

## Gov. Rendell Wants School Breakfast for a Healthier PA

**Prescription for Pennsylvania,** Governor Ed Rendell's groundbreaking initiative to build a better health care system and slow the growth in medical costs, includes a plan to strengthen the School Breakfast Program. The plan, released as part of the Governor's February 6<sup>th</sup> budget message, would commit an additional \$6.5 million in state funds to school breakfast during 2007-08 and would enable school districts to qualify for an additional \$23.6 million in federal funds.

"Eating breakfast is the first step toward a productive school day and a healthy lifestyle," states a press release from the Governor's Office. "Research shows that children who eat a nutritious breakfast are more likely to succeed in the classroom."

According to the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), Pennsylvania's

school breakfast participation is 42nd out of 50. Neighboring states, all of which mandate breakfast programs in their schools, have achieved much higher rankings; West Virginia is 4th, New York is 26th, Maryland 24th and Ohio 28th.

Hunger Action estimates that 100,000 children a day could begin eating breakfast at school under the plan, above the 223,000 eating per day under current rules. To achieve that level of growth, the Governor's plan would put two new elements in place:

- Schools in which low-income students comprise 20 percent or more of enrollment would be required to offer School Breakfast. In accordance with existing law, such

schools would receive 10 cents for each breakfast served plus an additional 2-to-4 cents for each lunch served. This ensures that the school breakfast program pays for itself and does not increase local costs to taxpayers.

- Schools that implement the PA Department of Education's Nutritional Standards for Competitive Foods would be reimbursed for all school meals by the state at a bonus rate that is 10-20 percent higher than the regular rate.

If adopted by the General Assembly, the first provision would require around 350 schools to begin offering breakfast during 2007-08, including 250 public schools and 100 private

*See Breakfast page 7...*

## Blueprint to End Hunger in PA

What should state government be doing to end hunger? That was the question 35 anti-hunger and nutrition activists tried to answer at a January 18<sup>th</sup> public hearing in Harrisburg. Convened by the Governor's Inter-Agency Council on Food and Nutrition, and chaired by Agriculture Deputy Secretary Cheryl Cook, the event was the first of its kind in Pennsylvania. According to Cook, the testimony received will be incorporated into a "blueprint to end hunger" that will guide the Council's work in the years ahead.

Dennis McManus, an advocate with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, aimed his recommendations at the Governor's Office. "We need a food and nutrition specialist in the Governor's Office," he said. "Food security should be on the list of items his lobbyist works on at the federal level." McManus also emphasized the need for the Governor's Office to actively support the nutrition title of the next Farm Bill.

For Amanda Wagner with the Community Food Security Coalition in southeastern PA, hunger is caused by "gaps between producers and eaters". To narrow those gaps, Wagner called for change in school regulations so

*See Blueprint page 4...*

### IN THIS ISSUE

February 2007  
Volume XXVIII Issue 1

Action on Farm Bill .....	2
Food Stamps Simpler .....	3
Director's Column .....	3
Federal Budget Tightens .....	4
Food Programs Cut .....	5
Healthy Food in School .....	7
Upcoming Conference .....	8

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

# Calling All Readers: Contact Your Members of Congress about Farm Bill

*The most important anti-hunger legislation before Congress is the Farm Bill. It contains the Food Stamp Program, which alone comprises 70 percent of the hunger-fighting dollars committed by our federal government. All readers are encouraged to contact their members of Congress immediately about this important legislation. Go to [www.pahunger.org](http://www.pahunger.org) for a convenient way to reach them.*

Talk of the Farm Bill brings to mind great heaps of surplus corn and fat government checks payable to the farmers who produced it. Inaccurate though that image is during a time when corn is in short supply, it continues to buttress the prevailing view that this once-every-five-years congressional debate is primarily a competition among producer groups for federal largesse. Thus informed, the general public tends to view the Farm Bill with equal measures of cynicism and disinterest.

But what if the Farm Bill is really about our food supply – its variety, its nutritional quality, its safety and its accessibility to people who can't afford to pay for it? What if we were to consider the \$70 billion it authorizes annually as a potential investment in public health as well as in agriculture? There is ample evidence to support such a repositioning. For example, Pennsylvania received nearly \$1.5 billion last year through federal initiatives rooted in the Farm Bill. Most of that money (80 percent) was spent by Pennsylvania consumers buying groceries via the Food Stamp Program. Only 9 percent went to farmers as subsidies. The remainder was spent on a combination of conservation practices, forestry, rural development, energy and agricultural research.

