
the *Pennsylvania  
Hunger Advocate*?**

**Show your appreciation for the  
*PA Hunger Advocate* by giving  
\$25 to the PA Hunger Action  
Center this month.**

**We've even included a self-addressed  
envelope for your convenience!**



208 N. Third Street  
Suite 200  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Non Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Harrisburg, PA  
Permit No. 647

## Procrastinator Alert! Conference Registration Due

May 1 is the last day to qualify for the \$130 registration fee to this year's "**Strengthening the Food Resource Safety Net**" conference sponsored by Hunger Action and the PA Nutrition Education Network. The event will begin at 3:00 on Monday, May 14 and will continue until Tuesday at 3:00. The fee covers workshops, continental breakfast, one dinner, one lunch, and beverage breaks. Walk-in registrations will be accepted only as space allows. To register online go to [http://panen.psu.edu/Events/07annual\\_conference.htm](http://panen.psu.edu/Events/07annual_conference.htm).

Dr. Maureen Black, a child psychologist at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, will serve as the dinner keynote Monday evening. Dr. Black will share her experiences in managing the GROW Clinic for infants in Baltimore. Dr. Black will speak to the direct connection between hunger and health in our children.

Tuesday's specially sponsored breakfast keynote and the leader of several workshops is Ellyn Satter, MS, RD, LCSW, BCD on the topic of "Understanding and Applying the Satter Eating Competence Model". Satter is a family therapist and feeding and eating specialist.

Tuesday's lunch keynote will be Lynn Parker on "Getting involved in national nutrition policy: What's in it for me?" Lynn Parker is the Director of Child Nutrition Programs and Nutrition Policy at the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), Washington, D.C.

Conference workshops will focus on several cutting edge topics that affect the nutrition and health of low-income Pennsylvanians: School Breakfast: Why We Need Help in PA; Promoting Fruits and Vegetable in PA; Health and Hunger: Connecting the Dots; Resolving the Weight Dilemma; and The 2007 Farm Bill: Making the Case.

### Hunger Action Board of Directors

**Peg Bianca**, Greater Berks Food Bank  
**Patricia Dapp (Vice-President)**, Family Health Council of Central PA  
**Patrick Druhan (President)**, Montgomery County Community Action  
**Ann Foor**, Center for Community Services - Huntingdon  
**Marcia Freed**, Capital Blue Cross  
**Michael Hanley**, United Neighborhood Centers - Scranton  
**Steve Herzenberg**, Keystone Research Ctr  
**Jim Jackson**, Urban League of Pgh.  
**Dorrie Lisle**, State College  
**Audrey Maretzki**, Penn State University  
**Janet Ney (Secretary)**, Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley  
**Joni Rabinowitz**, Just Harvest, Pgh.  
**Jacqueline Rucker**, Christian Churches United, Harrisburg  
**Randy St. John, Jr.**, PA Food Merchants Association  
**Robert Schultz (Treasurer)**, Harsco  
**Patrick Temple-West**, Archdiocese of Philadelphia  
**Leonard Washington**, Lebanon  
**John Weidman**, The Food Trust  
**Tim Whelan**, United Way of the Capital Region, Enola  
**Karen Wilson**, Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger

The Hunger Advocate is made possible in part by a grant from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development.

**Email:** [info@pahunger.org](mailto:info@pahunger.org)  
**Website:** [www.pahunger.org](http://www.pahunger.org)  
**Telephone:** 717.233.6705