

*New Hampshire*

# ROADMAP *to* END CHILDHOOD HUNGER



New Hampshire is one of the best places to live and raise a family. We have great schools, strong communities, diverse cultural opportunities and stunning natural resources.

Despite these advantages, not everyone in our state thrives. We haven't escaped the pain of the nationwide recession. Many of our neighbors are unemployed or underemployed.

Among the consequences: **too many**  
**New Hampshire children go hungry.**



The **GOOD** news?  
NH Hunger Solutions has a PLAN.

# NH Roadmap to End Childhood Hunger

The Children's Alliance of New Hampshire's mission is to promote policies and practices that enable all children to lead healthy and productive lives and to reach their full potential. For more than 20 years, the Alliance has worked to improve child health and wellness, educational opportunity, safety, and economic security through research, coalition building and advocacy. Using these strategies, the Alliance cultivates support for public policies and strategic investments that benefit all children, families and communities.

In 2010, the Children's Alliance convened both research leaders and advocates to talk about the issue of growing childhood hunger in New Hampshire. As a result of the recession, the sluggish economy and subsequent job losses, many families found themselves struggling to feed their children. And, in the midst of this new economic reality, New Hampshire's child poverty rate was rising. The total population living below the federal poverty level almost doubled from 2000 -2009 according to the Annie E. Casey Kids Count report. Now, instead of one in twenty children living in poverty, the number has increased to more than one in ten or approximately 33,000 New Hampshire children living in poverty.

According to the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), in 2009, 15.7 percent of New Hampshire households experienced food hardships - more than double the number of households in 2003. The rate is even higher for households with children, with 20.6 percent of households with children, or one in five, having experienced food hardship.

Determined to combat this rise in child poverty and hunger in New Hampshire, the Children's Alliance organized a diverse coalition of anti-hunger and child advocates, business and community leaders. The coalition, known as New Hampshire Hunger Solutions, was tasked with working to end childhood hunger in the state through policy change, public- private partnerships, awareness-building and maximizing use of existing resources.

As a result of a year-long collaborative effort, NH Hunger Solutions created *The New Hampshire Roadmap to End Childhood Hunger*. *The NH Roadmap* is the first statewide plan of its kind to detail a comprehensive strategy for tackling the root causes of childhood hunger. With three clear, achievable goals and steps for all sectors of communities to take, the *NH Roadmap* will help guide NH in the months ahead in the effort to end childhood hunger. Together we can affect the systemic change necessary to realize [one simple reality...](#)

*A New Hampshire where every child has three nutritious meals a day.*

# NH Roadmap to End Childhood Hunger

## 1 Increase Access to Existing Food Resources

Many resources, including federal nutrition programs, exist in New Hampshire to decrease childhood hunger. Many of these programs are underutilized by food insecure children and their families. Increasing awareness of these programs and reducing barriers to accessing them will ensure that New Hampshire is maximizing existing resources which is an essential step to helping children obtain the nutrients they need to learn, play, grow, and succeed.

**Increasing Access Goal One (CACFP): Increase the number of young children in NH who have access to healthy food through early learning and child care programs.**

**Lead Organization:** NH Department of Education Bureau of Nutrition Programs and Services

Background Data: Total Number of Children- 286,377 <sup>1</sup> Children Living in Poverty- 28,000 <sup>1</sup> Children Receiving Childcare Scholarships- 5,500/month
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Benchmark	Baseline <sup>1</sup>	3 Year Target (By July 2015)
<b>Children</b>		
<b>Potential # of Children</b>	47,494 <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Actual # of Children Participating</b>	8,828	10,152 <sup>3</sup>
Ave. Daily Participation of Children: Family Child Care Homes	1,082	
Ave. Daily Participation of Children: Child Care Centers (including Head Start)	7,746	
<b>Participation Rate</b>	18.6%	
<b>Sites</b>		
<b>Potential # of Sites</b>	<b>1,383<sup>4</sup></b>	
Total # of Family Child Care Homes	513	
Total # of Child Care Centers (including Head Start)	870	

<sup>1</sup> Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) State of the States 2011 Report Updated March 2012 <http://frac.org/map>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.naccrra.org/randd/data/docs/NH.pdf> - total licensed child care capacity in the state.