Empowered by this simple arithmetic, seven Pennsylvania nonprofits committed to ending hunger and improving access to healthy food jumped into the Farm Bill debate a year ago. Our anti-hunger perspective informed some of our recommendations: food boxes for the elderly, nutrition education in food pantries and an adjustment in asset limits so low-wage working families could receive food assistance without first being nearly impoverished. Other recommendations grew out of our concerns for public health and the need to adopt food policies that enable all Americans to eat healthily. Thus, we recommended improved access to fresh fruits and vegetables and a funding stream that would spur local food system development for the benefit of producers and consumers alike. For details, go to [www.pahunger.org](http://www.pahunger.org).

On January 31, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry held its first hearing on the Farm Bill. Appropriately, it focused on nutrition. One of the witnesses, Ohio resident Rhonda Stewart, is a single parent, PTA president and Sunday School teacher who also is enrolled in the Food Stamp Program. Here is part of what she told members of the Committee:

"After a year of steady child support payments, my ex-husband lost his job due to a plant closure. . . . Unfortunately, the cheapest food I could afford to buy was not the healthiest food a growing child needs. I could buy a can of Spaghetti-o's for less than a dollar but a gallon of milk was almost \$3. A pack of Kool-aid cost a dime but a can of juice cost between \$3.50 – \$4 for a half gallon. . . . I would love to have fresh veggies in the refrigerator and fresh fruit on the counter. (My son) loves these foods and would rather have carrots and apples with some dip than chips and cakes. The sad thing is chips and cakes are cheaper!"

It isn't just anti-hunger groups that should take Ms. Stewart's testimony seriously; state government leaders, public health planners and food merchants need to pay keen attention too. Her words remind us that what is at stake in the Farm Bill is a lot more than whether the sugar beet growers get a leg up on the cotton growers. What is at stake is the healthfulness of our food supply and the health of our neighbors.

As Pennsylvanians, we are fortunate to have two members of our Washington delegation who will be directly involved in shaping this legislation: Senator Bob Casey and Congressman Tim Holden. Another member, Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz, will be directly involved in deciding how much money the agriculture committees have to spend. Let's make sure the voices they hear include yours.

# Food Stamp Application Simplified

Pennsylvania's Combined Application Project (PA CAP) is off and running! By the end of January, the PA Department of Public Welfare (DPW) had enrolled 34,000 individuals in the Food Stamp Program. These are individuals who had been receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) but not food stamps when the month started.

PA CAP simplifies food stamp eligibility for SSI recipients who live alone or who buy and prepare meals separately. With PA CAP, such individuals can apply for both SSI and food stamps at the same time at the Social Security office. No visits to the County Assistance Office are required.

PA CAP is great news for SSI recipients, all of whom are elderly or disabled and many of whom qualify only for the minimum food stamp benefit of \$10 a month were they to apply directly to DPW. With PA CAP, there are four benefit levels determined by income as well as the applicant's shelter and utility costs. Those individuals who only receive SSI and have shelter costs below \$196 a month will receive \$31 a month in food stamp benefits. If their shelter costs are higher, they will get \$103 in monthly benefits. Those SSI recipients who have any other source of income and with \$196 a month or less in shelter costs will receive \$22 in benefits, while those with higher shelter costs will receive \$94 in monthly benefits.

Participants may opt out of PA CAP. However, once they have done so, they are ineligible for re-enrollment in PA CAP and must apply for food stamps through a county assistance office.

## More Than a Tax Refund

If you are a parent and earned less than \$38,348 last year, you likely qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The credit comes back to you as a check drawn on the U.S. Treasury and can be as large as \$4,536 for a family of four. Individuals without children may qualify too, although the maximum credit is smaller (\$412). You qualify by filling out an additional form and sending it in with your main federal tax return. This credit is in addition to any refund to which you may be entitled.

The current Treasurer of the United States, Anna Escobedo Cabral, is promoting the EITC. She grew up in a low-wage working family where every dollar mattered. For a look at Cabral's name and signature, simply look at any dollar bill printed since December 13, 2004.

## Director's Column



The recent public hearing on what Pennsylvania should do to end hunger elicited a wide variety of opinions. As anti-hunger organizations, we predictably pushed for solutions that matched our self-interest. Those involved in charitable food distribution talked about free food as the solution. Those who promote taxpayer-funded programs talked as if those programs are the answer. Those aligned with growers made it seem that people wouldn't be hungry anymore if only they could gain access to apples from Adams County.

