

Children, Opportunity and State Food Assistance

No child should go hungry in our state.

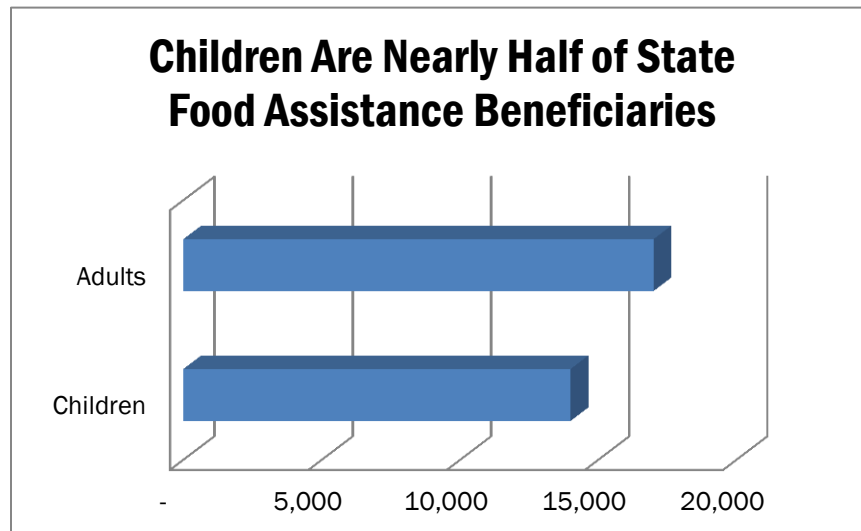


The data is clear: hungry kids can't learn.

Research has shown that hunger affects student performance on math and reading tests. Hungry kids can be aggressive, anxious and depressed. They miss more school and are more likely to require special education and mental health services.

It doesn't have to be this way.

The Washington State Legislature has the opportunity to restore full State Food Assistance benefits for children and families in the 2013-15 Biennial Budget.



In July 2012, benefits for State Food Assistance recipients were **cut in half**: from an average of \$115 per person to \$55 per person. Less than \$2 per person per day is simply not enough for the 14,000 children and 17,000 adults to purchase nutritious foods for a healthy diet.

Washington kids deserve better – restore full benefits for State Food Assistance so all kids have the same opportunity to succeed.