<sup>3</sup> 15% increase

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.naccrra.org/randd/data/docs/NH.pdf>

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<b>Actual # of Sites Participating</b>	301	<b>346<sup>5</sup></b>
Number of Participating Family Child Care Homes	145	
Number of Participating Child Care Centers (Includes Head Start)	156	
<b>Participation Rates</b>		
Family Child Care Homes	28.3%	
Child Care Centers (including Head Start)	17.9%	

Objective  
1.1

Raise  
Provider

Awareness of CACFP. Launch a PR Campaign targeted to key audiences to increase the number of childcare and afterschool providers who are aware of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

*Action Steps*

- 1.1.1 Identify child care centers that already use CACFP to champion/serve as spokespersons for CACFP.
  - 1.1.2 Provide information on CACFP to associations of child care directors (such as the Seacoast Early Learning Alliance, Early Learning NH).
  - 1.1.3 Include nutrition for young children and CACFP as topics at statewide conferences.
  - 1.1.4 Incorporate recognition of providers who participate in CACFP into the annual DHHS celebration/award ceremony.
  - 1.1.5 Give child care providers information on CACFP when they apply for a license and/or contract with the Resource and Referral Network.
  - 1.1.6 Include information on CACFP in Child Care Resource and Referral Network trainings for Child Care Providers (both center-based and family child care providers).
- 1.2 Incentivize CACFP Participation. Provide incentives that encourage child care providers to participate in CACFP.
- Action Steps*
- 1.2.1 Build CACFP participation incentives into child care licensing requirements.
  - 1.2.2 Include questions about CACFP in the Resource and Referral Network administrative/contracting process.
  - 1.2.3 Include CACFP participation as a quality indicator in the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS).
  - 1.2.4 Include CACFP in the work being done to align performance indicators across the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services.
- 1.3 Increase Facility Capacity. Increase the number of child care and afterschool programs that have the facilities they need to participate in the CACFP.
- Action Steps*
- 1.3.1 Provide mini-grants to help child care centers upgrade their facilities to allow participation in CACFP.
  - 1.3.2 Conduct a pilot project that encourages co-locating child care/afterschool services with other organizations in order to promote sharing of facilities, administrative capacities.

<sup>5</sup> 15% increase

# NH Roadmap to End Childhood Hunger

**Increasing Access Goal Two (School Breakfast/Lunch Programs): Increase the number of children in NH who eat a healthy, appealing breakfast and lunch at school.**

**Lead Organization:** NH Department of Education Bureau of Nutrition Programs and Services

Benchmark	Baseline <sup>6</sup>	3 Year Target <sup>7</sup> (By July 2015)
<b>Students Enrolled in Public Schools</b>	177,875 <sup>8</sup>	
<b>Students Eligible for Free and Reduced Price Meals</b>	<b>45,714<sup>9</sup></b>	
<b>Total Number of Schools in NH</b>	<b>506<sup>10</sup></b>	
<b>School Breakfast Program</b>		
<b>Potential Eligible (in the 418 participating schools)</b>		
Total Students		
Total Free and Reduced-Price Students		
<b>Actual Participation</b>		
Ave. Daily Student Participation	24,100	27,715
Free and Reduced-Price Students	15,481	17,803
Paid Students	8,619	9,912
Number of Schools Participating	418	481
<b>National School Lunch Program</b>		
<b>Potential Eligible</b>	<b>45,714</b>	
<b>Actual Participation</b>		
Ave. Daily Student Participation	106,181	111,490
Free and Reduced-Price Students	41,077	43,131
Paid Students	65,104	68,359
Number of Schools Participating	483	507

## Objectives

2.1 Increase The Number of Schools That Participate in the School Breakfast Program. Increase the number of schools in the state who participate in and actively support the School Breakfast Program.

*Action Steps*

<sup>6</sup> School Year 2010-2011: Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) State of the States 2011 Report Updated March 2012 <http://frac.org/map>

<sup>7</sup> Assumes 15% increase for Breakfast Program and a 5% increase for School Lunch 2010-2011

<sup>9</sup> NH Children's Alliance (2010-2011)

<sup>10</sup> Public and public charter.