To their credit, politicians from both political parties turn first to the private economy to solve hunger. A job, a paycheck and a well-stocked grocery store and farmers' market is how most of us avoid hunger; we should try to offer that to everyone. But what should we do when people are still at risk despite having all that? Because our society has lots of jobs that pay lousy wages and lots of families where only one parent is present, the tried-and-true formula is not working for more and more people.

So we're back to second-tier solutions, such as those discussed at the public hearing. How do we pick among the options? First, choose those that make the existing pieces work more effectively. That means, for example, that food pantries, WIC offices, schools and senior centers should be helping people get food stamps. Second, choose options that enable people to meet their food needs in the course of their usual activities. For children, that means school; for parents, that means the grocery store.

When the problem is a big one, as hunger is, then the solution will require a variety of approaches. We wish our leaders wisdom to choose wisely among them.

### *Blueprint from page 1...*

that local producers could sell their produce to school food services. She also called for the creation of local food policy councils.

Bill Clark, executive director of the Philabundance food bank, said existing charitable food distribution efforts are reaching less than 20 percent of those eligible. More food is available, he said, and more people could be served. But to do that, the distribution system must first be strengthened at the pantry level.

Dr. Mariana Chilton from Drexel University's School of Public Health talked about the GROW Clinic at St. Christopher's Hospital. Infants born in food insecure families are four times more likely to experience medical difficulties than infants in food secure families. She called for a strengthened Food Stamp Program and expanded outreach efforts to enroll eligible families.

Anne Ayella, who works for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia's Nutritional Development Services, spoke about the "Gospel imperative" to feed the hungry. "This isn't just another policy discussion," she said. She offered two proposals: that food programs assist clients in enrolling in other food programs and the creation of inter-agency food and nutrition councils at the county or regional level.

Berry Friesen from Hunger Action expressed chagrin that food pantries are increasingly expected to feed the working poor. "Let's index the minimum wage," he said. "so that it won't erode year after year". He also called on DPW to use categorical eligibility in the Food Stamp Program and end the problem of outdated asset limits preventing the unemployed and working poor from participating.

## Federal Budgets Getting Tighter and Tighter

Finally, on February 14<sup>th</sup>, Congress sent President Bush a budget for 2006-07. Members of the Democratic Party are in charge of this Congress. Having won control with promises to balance the budget, the new Congress has eliminated earmarks and kept a tight lid on new spending. Over the President's objections, Congress will continue the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, which provides a monthly food box to around 14,000 low-income Pennsylvania seniors. It has increased funding for Head Start, veterans' medical services and Pell Grants for low-income college students. But many successful programs such as WIC and Community Development Block Grants will receive exactly what they received last year. Given inflation of around 3 percent, that translates into a 3 percent cut.

Meanwhile, efforts are in full swing to assemble a budget for the fiscal year that begins in October. President Bush released his proposal on February 5<sup>th</sup>. For the first time, it included projected costs for the war in Iraq. Beyond that, it asked for an 11 percent increase in Defense Department spending. Other features of the Administration plan simply replayed previous themes: make all existing tax cuts permanent; continue cuts in discretionary spending; reduce mandatory spending for Medicare and Medicaid; and ignore the need to update the Alternative Minimum Tax, which is affecting an increasing number of middle class families. The Administration's plan would eliminate entirely the Commodity Supplemental Food Program and Community Development Block Grants; freeze funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant; and reduce funding for Low-Income Home Energy Assistance and the Social Services Block Grant. In regard to WIC, the Administration proposes an increase in food funding but would require WIC to cut back nutrition services by \$145 million.

By the end of April, Congress will assemble an overall spending plan and then leave the details to the appropriations subcommittees to work out over spring and summer. It certainly will make changes in the President's plan. But in general, the theme of austerity will continue. Congress has adopted "pay-as-you-go budgeting" (PAYGO), which means that each dollar in new spending must be matched by a cut in another spending line or an increase in a revenue line. Unless Congress decides to pass tax increases, the freezes and cuts will only continue, albeit in somewhat different places than the Administration has requested.

All of this causes incredible stress on state and local government. To cite one example, federal dollars coming to Pennsylvania to subsidize child care for low-wage working families declined steadily during the Bush presidency. Adjusted for inflation, the 2008 level proposed by the President is \$9.4 million less than in 2001. Back-filling federal cuts with state and local dollars has become a chronic and worrisome problem all across Pennsylvania.

