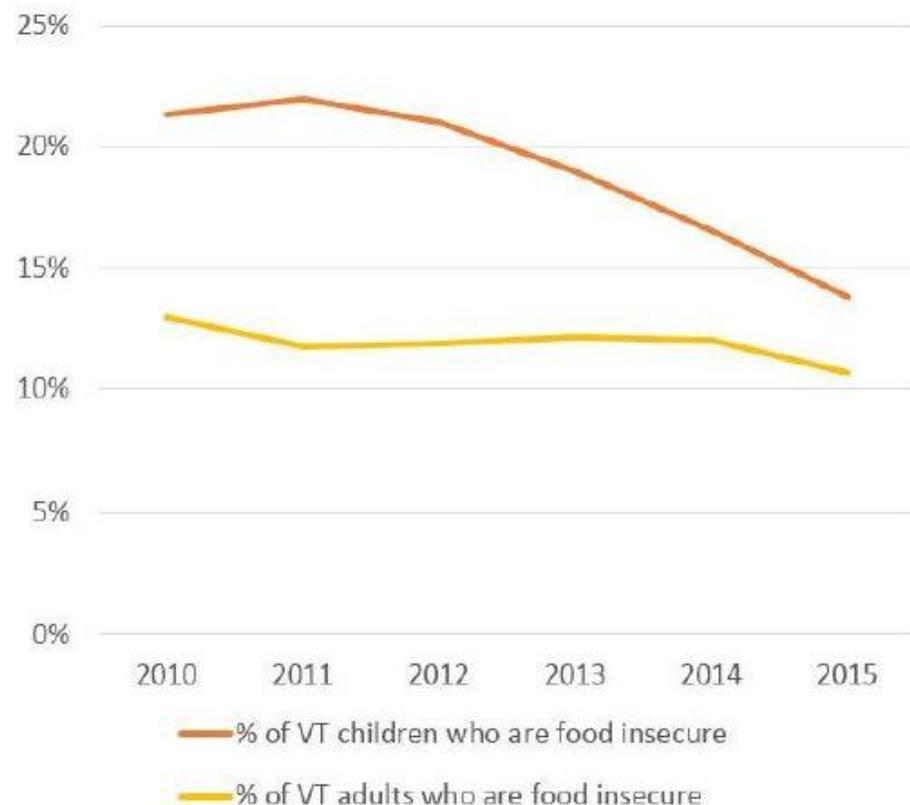


# CHILD HUNGER IS ON THE DECLINE



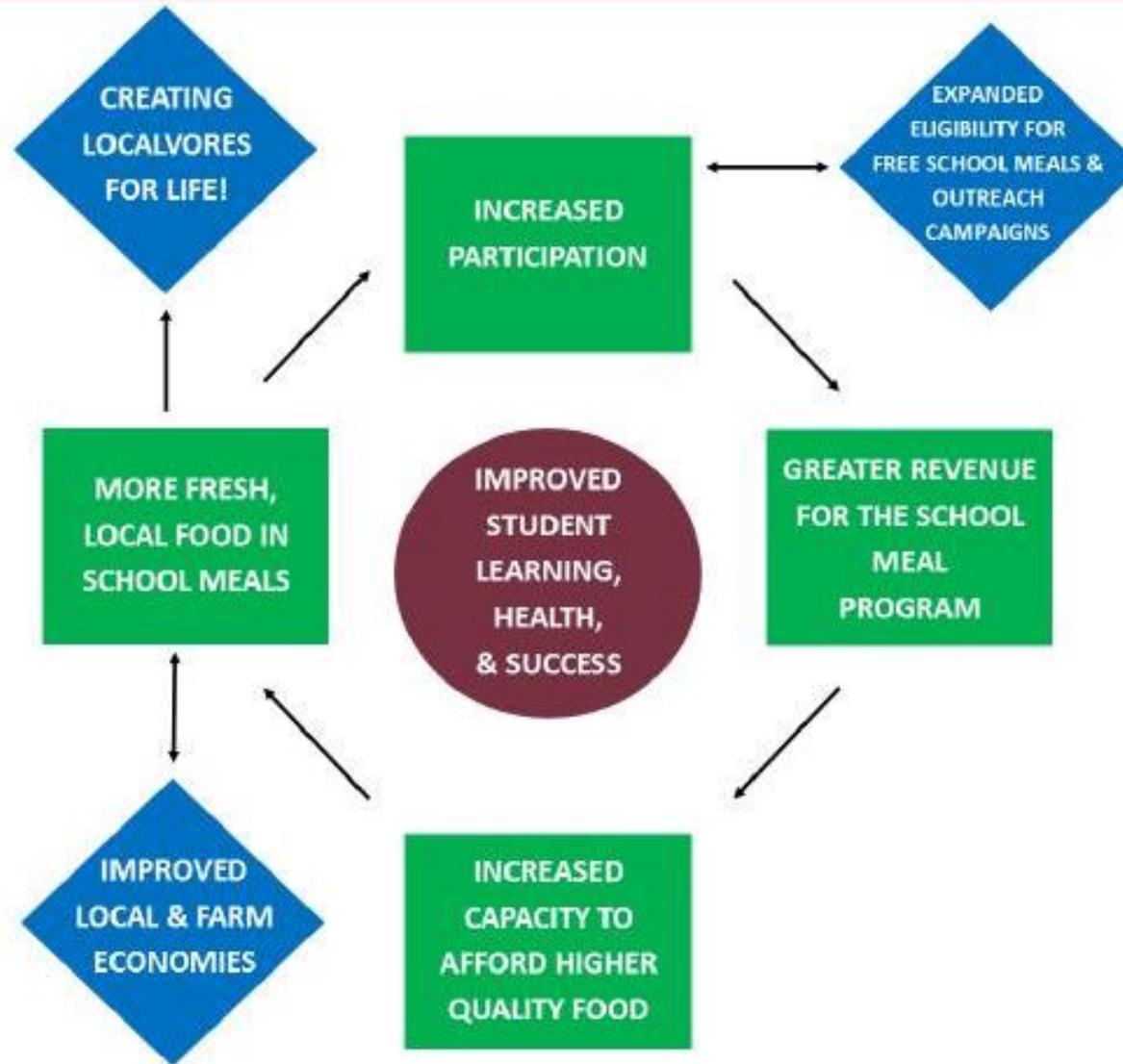
## WHY?

- Last school year, VT kids ate 13,449,972 school meals.
- 13,800 VT students now have access to universal school meals.
- School meal nutrition & quality have improved.
- Farm to School programs have expanded.
- The number of summer meal sites has nearly doubled, with an 83% increase in meals served.
- There are eight times the number of afterschool meal programs, serving over 7,000 students.
- Hundreds of school nutrition professionals are dedicated every day to student health and success.

Presented March 29, 2017

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# Improve Child Nutrition, Reduce Child Hunger & Strengthen Local Economies



# How does the money work?

For each “reimbursable” student meal served, the federal government and state government provide a cash reimbursement to the school.

- Low income students (185% FPL and lower) do not pay for their meals.
- Higher income students pay an out-of-pocket “paid” rate for the meal, although the meal is still subsidized with some federal reimbursement.

For each reimbursable lunch served, USDA also provides approximately 30 cents worth of American-grown foods through the USDA Foods program.

There are strict USDA regulations about what makes a reimbursable meal.

Schools Food Authorities also bring in money through “a la carte” sales of non-reimbursable meals and snack items, adult meal sales, and catering.