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- 2.1.1 Survey schools to identify the barriers that make it difficult for them to participate in the School Breakfast Program.
  - 2.1.2 Reach out to school superintendents emphasizing the link between good nutrition and children’s ability to learn and the ways in which the School Breakfast Program can support good nutrition.
  - 2.1.3 Explore the possibility of implementing legislation that provides for School District participation in the School Breakfast Program *unless* a School Board explicitly votes not to participate in the program in a given year.
  - 2.1.4 Include information on the School Breakfast Program in the annual Department of Education conference on the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).
- 2.2 Increase Legislators’ Awareness of the Value of the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program.  
*Action Steps*
- 2.2.1 Partner with the School Nutrition Association and the New England Dairy Council to provide legislators with information on the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program.
- 2.3 Raise Parent Awareness of School Lunch Program (NSLP). Increase the number of parents who are aware that their children are eligible for the free or reduced lunch program.  
*Action Steps*
- 2.3.1 Conduct outreach, and distribute NSLP applications to school guidance counselors, faith communities and others who have contact with families whose children may be eligible for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).
  - 2.3.2 Translate outreach materials and the NSLP application into more languages.
  - 2.3.3 Translate the Special Dietary Needs form into additional languages.
  - 2.3.4 Ensure that there is someone available to review applications and forms in each language.
  - 2.3.5 Partner with SNAP caseworkers to educate parents about the benefits of sharing information with the schools.

***Increasing Access Goal Three (Summer Food Service Program): Increase the number of children and youth who eat healthy meals in their communities throughout the summer.***

***Lead Organization:*** NH Department of Education Bureau of Nutrition Programs and Services

<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Baseline<sup>11</sup></b>	<b>3 Year Target (By July 2015)</b>
<b>Total Children Eligible</b>	24,751 <sup>12</sup>	
Free	13,761	
Reduced	1,910	
<b>Actual Participation Rates</b>		
Average Daily Summer Nutrition Participation in July (FY 2011)	5,321*	
<b>Number of Feeding Sites</b>	126 <sup>13</sup>	TBD

\*Includes both public and private feeding sites such as public schools, camps, Head Start and Upward Bound programs, and nonprofit organizations

<sup>11</sup> July 2011 National Data Bank (NDB), USDA Food and Nutrition Services.

<sup>12</sup> Calculated from the SFSP 50% Eligibility Report published Feb 2012

<sup>13</sup> Counted from list of SFSP sites given out by Tami Drake at DOE

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## Objectives

3.1 Explore Innovative Approaches to Providing Access to Healthy Food in the Summer. Explore innovative approaches to providing nutritious food for children in ways that address the challenges of rural communities and the stigma sometimes associated with participating in a congregate feeding model.

### Action Steps

3.1.1 Explore the possibility of participating as one of the pilot projects using enhanced EBT cards as a mechanism for increasing children's access to food in the summer months.

3.1.2 Integrate summer food programs into existing summer programs for children and youth throughout the state (i.e., town recreation department programs, YMCAs, Boys and Girls clubs, etc.).

3.2 Increase the Number of School Districts that Participate in Summer Food Program Options.

### Action Steps

3.2.1 Include information on the importance of year-round nutrition and wellness at statewide conferences for educators (i.e., NHAEYC, Early Learning NH, etc).

3.2.2 Provide school districts with information on the Seamless Summer option – available through National School Lunch Program.

3.2.3 Provide summer enrichment and readiness programs with information on both of the summer food options.

3.2.4 Provide school administrators with information on the Summer Food Program.

3.2.5 Provide faith communities with information on the Summer Food Program and explore partnership opportunities.

3.3 Raise Parents' Awareness of Summer Food Program Options. Increase the number of parents who are aware of the summer food programs options.

### Action Steps

3.3.1 Work with community partners<sup>14</sup> to provide information to parents particularly in communities where existing summer food programs are being underutilized.

3.3.2 Register existing Summer Food Service Program sites with the national hunger hotline.

3.3.3 Ensure that 211 has current information on the Summer Food Service Program sites.

***Increasing Access Goal Four (WIC): Increase the number of pregnant women, infants and young children in the state who have access to the food they need for a healthy, balanced diet.***

**Lead Organization:** New Hampshire Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Program

Benchmark	Baseline <sup>15</sup>	3 Year Target (By July 2015)
<b>Potential Eligible</b>	31,037 <sup>16</sup>	
Coverage Rate	<b>59.4%</b> <sup>17</sup>	
<b>Actual Participation Rates</b>		
Ave. Monthly Participation	20,983 <sup>18</sup>	7% increase

<sup>14</sup> i.e., CAP agencies, NH Afterschool Network, SPARK, WIC, "Home for You" website, etc.

