

From: **Association of Arizona Food Banks** <askaafb@azfoodbanks.org>
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ASSOCIATION OF ARIZONA FOOD BANKS

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CHILD NUTRITION REAUTHORIZATION UPDATE

The Child Nutrition Reauthorization (CNR) bill, which would improve access to food and nutritional quality and expand programs, pilots and other initiatives, has passed in the Senate and is pending in the House, where it likely will not be voted on until after Labor Day. Unfortunately, the Senate plan sets a poor precedent by cutting future SNAP (Food Stamps) funding by \$2.2 billion to pay for the bill.

Your voice is needed to let your members of Congress know that robbing Peter to pay Paul is unacceptable. Call the Capitol Switchboard at 1-866-277-7617 to encourage members of the Arizona delegation in the House to pass CNR without cutting SNAP funding.



HELP COMMUNITY FOOD BANK WIN \$25,000 FOR THE HOME GARDENING PROGRAM

It's simple: [vote online in a Pepsi funding contest!](#) A valid email address is required and you may vote up to once per day through August 31. The goal of the Home Gardening Program is to improve the diet of at least 200 low income families by installing 50 home gardens, purchasing 5,000 seed packets for distribution, and purchasing a truck and trailer to distribute compost.



SEPTEMBER IS HUNGER ACTION MONTH

September is right around the corner, and with it brings [Hunger Action Month](#), where AAFB joins Feeding America and anti-hunger advocates from around the country to take action to fight domestic hunger. Stay tuned for more information on ways you can get involved in everything from advocacy to member food bank events to this year's [Taste of the Nation](#) on the evening of September 26.



GREAT LOCAL ELECTION RESOURCE

Looking for more information about candidates running in the Aug. 24th primary? Check out this comprehensive, no-subscription-required website from the [Arizona Capitol Times](#).

HUNGER FELLOWS TO HELP AAFB & ACAA WITH HISPANIC OUTREACH

In September, [Congressional Hunger Fellows](#) awarded to AAFB and the Arizona Community Action Association will begin their work to increase awareness and participation in SNAP (formerly Food Stamps) and other nutrition programs, concentrating on underserved populations in Maricopa County. We are honored to be selected to receive a Fellow and encourage you to [read more about their planned work](#).

DEMAND FOR FOOD REMAINS HIGH

As of June, the latest figures show no weakening in demand for food over the past year. Compared to June 2009, Emergency Food Boxes (a 3-4 day supply of food) distributed by AAFB member food banks increased 7.7% to more than 1 million, while total pounds distributed for the previous 12 months jumped nearly 15% to more than 126 million. Individual enrollments in SNAP (Food Stamps) rose 19.5% over that same time period.

At the same time, AAFB member food banks made impressive strides in meeting the need of hungry Arizonans by increasing the percentage of food provided to people at 100% of the federal poverty level (\$22,050 annually for a family of four). In 2009-10, 61.2% of the need was met compared to only 41.3% in 2008-09. Clearly, your help is still needed – you can [make a donation to AAFB](#).

AAFB IS YOUR HUNGER POLICY RESOURCE

Keep up with the latest **Arizona Legislative activities** and their potential impacts on food banks and the hungry people they assist by bookmarking www.azfoodbanks.org or by [sending an email](#) with "subscribe to AAFB Advocacy Team" in the subject line.

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