---

**Correction!** In our previous newsletter, we reported incorrectly that "an estimated 10,000 parents are working off their TANF grants (and their food stamps)." According to the Department of Public Welfare, the number of parents working off their grants during November was 1,325.

# Rendell Budget Cuts PDA Food Programs

The 2007–08 budget planned announced February 6 by Governor Ed Rendell included cuts in two key food programs administered by the PA Department of Agriculture (PDA).

The State Food Purchase Program, funded by the General Assembly at \$18,750,000 this year, would be cut back to \$18 million if the Rendell plan were adopted. This four percent cut would translate into fewer dollars at the county level to purchase food inventories for distribution in pantries and cupboards.

The Farmer's Market Nutrition Program, funded by the General Assembly at \$3 million this year, would be cut back to \$2 million under the Governor's plan. That would require PDA to reduce eligibility. Last spring, when faced with the prospect of too little money, PDA informed WIC offices that 2- and 3-year-old children would no longer be served. That decision was widely criticized by nutritional professionals because it eliminated fresh produce from children's diets at a point in their lives when food preferences are being formed.

A bright spot in the PDA budget is first-time funding of \$500,000 for the Farm-to-School Nutrition Initiative, a program enacted by the General Assembly late last year. It would provide grants of up to \$15,000 to low-income schools for the provision of nutrition education and locally grown snacks in kindergarten classrooms.

The budget plan also includes \$480,000 for renewal of a food stamp education and outreach initiative first begun in 2002 during the Schweiker Administration. The state funds, which would be matched by the federal government, would be awarded to community-based organizations that help eligible households apply on-line. Contracts would be awarded by July.

Other Rendell proposals that would assist low-income households are contained in his *Prescription for Pennsylvania*, a \$255 million bundle of programs funded by state and federal dollars and designed to improve access to health care and slow the growth in medical costs. An expansion of school breakfast is one of the items in that bundle (see article, page 1). Other items include \$32.7 million to "Cover All Kids," with health insurance and a new, "Cover All Pennsylvanians" health insurance plan that would use a mix of private, federal and previously committed state funds. It would provide health insurance coverage to 154,000 adults by early 2008. By helping low-wage families with medical costs, these programs would contribute to food security as well.

Readers are encouraged to begin talking soon to their local representatives and senators about the programs that would be cut under the Rendell plan. This is especially important because of the new leadership in the General Assembly and the large number of new legislators. For additional advocacy tools, go to [www.pahunger.org](http://www.pahunger.org).

## SHORTS

**Summer Meal Report.** Rural Summer Food Service Program sponsors served 765,000 meals and snacks during the summer of 2006 to local children. That total is 29,600 more than in the summer of 2005 and 119,000 more than the summer of 2004. Is that growth sufficient to impress the USDA, which is evaluating Pennsylvania's rural SFSP pilot? We are still awaiting that answer. Across the State, considering all locations, the number of meals and snacks served last summer totaled 5,170,000. This compares to 5,315,000 during the summer of 2005 and 5,677,000 during the summer of 2004.

**An Economic Agenda for PA.** Two PA groups have weighed in with recommendations that would deliver economic growth to PA and ensure the benefits of that expansion lead to a better quality life for all Pennsylvanians. While the economy has performed well in recent years, the benefit has not been shared widely across PA families. Keystone Research Center (Harrisburg) and PathWaysPA (Holmes) want to change that. Among the recommendations they propose are these: (1) make two years of post-secondary education accessible and affordable to every young and working adult; (2) index the minimum wage, (3) require all jobs created by public funds to pay family-supporting wage rates, (4) reform the unemployment insurance system so that more than half of the labor force is covered, (5) require employers to offer paid sick leave, (6) enact a state Earned Income Tax Credit, (7) develop job quality improvement strategies in low-wage industries such as tourism and agriculture, and (8) reform state and local tax systems so that they are more progressive

## PA Rural Health Association Invites You to Join

The challenges of providing quality health care services in rural Pennsylvania are many. Poverty is often more prevalent in rural communities, public transportation is often lacking and health care providers are few and far between. A significant share of the population is elderly. With advancing years come increased health risks, poorer physical condition and limited income.