<sup>15</sup> FY 2011 - Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) State of the States 2011 Report Updated March 2012 <http://frac.org/map>

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.fns.usda.gov/ora/MENU/Published/WIC/FILES/WICEligibles2000-2009Vol1.pdf>

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.fns.usda.gov/ora/MENU/Published/WIC/FILES/WICEligibles2000-2009Vol1.pdf>

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.fns.usda.gov/ora/menu/Published/WIC/FILES/WICPC2010.pdf>

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Women	4,534	
Infants	4,906	
Children	11,322	
Children < 1 yr	4,445	
Children 1 yr	2,990	
Children 2 yr	2,451	
Children 3 yr	2,407	
Children 4 yr	1,9134	
Children 5 yr	47 <sup>19</sup>	
<b>Retention of Older Children</b>		
% of Enrolled Children Who Are 3-4 y/o	45%	50%

## Objectives

- 4.1 **Research Barriers.** Use surveys and/or focus groups to determine why some eligible families do not enroll in WIC and why some families drop out of the program.  
*Action Steps*
- 4.1.1 Conduct focus groups with eligible WIC families who have dropped out of the program.
  - 4.1.2 Survey eligible WIC families who have chosen not to participate in the program.
  - 4.1.3 Analyze survey and focus group results and use the findings to inform decision making.
- 4.2 **Raise Awareness.** Increase awareness among targeted audiences of WIC benefits, including new food package and the availability of morning and evening clinics.  
*Action Steps*
- 4.2.1 Launch a “Tell a Friend” Campaign.
  - 4.2.2 Ensure that healthcare providers have up to date information on the WIC program.
  - 4.2.3 Ensure that insurance and Managed Care companies have up to date information on the WIC program.
  - 4.2.4 Provide faith communities with information on WIC and explore partnership opportunities.
- 4.3 **Collaborate With Other Food Programs.** Provide information on WIC through the School Lunch, Food Stamp and Medicaid/Health Kids programs.  
*Action Steps*
- 4.3.1 Pursue opportunities to link information about WIC and the NSLP to the NH EASY on-line application.
  - 4.3.2 Identify steps that the DHHS Division of Family Assistance and the DHHS Public Health Services can take to ensure that WIC and SNAP staff include information on all federal nutrition programs in the information they give out to families in need of food.
  - 4.3.3 Partner with SNAP to include information on WIC in the SNAP newsletter.
  - 4.3.4 Partner with WIC and SNAP to launch a joint marketing campaign that includes a message about using WIC and food stamps together “to stretch your family’s food stamp dollars.”
  - 4.3.5 Explore the Possibility of Combining SNAP and WIC on EBT Cards.

**Increasing Access Goal Five (Food Stamps): Increase the number of eligible families who access food stamps to meet their basic food and nutrition needs.**

**Lead Organization:** NH Division of Family Assistance.

<sup>19</sup> Data from: DHHS Participation By Age Report



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Benchmark	Baseline <sup>20</sup>	3 Year Target (By July 2015)
<b>Potential Eligible</b>		
# of Eligible People (FY 2009)	<b>105,000</b>	
<b>Actual Participation Rates</b>		
Participation Rate (all ages) (FY 2009)	73%	78%
# of People Participating (FY 2009)	76,650	
Children in Household Receiving Food Stamps (2007)	12,474 <sup>21</sup>	
Households Receiving Food Stamps (2007)		

## Objectives

5.1 Raise Awareness Among Eligible Individuals Especially the “Working Poor”. Reach out to eligible individuals and families in the workforce who believe they are not eligible for food stamps because they are employed.

### Action Steps

- 5.1.1 Use presentations and written information to reach people through their workplaces.
- 5.1.2 Partner with “non-traditional partners” such as tax preparers, school nurses, dietitians, and flu shot clinics to provide information to individuals and families.
- 5.1.3 Add links to NH EASY on websites frequently accessed by parents.

