



Ending Childhood Hunger in Ohio

**A 2019 GUIDE FOR
GOVERNORS &
FIRST SPOUSES**

The Role of Governors and First Spouses



As Governor, your role is essential to a successful anti-hunger campaign. With your leadership, state and federal nutrition programs can run more effectively and efficiently, reaching more kids with the food they need to grow up healthy, educated and strong.

No Kid Hungry is proud of the work we have done with the **National Governors Association, Western Governors Association, First Spouses' Program and National Conference of State Legislatures** to provide resources, research, model legislation and leadership moments for elected officials across the nation.



“Giving Montana’s children every opportunity to succeed starts with ensuring they never have to worry about where their next meal comes from. **Childhood hunger is a solvable problem.**”

STEVE BULLOCK
GOVERNOR OF MONTANA



“**I don’t know that there could be a more noble cause than feeding hungry children** through the national school breakfast, lunch and summer feeding programs. We all talk about education reform in our states, but those efforts alone cannot solve the underlying issues that prevent students from learning.”

BRIAN SANDOVAL
FORMER GOVERNOR OF NEVADA



“As a former teacher, I have seen first-hand what can happen when children attend school without having enough to eat. It impacts them in many ways. **When kids get regular healthy meals they do better on tests, have fewer discipline and health problems and are more likely to graduate from high school.**”

DONNA EDWARDS
FIRST LADY OF LOUISIANA



“Summer is the time of greatest food insecurity and hunger. Just as we want learning to continue beyond the school year and into the summer months, it’s equally important that children get good nutrition. **That’s where the summer meals program steps up and picks up the slack.**”

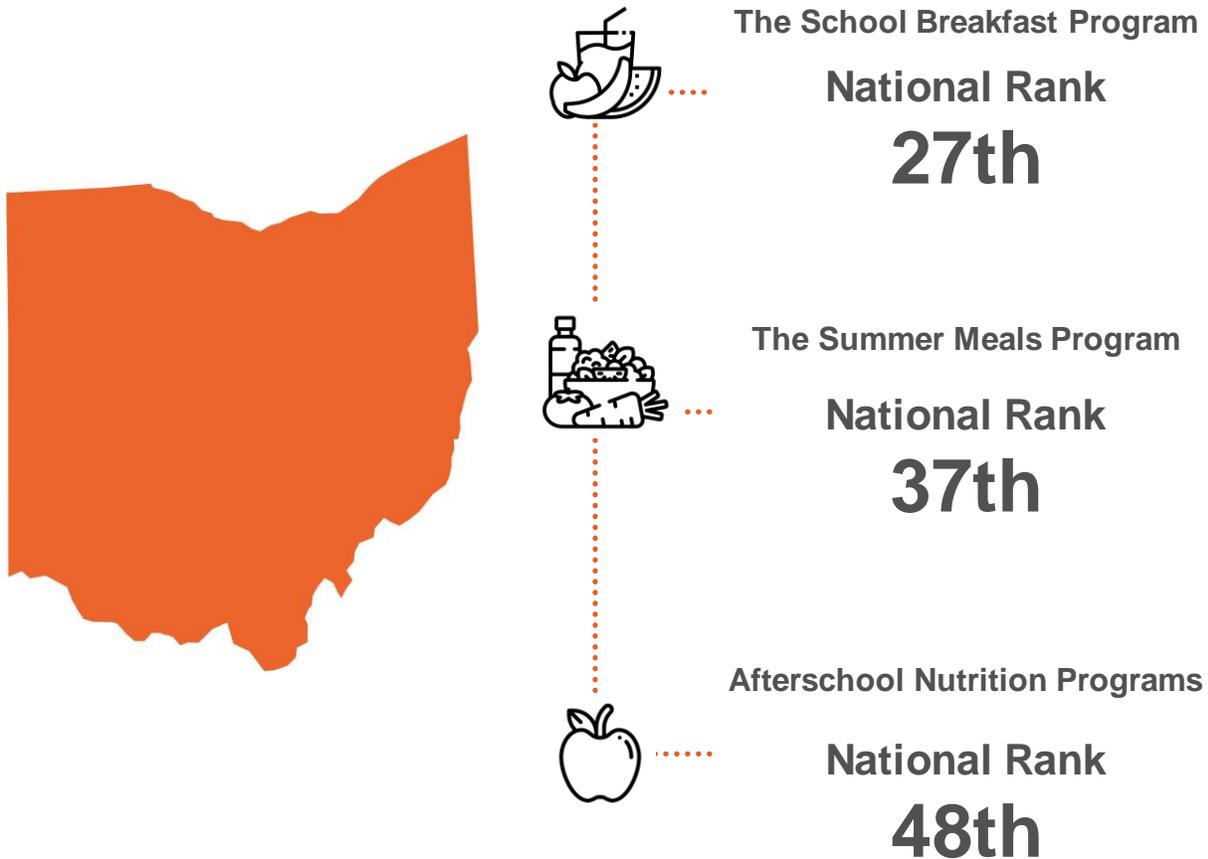
ANDY MOFFIT
FIRST GENTLEMAN OF RHODE ISLAND

20.3%

of all children in Ohio live in food-insecure homes.

