

Fight Childhood Hunger: Fully Fund State Food Assistance

All children deserve healthy, nutritious food at breakfast, lunch and dinner. Here in Washington, the legislature made a smart decision to meet our children's nutritional needs by creating State Food Assistance in 1997.

State Food Assistance strategically leverages federal resources to make sure food stamps reach thousands of children in immigrant families.

State Food Assistance is:

Smart. Like food stamps, State Food Assistance (SFA) grows when times are tough and shrinks as times get better.

Cost-Effective. SFA creatively piggybacks on the federal food stamp program to reduce administrative costs.

Good for Students. Sound nutrition fuels academic achievement.

Fair. State Food Assistance serves thousands of children in immigrant families. No matter where you're from, in America children deserve a great start in life.

Last summer, a 50 percent cut to State Food Assistance put nearly 14,000 children at greater risk of hunger.

This cut:

- **Hurts our economy.** For every \$5 in benefits, SFA returned \$9 to Washington grocers.
- **Harms children of color.** By singling out immigrant families, this cut deepens racial and economic inequality.
- **Damages school success.** All Washington's children have a right to educational opportunity. But hungry kids can't learn. When children lack the fuel to succeed in school, we let the opportunity gap swallow up our future.

An innovative solution to childhood hunger



No child should go hungry. For more than 15 years, Washington has addressed childhood hunger by creatively using federal resources. **Lawmakers must fully fund State Food Assistance.**

Help our children grow up strong. Fully fund State Food Assistance.