5.2 Make It Easier for Families to Apply for SNAP.

### Action Steps

- 5.2.1 Identify sites where families can use computers with internet access to apply for SNAP using NH EASY.
- 5.2.2 Disseminate information to families on sites with computer and internet access.
- 5.2.3 Provide key community partners with mobile computers they can use to help families apply for SNAP using NH EASY.

## **2 STRENGTHEN NEW HAMPSHIRE’S FOOD SYSTEMS** so that Children and Families can Access Affordable, Nutritious Food, Including Fresh Fruits and Vegetables, in their Local Communities.

Eating fresh food is good for everyone. Not only does it nourish children, it drives economic development within local communities, helps farmers stay in business and benefits the environment by reducing carbon footprints. Many families are not strongly linked to locally grown food for reasons ranging from the cost of fresh fruits and vegetables, unfamiliarity with the use or preparation of some fruits and vegetables, or the inability to get to locations that offer fresh produce. These barriers lead some families to turn to less nutritious processed foods to feed their children which can contribute to poor nutrition and chronic health conditions. In New Hampshire, there are a growing number of programs and incentives in place to help families as well as institutions purchase and prepare local food. Increasing the capacity of these programs will move our state towards both greater production and consumption of local foods.

<sup>20</sup> FY 2011 - Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) State of the States 2011 Report Updated March 2012 <http://frac.org/map>

<sup>21</sup> <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/bystate/stateprofile.aspx?state=NH&group=Grantee&loc=31&dt=1%2c3%2c2%2c4>

# NH Roadmap to End Childhood Hunger

## ***Food Systems Goal One: Increase Our Understanding of the Systems, Policies and Practices We Need to Have in Place to Make Fresh, Nutritious Food Available to New Hampshire's Children and Families.***

### **Potential Benchmarks – By July 2015...**

1. We will have accurate, easy-to-access data on the amount of fresh fruits and vegetables produced and sold in the state each year.
2. We will know what percentage of eligible children and families are accessing WIC; food stamps; and, school lunch, breakfast and summer food programs.
3. We will have a web-based clearinghouse in place where people and organizations can access information on New Hampshire's food systems and find and share information on best practices.
4. Policy makers will have easy access to objective, reliable information on policies that impact our food systems.
5. Our statewide food advisory council will have created a Food Charter that outlines the steps we will take to ensure long-term food security for New Hampshire.

### Objectives

- 1.1 Collect, track and disseminate information that will help us implement effective food policies and practices.

*Convening Organization*<sup>22</sup>: New England Food Solutions

#### *Action Steps*

- 1.1.1 Collect, track and disseminate data on the number of people accessing food and nutrition programs such as WIC, food stamps, food pantries, etc.
  - 1.1.2 Identify and aggregate the data we need to monitor the overall impact of the strategies articulated in the NH Plan to End Childhood Hunger.
  - 1.1.3 Gather and disseminate information on strategies and best practices that make it easier for families to access fresh, nutritious, locally-grown food.
  - 1.1.4 Identify effective ways to disseminate information to key stakeholders on the strong link between strong food systems and community and economic development.
- 1.2 Identify the policies and regulations we need to change to create a more robust food system in the state.

*Convening Organization*: UNH School of Law

#### *Action Steps*

- 1.2.1 Identify existing and new state and federal laws and regulations that impact food system integrity, accessibility and sustainability.

<sup>22</sup> The "Convening Organization" convenes sub-groups when needed to discuss issues related to implementing the objective; serve as the point of contact for individuals/organizations interested in the work that falls under the objective.

# NH Roadmap to End Childhood Hunger

1.2.2 Identify laws and policy changes that could positively impact our food systems and disseminate this information to policy makers and advocacy groups.

1.3 Support the Work of the Statewide Food Advisory Council as they develop a Food Charter and take other steps to provide a sustainable food system for all of New Hampshire's residents.