# How does the lunch money work?

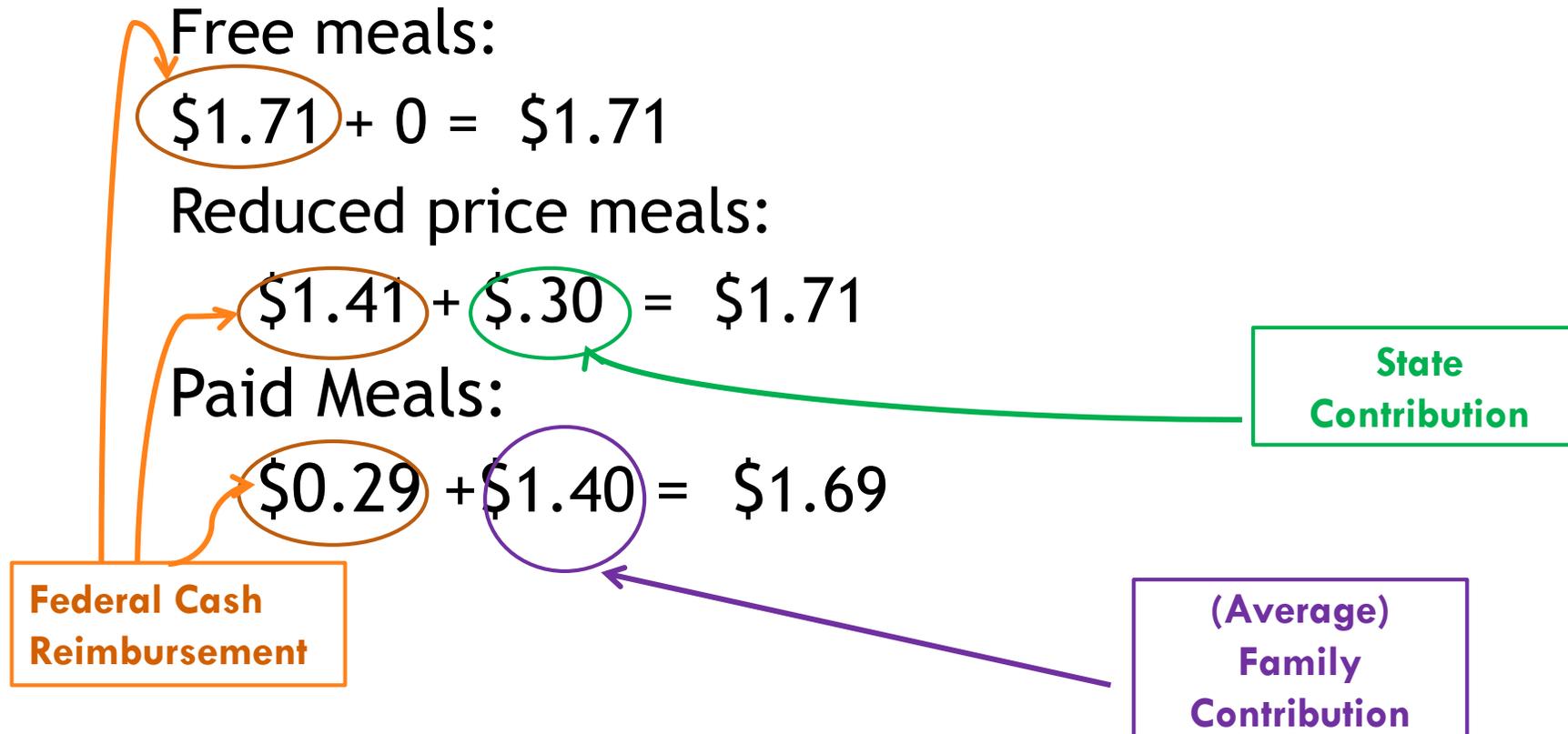
Reimbursement + price charged + USDA Foods = Revenue



# How does the breakfast money work?

Reimbursement + price charged = Revenue

(NO USDA Foods contribution for breakfasts)



# Kids Eat Up Universal School Meals!

## Based on interviews with Universal School Meals schools, this is what we know:

- Vermont schools report that their meal program finances have improved using Universal Meals.
- Statewide, student participation has increased an average of 10% in schools providing universal meals — some schools have increased participation by more than 40%!
- Principals report improved test scores, along with declines in school nurse visits, behavioral referrals, and absenteeism.
- 100% of school principals and food service managers said that trying to collect unpaid meal debt from parents was the “worst part” of their jobs.



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