In rural communities, access to health care is hampered by the limited numbers of primary care physicians. Currently, only 12 percent of Pennsylvania's primary care physicians practice in rural areas. Hospitals are a second key component, providing emergency and acute care services as well as economic value to their communities. Yet, because of local demographics, rural hospitals must rely on Medicare and Medicaid for a large share of their revenue. These programs traditionally reimburse rural providers at rates lower than those paid to urban facilities, resulting in increased financial burdens for rural hospitals.

The Pennsylvania Rural Health Association (PRHA) is dedicated to enhancing the health and well-being of Pennsylvania's rural citizens and communities. Through the combined efforts of individuals, organizations, professionals and community leaders, the Association is a collective voice for rural health issues and a conduit for information and resources. It invites readers of the *The PA Hunger Advocate* to become members of the PHRA.

The benefits of membership include advocacy for rural health within the state and nationally, state and federal legislative action and updates, data and information on rural health status in Pennsylvania, linkages to PA's rural health network, opportunities for leadership development, professional and community networking, technical assistance, and reduced registration fees to state rural health conferences and training programs.

Lisa Davis, director of the Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health and a member of the PRHA Board, highlighted the opportunities the group offers. "The Association is a collective voice for providers, advocates, for anyone committed to health care in rural Pennsylvania to make their voice heard at the state and national levels. We can be a conduit of information to legislators and policymakers and can make a difference for rural communities and the health systems that serve them."

If you are interested in strengthening the advocacy voice of the PRHA, or if you have questions about the services it provides, visit [www.paruralhealth.org](http://www.paruralhealth.org) or call 717-561-5248.



### PA Legislative Session Calendar

**March:** 6-8\*, 13-15, 20, 21-22\*\*, 27-29\*\*

**April:** 3-5, 10\*, 17-19\*\*, 24-26

\* House Only

\*\*Senate Only

## Senator Harkin vs. Junk Food

By now, everyone is aware of the "epidemic" known as childhood obesity. To stop it, Senator Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), along with Senator Arlen Specter (R-Pennsylvania) and Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), have again proposed the Child Nutrition Promotion and School Lunch Protection Act. The bill calls for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to establish updated nutrition standards for all foods sold in schools, including vending machines, snack bars, etc.

Harkin argues that in the past, school children typically were only offered school meals funded by the USDA through the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. However, over time schools have introduced "junk food" in an effort to generate more revenue. In the meantime, the courts have ruled that the USDA can only set standards for food sold in cafeterias during mealtime.

In a call to action, Harkin declared, "It's time to restore our schools as places where parents can be confident that children receive foods that promote their health and learning." He highlighted surveys showing that parents overwhelmingly support removing "junk foods" from schools. In the house, Representative Lynn Woolsey (D-California) and Representative Christopher Shays (R-Connecticut) have sponsored the same bill.

### Our Phone Is Ringing

Hunger Action's Food Information Line helped 431 callers in December and the same again in January, **1-800-FOOD-997**. The Food Stamp Line screened 14 families in December and 32 in January, **1-800-634-2033**.

# Healthy Food Options in Schools

Governor Rendell has proposed an increase in state funding for schools that implement the PA Department of Education's **Guidelines for Nutritional Standards for Competitive Foods in Pennsylvania Schools**. But he linked the increase to a commitment by schools to offer healthier food options. Originally created in 2005 as voluntary guidelines to support schools' development of local wellness policies, the **Guidelines** are based on recommendations from the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans and position statements from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Dietetic Association.

The **Guidelines** outline policies for all sources of food in the schools including a la carte (food and beverages sold item-by-item in lunch rooms), vending, fundraisers, classroom parties, rewards, school stores and more. They are written as a tiered plan to be phased in over a three-year period: "A Starting Point," "Better," and "Best." The guidelines ease into the changes; each new phase builds on the previous tier.

An example is the guideline for beverages. "A Starting Point" suggests that 75 percent of beverages come from water, that 100 percent fruit juice be available in portions no greater than 12 oz, and that 1 percent or non-fat milk be served in portions no greater than 16 oz. "Better" enhances the guideline by suggesting smaller portion sizes: 6 ounces for juice and 8 ounces for milk. This guideline also recommends that the 25 percent of beverages that do not meet these standards should not exceed 150 calories and 35 grams of sugar. Finally, "Best" category requires that

100 percent of beverages meet the criteria as described in "Better."