*Convening Organization:* NH Hunger Solutions Steering Committee

## *Action Steps*

1.3.1 Foster strong communication between the NH Hunger Solutions implementation teams and the Food Advisory Council.

## ***Food Systems Goal Two: Create a Stronger Link between Children and Families and the Regional Food System.***

### **By July 2015...**

1. X% of licensed child care centers in the state will participate in community gardens.
2. Every farmers market will have practices in place that make it easy for low-income families to purchase fresh, healthy, food.
3. X% of schools will regularly offer fresh, healthy, locally grown food to those they serve.
4. The amount of surplus food the NH Food Bank distributes will have increased by X%.
5. X% of NH families will eat fresh, healthy, locally grown food on a regular basis.

## Objectives

2.1 Provide families with information on the value of healthy, fresh, locally grown food and practical ways they can integrate it into their daily lives.

*Interim Convening Organization:* NH Hunger Solutions Steering Committee

## *Action Steps*

2.1.1 Identify a Convening Organization for this objective.

2.1.2 Secure funding to expand nutrition education programs for families.

2.1.3 Identify and replicate nutrition education programs that are successful in engaging families.

2.1.4 Use new-media tools (such as webinars, Facebook, YouTube, etc.) to provide families with practical information on how to prepare food using fresh vegetables, how to start a community garden, etc.

2.1.5 Promote locally-grown food in traditional markets such as grocery stores, etc.

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- 2.2 Identify and replicate practices that make it easier for low-income families to participate in programs such as Farmers Markets, CSA's<sup>23</sup>, and farm stands.

*Convening Organization:* NH Department of Agriculture??

## *Action Steps*

- 2.2.1 Identify 2-3 promising practices (such as double coupons for farmers markets, web-based purchase and delivery systems for local foods, etc.) that make it easier for low-income families to participate in farmers markets, CSAs, etc.
- 2.2.2 Secure funding to replicate promising practices in other communities.
- 2.2.3 Successfully replicate promising practices.
- 2.3 Sustain existing community gardens and/or help to create new community gardens in the state.

*Convening Organization:* UNH Cooperative Extension

## *Action Steps*

- 2.3.1 Identify and disseminate information on policies and regulations that promote or inhibit the ability of communities to create and sustain community gardens.
- 2.3.2 Identify and share information on best practices in developing and sustaining community gardens.
- 2.3.3 Help community-based organizations that work with children and families (such as child care centers, schools, faith-based organizations, etc.) create community gardens.
- 2.4 Link local farmers with Summer Food Programs, "Farm to School," "Farm to Institution," and other feeding programs for children and their families such as soup kitchens, food pantries, the NH Food Bank, etc.

*Convening Organization:* NH Farm to School

## *Action Steps*

- 2.4.1 Provide training to farmers on how to market and sell their products to schools.
- 2.4.2 Educate institutions such as schools about how to use locally grown food.
- 2.4.3 Pilot partnerships between schools and local growers to do light processing of foods that can then be used during the school year.
- 2.5 Partner with farmers, grocery stores, restaurants, universities and others to re-direct local surplus food and reduce waste.

*Convening Organization:* NH Food Bank

<sup>23</sup> Community Supported Agriculture

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## *Action Steps*

- 2.5.1 Identify barriers that make it difficult to re-direct surplus foods to children and families in need.
- 2.5.2 Increase the amount of surplus food that emergency food providers at the local, regional and state level receive from current partners.
- 2.5.3 Expand the number of organizations that partner with emergency food providers at the local, regional and state to re-direct surplus food.
- 2.5.4 Explore the possibility of promoting "Grow Another Row" and other practices that increase the amount of locally grown food available to children and families in need.

## **3 Ensure the economic security of all children and their families.**

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Improving the economic health of New Hampshire families is critical to ending childhood hunger. However low-income working and non-working families sometimes have to make trade-offs between feeding their children nutritious food and providing other basic needs. Sometimes New Hampshire families need help to become self-sufficient so they do not have to make those tough choices. The three proven strategies here enable families to increase their economic security now as well as invest in their family's future. The goals below reflect ongoing poverty reduction initiatives that are indirectly tied to hunger, and therefore include less programmatic detail than those in the rest of the plan.

Every family wants to put three healthy meals on their table every day and with adequate financial resources they can. We live in a prosperous state where we can ensure that all families have opportunities to work towards economic success.

***Economic Security Goal One:*** Increase Families Receiving EITC. Ensure that low income families are aware of the federal EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit) and increase assistance to maximize participation.