One out of every five kids in Ohio is growing up in a family that struggles with hunger. State and federal nutrition programs can help kids get the nutrition they need, but these programs are severely underutilized. Closing the participation gap in these programs can help end childhood hunger and bring new resources into the state.

Participation in National Nutrition Programs*



*Ranked among 50 states and Washington, D.C., with #1 with highest participation rates. Sources listed on final page.

Ending Hunger: Federal Nutrition Programs – State Data



Federal nutrition programs work together to connect children to the nutrition they need. Many of these programs, however, are underutilized. Eliminating barriers and maximizing participation in these programs will help to ensure that more children get the basic nutrition they need to grow up healthy, educated and strong.

School Breakfast

When kids consistently get the morning nutrition they need, it leads to calmer, more focused classrooms where students are better able to learn. The School Breakfast Program is essential for students from low-income families, but can be severely underutilized as transportation, school schedules and stigma can block kids from participating.

BEST PRACTICE: Working with schools to shift the time the meal is served, making it a seamless part of the school day, can help the program reach more of the kids who need it.

In Ohio, school breakfast only reaches



56%

of students who
may need it.

92.5K

students are
falling in the gap.

Reaching the desired 70% benchmark would bring
\$26 million in additional federal reimbursement dollars.

Summer Meals

Summer can be the hungriest time of year for many kids from low-income families. Summer meal programs can help kids get the nutrition they need during the summer, but transportation challenges, bureaucratic hurdles and even extreme weather can become barriers to participation.

BEST PRACTICE: Communities can help the program reach more of the kids who need it by raising awareness among eligible families and expanding the number of operational sites. Pilot programs providing eligible families with increased grocery benefits (Summer EBT) have also been successful in reaching kids in need.

In Ohio, summer meals only reach



10.4%

of students who
may need them.

184K

students are
falling in the gap.

Reaching the desired 40% benchmark would bring
\$13.9 million in additional federal reimbursement dollars.

Afterschool Meals

Too many kids struggle to have enough to eat between lunch and breakfast the next morning. Afterschool meals help kids get the nutrition they need once the school day ends. Having these meals reimbursed by the USDA also helps schools and community organizations save money and redirect funds into additional programming or staffing.

BEST PRACTICE: Created in 2010, this program is still fairly new. Bringing awareness to families and schools — while providing technical assistance for implementation — can help maximize the program and reach more kids in need.

In Ohio, afterschool meal programs reach

5.2%

of the potential need.

16M

Additional meals and
snacks needed to
reach the desired 20%
benchmark

Reaching the desired 20% benchmark would bring
as much as **\$54 million** in additional federal
reimbursement dollars.

Ending Hunger: Federal Nutrition Programs – National Data



School Lunch

The National School Lunch Program offers free or reduced-price meals to low-income students.

Many low-income families struggle to pay even the reduced-price fee, and stigma stops many from participating in the program. As a result, nearly a million eligible students are missing out and many schools are faced with the time-consuming challenge of collecting fees for unpaid meals.

BEST PRACTICE: High-poverty schools or districts, however, can offer breakfast and lunch at no charge to students through the Community Eligibility Provision, which helps schools reduce both red tape and stigma.

In the 2016-2017 school year, the Community Eligibility Provision helped

20,000 schools

in high-poverty areas cut red tape and reach

10 million students

with the meals they need

SNAP

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a powerful tool for ending childhood hunger in the United States, helping to feed nearly 20 million children from low-income homes.

This grocery store benefit, which averages \$1.40 per meal per person, allows families to purchase healthy food and ingredients. It helps end food insecurity, lifts kids out of poverty, and is linked to better physical health and stronger academic success in children.

BEST PRACTICE: Strengthening and protecting SNAP can make sure kids have the food they need to grow up healthy, educated and strong.

78%

of all SNAP households either are working or have worked in the past year.

On average, low-income children participating in SNAP were

18%

more likely to graduate from high school.

WIC

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) assists low-income pregnant and post-partum women, infants and children up to age five with food, nutrition education, breastfeeding support and health care referrals.

The program is linked to a reduction in infant mortality and has led to a 68% reduction in hunger among families with young children.

BEST PRACTICE: Protecting and promoting WIC helps ensure that women and their pre-school age children are able to get the nutrition they need to grow and thrive.

Every month, WIC helps more than

6.9 million

moms and kids nationwide get more of the nutrition they need.

The No Kid Hungry Strategy



No Kid Hungry is focused on closing the gap between kids who have enough to eat and those who don't. Our goal is to ensure kids at risk of hunger have access to food when they need it, regardless of zip code, age, time of year or time of day.

The No Kid Hungry strategy focuses on problem-solving, working with elected officials, business leaders, educators and nonprofits to eliminate the barriers that prevent children from accessing existing nutrition resources.



