



# Ending Childhood Hunger & Malnutrition in Vermont



**Marissa Parisi**  
**Executive Director**  
**Hunger Free Vermont**

At **\$8.73** per hour 2 full time workers at 40 hours per week would be approx. **-\$1884** each month

At **\$10.10** per hour 2 full time workers at 40 hours per week would be approx. **-\$1147** each month

At **\$12.50** per hour 2 full time workers at 40 hours per week would be approx. **-\$494** each month



\$723 Housing



\$995 Food



\$858 Transportation



\$300 Heat



\$990 Childcare



\$377 Healthcare

---

**\$4243** per month\*

for a family of 4 to meet their **basic needs**

# HUNGER IN VERMONT

- **14%** of all Vermont households are food insecure (**1 in 7**)
- **20%** of children under 18 live in food insecure households (**1 in 5**)
- Vermont compared to other states in the nation has one of the **most severe food insecurity** issues





# THE FORMULA

**Children are fed healthful food wherever they are in their day.**

**Parents have the resources such as 3SquaresVT benefits that are adequate to purchase food for the family.**

**All those who need education on cooking and nutrition have access to it.**

**Charitable food is used only for emergencies.**





# SCHOOL MEALS

- **37,000** children in Vermont receive **free or reduced price** meals in school
- An average of **40%** of children in Vermont **qualify** for free or reduced meals in school
- Vermont is the **1<sup>st</sup> state** in the nation to offer **free school meals** to children in the “reduced price” category

# UNIVERSAL



SCHOOL

MEALS

# Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

- A **new** option offered by the **USDA** for schools in high poverty areas to offer **universal meals**.
- At least **40%** of all enrolled students must be **directly certified** to receive free school meals through CEP.
- The CEP formula for school reimbursement is: **% of directly certified students X 1.6**. Therefore the more directly certified students there are, the less cost to the town or school to operate the program.



# SCHOOLS ALREADY COMMITTED FOR 14-15



Winooski Elementary (John F. Kennedy School) – 445 students  
Winooski Middle School – 155 students  
Winooski High School – 259 students

The following Rutland City School District schools:  
Allen Street Campus – 35 students  
Northeast Primary School – 229 students  
Northwest Elementary School – 220 students  
Rutland Intermediate School – 625 students  
Rutland Middle School – 305 students

Barre City Elementary and Middle School – 925 students

The following Burlington School District schools:  
C.P. Smith Elementary School – 292 students  
Essex Early Education Center – 82 students  
Hunt Middle School – 335 students  
Integrated Arts Academy—287 students  
J.J. Flynn Elementary School – 333 students  
ONTOP/Horizon School – 56 students  
Sustainability Academy – 194 students

**Total students affected: about 4,700!**



# SUMMER MEALS & AFTERSCHOOL

- **8,000** of the **37,000** children receiving free meals during the school year have access to meals in the summer. Schools using CEP become eligible to operate open summer meal programs!
- In **2010** there were **8** afterschool meal programs serving **371** children. There are now **42** programs enrolled serving **3,050** children and **14** new programs will start this year.



# HOW CAN YOU HELP

- **Ensure Direct Certification** lists to schools are accurate and **help** schools to determine if **specific children** are directly certified.
- **Bring attention to school** districts taking on this program. **Celebrate successes** such as improved attendance, test scores, and behavior in students.
- **Help find ways for schools** just over the 40% mark to **make up the funding gap** to use the program.







**THANK YOU!**