Some schools have already implemented the **Guidelines**. Noelle Bloom, Nutrition Group's Food Service Director for East Lycoming School District, reported positive results. East Lycoming has increased its vegetable and whole grain offering in cafeterias. All *a la carte* snacks are low calorie or baked, like 100 calorie cookie packs and baked whole grain chips. Milk is low-fat. Salad dressings are low fat and low calorie. High school students are offered three vegetables a day, including some fresh choices. The district has added fresh vegetables to its elementary schools two times per week with plans to increase that next year. Bloom says the change was easy and the only negatives were comments from elementary kids on the whole grain peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Despite the complaints, Bloom continues to put the peanut butter and jelly on whole wheat bread; she thinks that they'll feel differently in time.

Barb Shaffer, Food Service Director at Central Columbia School District, works with the **Guidelines** as well. "Our elementary schools were already in compliance," she said. "The changes we made were in the high school a la carte menu and were fairly easy to implement. We put on a fresh salad, hoagie, and fruit bar and added the option of a chef salad. Some of the things we retained were hot pretzels, bagels, cereal bars and fruit snacks."

Schools have been asking for an increase in the state reimbursement rates since the 2000-2001 school year. The existing reimbursement rates are 10 cent for breakfasts and 10, 12 or 14 cents for lunches. Schools

that implement the **Guidelines** would receive 11 cents for breakfasts and 11, 14 or 17 cents for lunches. In addition, they would continue to receive federal reimbursements.

---

## **Breakfast from page 1...**

schools. For a list of the public schools potentially affected, go to [http://www.pahunger.org/html/action/action\\_SBP\\_Initiative.html](http://www.pahunger.org/html/action/action_SBP_Initiative.html) The plan would include a waiver provision for schools that could demonstrate that its new costs would exceed its new revenue.

The second provision would challenge schools to adopt high standards for healthy food options in their cafeterias and vending machines. Schools that accept the challenge would qualify for bonus payments, thereby offsetting any lost revenue experienced in the process of discontinuing popular (but not so healthy) food items. For additional information about PDE's Nutritional Standards, see article at left.

The Governor's proposal faces a tough fight in the General Assembly where opponents are expected to object to a statewide mandate and to the linking of bonus reimbursement levels to adoption of PDE's Nutritional Standards. Sue Mitchem, child nutrition specialist with Hunger Action, stated her organization is solidly behind the plan. "If we are serious about health and academic performance, we've got to get behind this plan or come up with something that will be just as effective. We can not afford the status quo."



208 N. Third Street  
Suite 200  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

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

## Black, Satter and Parker Headline Safety Net Conference

Don't miss our annual conference "Strengthening the Food Resource Safety Net" to be held on May 14 and 15 at the Radisson Penn Harris in Camp Hill. Principal sponsors are the PA Hunger Action Center and the PA Nutrition Education Network. You can register at [www.pahunger.org/panen/07conferencereg](http://www.pahunger.org/panen/07conferencereg) or call the Center at 717-233-6705. These exciting keynotes will be featured over the two day slate.

### **"The Connection Between Food Insecurity and Child Health", Dr. Maureen Black, Ph.D.**

Even shortly after birth some of our youngest citizens face nutritional deficiencies that can stunt their mental and physical growth. Dr. Black administers the GROW Clinic in Baltimore, which addresses these issues. Dr. Black is a Professor of Pediatrics at University of Maryland School of Medicine.

### **"Understanding and Applying the Satter Eating Competence Model", Ellyn Satter, MS, RD, LCSW, BCD**

Ellyn Satter, MS, RD, LCSW, BCD is a family therapist and feeding and eating specialist. Satter's books, journal and magazine articles, teaching materials, seminars and media interviews have made her well-known to the lay public, professionals and the media as a leading authority on feeding dynamics and eating competence.

### **"Getting Involved in National Nutrition Policy: What's in It For Me?", Lynn Parker M.S., Food Research and Action Center**

Lynn Parker is the Director of Child Nutrition Programs and Nutrition Policy at the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), Washington, D.C., a national research, advocacy and legal center working to end hunger and under nutrition in the U.S. Parker currently leads FRAC's initiative on understanding and responding to the paradox of hunger and obesity.

### 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  
**Dorrie Lisle**, State College  
**Audrey Maretzki**, Penn State University  
**Janet Ney (Secretary)**, Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley  
**Joni Rabinowitz**, Just Harvest, Pbg.  
**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  
**Dawn Williams**, Urban League of Pbg.  
**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