BUILD CAPACITY THROUGH TARGETED INVESTMENTS

No Kid Hungry brings targeted grants and investments to the state which, combined with private investments and federal reimbursements, can build, sustain and strengthen existing nutrition programs. To date, **No Kid Hungry has invested \$1.1 million** in solutions that work in Ohio.



CREATE EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS

No Kid Hungry works with corporate partners like **Citi, Arby's Foundation, Food Network, Walmart Foundation, Amazon and Kellogg's** and strong local partners like the **Children's Hunger Alliance** to build relationships with schools and community leaders to provide better access to the programs that feed kids.



DEVELOP BIPARTISAN POLITICAL PARTNERSHIPS

No Kid Hungry builds **strong, bipartisan support** among elected leaders around streamlined data collection, pragmatic policy actions and collaboration to strengthen child nutrition programs.



BRING RESOURCES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

No Kid Hungry brings **expertise, best practices, collaborative planning and bold strategies** (such as reaching more kids with school breakfast by making it a regular part of the school day) to maximize meal accessibility.



MAXIMIZE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND SUPPORT FOR STRATEGIES

No Kid Hungry enhances **public awareness** of childhood hunger, creating new momentum by celebrating champions, building support for solutions and celebrating successes.

Deep Dive: Child Food Insecurity In Ohio by County



County	Child food insecurity rate - %
Adams	26.4%
Allen	20.7%
Ashland	21.8%
Ashtabula	23.7%
Athens	24.4%
Auglaize	16.9%
Belmont	22.9%
Brown	22.3%
Butler	18.6%
Carroll	21.9%
Champaign	18.9%
Clark	22.7%
Clermont	17.6%
Clinton	21.5%
Columbiana	23.2%
Coshocton	22.0%
Crawford	22.6%
Cuyahoga	21.2%

County	Child food insecurity rate - %
Darke	19.5%
Defiance	19.5%
Delaware	13.2%
Erie	20.0%
Fairfield	17.4%
Fayette	22.9%
Franklin	19.6%
Fulton	17.9%
Gallia	24.6%
Geauga	16.2%
Greene	18.6%
Guernsey	25.1%
Hamilton	20.3%
Hancock	18.8%
Hardin	20.6%
Harrison	24.9%
Henry	18.6%
Highland	24.5%

County	Child food insecurity rate - %
Hocking	22.1%
Holmes	18.7%
Huron	20.8%
Jackson	27.1%
Jefferson	24.5%
Knox	20.8%
Lake	17.0%
Lawrence	22.9%
Licking	19.7%
Logan	20.1%
Lorain	20.2%
Lucas	22.1%
Madison	18.4%
Mahoning	23.1%
Marion	22.3%
Medina	15.9%
Meigs	25.5%
Mercer	16.1%

Deep Dive: Child Food Insecurity In Ohio by County



County	Child food insecurity rate - %
Miami	18.8%
Monroe	29.1%
Montgomery	22.0%
Morgan	25.3%
Morrow	18.9%
Muskingum	22.8%
Noble	22.4%
Ottawa	20.5%
Paulding	18.5%
Perry	23.9%
Pickaway	19.0%
Pike	24.7%
Portage	20.2%
Preble	20.1%
Putnam	15.9%
Richland	22.6%
Ross	22.9%
Sandusky	19.3%

County	Child food insecurity rate - %
Scioto	25.7%
Seneca	21.4%
Shelby	17.6%
Stark	20.8%
Summit	19.9%
Trumbull	24.4%
Tuscarawas	20.7%
Union	15.7%
Van Wert	18.9%
Vinton	25.9%
Warren	14.7%
Washington	22.4%
Wayne	19.3%
Williams	20.6%
Wood	16.5%
Wyandot	17.2%
State Total	20.3%

No Kid Hungry Campaign Contacts

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Source Material

No Kid Hungry Center for Best Practices: School Breakfast

- <http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/policy-and-advocacy/school-breakfast>

No Kid Hungry Center for Best Practices: Summer Meals

- <http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/programs/summer-meals>

No Kid Hungry Center for Best Practices: Afterschool Meals

- <http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/programs/afterschool-meals>

Food Insecurity and Participation

- [FRAC School Breakfast Scorecard, 2016-2017.](#)
- [FRAC Summer Nutrition Status Report, June 2018](#)
- [No Kid Hungry Afterschool Meals data, January 2019](#)
- [Feeding America Map the Meal Gap 2016](#)
- [White House, Long-term Benefits Of The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, 2015](#)
- [USDA, WIC National Level Annual Survey, 2018](#)
- [FRAC, Quick Facts: Community Eligibility in the 2016-2017 School Year](#)
- [Census, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2017 Version](#)



About No Kid Hungry

No child should go hungry in America. But 1 in 6 kids will face hunger this year. No Kid Hungry is ending childhood hunger through effective programs that provide kids with the food they need. This is a problem we know how to solve. No Kid Hungry is a campaign of Share Our Strength, an organization working to end hunger and poverty.