**Possible Lead Organization:** [CA\\$H Coalition partner organizations](#), [SCORE](#), [Lakes Region United Way](#)

### **Benchmarks To Be Determined**

#### Objectives

- 1.1 Promote the availability of EITC through the DHHS NH Easy site, Head Start Centers, WIC clinics, family support centers, community centers and other locations.
- 1.2 Increase the number of free tax preparation sites around the state and training for volunteer tax preparers.

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- 1.3 Advocate for legislation requiring employers to inform employees of the EITC and other economic security programs

***Economic Security Goal Two:*** Expand Use of IDAs. Expand the number of families using the IDA (Individual Development Account) program to save earned income in special-purpose, matched savings accounts. Families use their IDA savings, including the matching funds, to achieve any of four objectives: acquiring a first home; capitalizing a small business; purchasing transportation; or enrolling in postsecondary education or training.

**Lead Organization:** Community Loan Fund

**Benchmarks To Be Determined**

## Objectives

- 2.1 Expand number of families using the IDA program
- 2.2 Increase matching funds available for IDA accounts.
- 2.3 Provide financial literacy programs for New Hampshire families qualifying for IDA accounts.

***Economic Security Goal Three:*** Improve New Hampshire TANF/FANF (Temporary Aid to Needy Families/Financial Assistance to Needy Families) regulations so that the program can adequately cover those families living below the federal poverty line. In 2009/2010 only 49% of those below poverty were covered by TANF compared to 96% covered five years earlier. Since January 2012, changes in NH TANF eligibility have resulted in 2,100 children who are no longer served by the program.

**Lead organizations:** Children's Alliance of NH, Family Assistance Advisory Council (FAAC)

**Benchmarks**

## Objectives

- 3.1 Advocate reinstating TANF/FANF eligibility for families with one unemployed parent.
- 3.2 Advocate revising change to TANF/FANF eligibility to exclude Social Security payments as a source of individual income.
- 3.3 Advocate increasing state contribution to TANF/FANF for single parents with children.
- 3.4 Advocate for improved federal TANF to cover basic needs of NH families.

# NH Roadmap to End Childhood Hunger

## NH Hunger Solutions Partners

Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield New Hampshire  
 Brookside Congregational Church, Manchester  
 Center for Rural Partnerships, Plymouth State University  
 Child & Family Services  
 Children's Alliance of NH\*  
 Community Action Program Belknap-Merrimack Counties  
 Conservation Law Foundation  
 Every Child Matters  
 Granite United Way  
 Healthy Eating Active Living NH (HEAL NH)  
 Keene State College, Dietetics Internship Program  
 Lakes Region United Way  
 Merrimack Valley Daycare Services  
 Nashua Regional Planning Commission  
 Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter  
 New England Farmers Union  
 New Hampshire Charitable Foundation  
 New Hampshire Community Loan Fund  
 New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food  
 New Hampshire Fiscal Policy Institute  
 New Hampshire Food Bank\*  
 New Hampshire Grocers Association  
 New Hampshire Institute of Agriculture and Forestry  
 New Hampshire Legal Assistance  
 New Hampshire School Nutrition Association  
 NH Department of Education, Division of Program Support: Bureau of Nutrition Programs and Services  
 NH Department of Health and Human Services  
 -Division of Family Assistance  
 -Division of Public Health Services, Obesity Prevention\*  
 -Division of Public Health Services, WIC Nutrition Program\*  
 NH Farm to School Program  
 NH Housing Authority  
 Seacoast Eat Local  
 Seacoast Family Food Pantry  
 Share Our Strength Taste of the Nation  
 Southern New Hampshire Services Head Start  
 Southern New Hampshire Services\*  
 Strafford County Community Action Agency  
 University of New Hampshire  
 Carsey Institute\*  
 Cooperative Extension\*  
 School of Law\*  
 Food Solutions New England\*  
 Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission  
 Walker School, Concord  
 \* Indicates NH Hunger Solutions Steering Committee member

## Who We Are

The Children's Alliance of NH is a statewide, research-based advocacy organization that collaborates with policy makers, community leaders and advocates to improve the lives of all children. The Children's Alliance coordinates **NH Hunger Solutions** which developed the *Roadmap to End Childhood Hunger*.



## Our Funders

