Annual Report
2006
The National School Lunch Program makes it possible for all school children in the United States to receive a nutritious lunch each and every school day. Research shows that when a child’s nutritional needs are met, the child is more attentive in class, and has better attendance and fewer disciplinary problems.

— Food Research & Action Center, 2006

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Nutritious food offered at school will attract hungry children to attend school and improve both attendance and school performance. Providing take-home rations will also offer economic incentives for families to send their children to school.

—Hunger Task Force Report, UN Millennium Project 2005

**Our Mission:**
Fighting Hunger by Developing Leaders

**Our Vision:**
To raise up a new generation of leaders dedicated to ending hunger in the lives of over 36 million people in the United States and 840 million men, women and children around the globe.

**What Makes Us Unique:**
For over 10 years the Congressional Hunger Center has served as a nexus where those engaged in grassroots field operations can connect with policymakers to craft more effective solutions to end hunger. Over 500 leaders have graduated from our programs—young people who will spend their time, talents, and energy fighting hunger and poverty. These leaders have gained the skills, knowledge and experience to inspire hope and fight hunger in the United States and around the world.

School lunch in Cambodia. Ethiopian students eat a nutritious school provided meal. Bolivian children prepare for school lunch.
For the Congressional Hunger Center (CHC), 2006 has been a year of growth and transition. Our 13th class of Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellows will soon return to Washington to choose between an array of anti-hunger policy placements, and our third class of Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellows are at the mid-point of policy placements in Washington, DC, London, Rome, Cambodia, Senegal, and Ethiopia. Overseeing these programs, we now have a permanent staff of thirteen dedicated employees. This year, seven of us—Emerson program directors John Kelly, Kristin Anderson, and Aileen Carr; Mohamed Gurey, director of finance; Sherian Roggeband, director of human resources and operations; and me—celebrated our fifth anniversary with CHC.

We have enlarged our board this year to include greater representation and participation of alumni from the Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland Fellowship programs, the private sector, unions, and allied anti-hunger groups. We welcomed six new board members: Ashley Aakesson, former Leland fellow; Shana McDavis-Conway, former Emerson fellow; Cal Dooley, president and CEO of the Grocery Manufacturers Association/Food Products Association; Vicki B. Escarra, president and CEO of America's Second Harvest; Lou Gerber, legislative director of the Communications Workers of America; and John R. Sander, US Department of State (retired)/management consultant. We are delighted to have them join us.

In the policy arena, Margaret, deputy director, and I have played active roles in assisting allied groups achieve their policy objectives on domestic and international anti-hunger initiatives. I have assisted the National Anti-Hunger Organizations (NAHO) and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation-funded Farm and Food Policy Project to develop their 2007 Farm Bill proposals. Margaret has worked with the Alliance for Food Aid to enhance programs and procure adequate funding for international food aid in the Farm Bill and related legislation.

Looking ahead to 2007, we are proud to announce another major transition for CHC: We have negotiated a new multi-year lease at the Hall of States Building near Union Station and the Senate offices. We will now have a 40-seat conference room in which to conduct training and professional development days for our fellowship programs. This will be the first time in our thirteen-year history that we will have a state-of-the-art, in-house training facility to enhance our ability to achieve our mission of “Fighting Hunger by Developing Leaders.”

I would like to thank the UPS Foundation for its two-year grant to CHC and the Association of Nutrition Services Agencies (ANSA) for our national public education campaign on “Food as Medicine” for people with HIV/AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses. CHC also appreciates the continued financial support and assistance from Congress, USDA’s FNS Budget Office, General Mills Foundation, Altria Group, Inc., MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger, Sodexo Foundation, and Mars, Inc. Finally, we thank our board of directors, partner host organizations, and our current and former Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland fellows. We look forward to hosting many of you in 2007 in our new office and training space as we work together to end hunger!

Sincerely,

Edward M. Cooney
Serving together as co-chairs of the Congressional Hunger Center Board of Directors gives us the unique opportunity to work on a bi-partisan basis with other dedicated citizens to end hunger in the United States and around the world. Since 1993, the Center has trained the next generation of young anti-hunger leaders in America. The Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellows and the Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellows are a living legacy to former members of Congress, Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland, who served in the U.S. House of Representatives and who dedicated much of their time and effort to bring attention to the hungry at home and abroad.

In 2006, Emerson and Leland fellows lived and worked in challenging urban and rural locations across the United States and in twelve countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Fellows served in communities affected by Hurricane Katrina, helped populations facing displacement from drought and poverty, and spent up to a year in remote areas of the developing world. In the United States, Emerson fellows helped to increase access to fresh local produce for people in rural areas, worked to help migrant children participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, and evaluated the adequacy of food stamp allotments and their impact on household food security. Overseas, Leland fellows worked with poor farmers in Uganda to develop and market agricultural products for export, researched the nutritional impact of high protein grains grown in Bolivia, investigated the links between child labor and hunger, and provided nutritional support for people living with HIV/AIDS in Senegal. Their dedication and commitment to becoming effective anti-hunger leaders continues to inspire us and others with whom they work at their host organizations. This report highlights their work and we hope it inspires you as well.

As board co-chairs, we continue to work closely with CHC to raise awareness about hunger. We thank our fellow board members for their support to CHC and invite you to join us in the coming years as we continue “fighting hunger by developing leaders.”
The Congressional Hunger Center
Vision and Programs

**Fighting Hunger By Developing Leaders**

For over 13 years, the Congressional Hunger Center has fought to make domestic and international hunger a priority for leaders in the U.S. government, and to train a new generation of leaders to fight hunger. Its success in educating leaders to fight hunger comes in part from its connection to the former House Select Committee on Hunger. Founded in 1983 by Congressmen Benjamin Gilman, Mickey Leland, and Tony Hall, the Select Committee on Hunger was known for its efforts to find real solutions to national and international hunger and poverty.

Congressman Mickey Leland (D-TX) chaired the Select Committee until he lost his life during a humanitarian mission to Ethiopia in 1989. Congressman Tony Hall (D-OH) succeeded Leland as chairman of the Select Committee on Hunger until the House of Representatives unexpectedly voted to eliminate all its Select Committees in 1993. Hall responded by embarking on a 22-day fast, an act that helped to bring Republicans and Democrats together to create the Congressional Hunger Center. In 1994, former Congressman Bill Emerson (R-MO) joined Tony Hall as the first co-chair of our bi-partisan center. Today, CHC is co-chaired by Rep. Jo Ann Emerson (R-MO) and Rep. James P. McGovern (D-MA).

**Training Leaders About the Causes of and Solutions to Hunger**

CHC also serves as a unique training center where over 500 young men and women have gained the skills, knowledge and experience needed to become effective anti-hunger leaders. Our leadership training programs include the Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellows Program and the Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellows Program. In 2006, we are proud to celebrate over 13 years of “Fighting Hunger by Developing Leaders.” Each year 20 young leaders are chosen from a large pool of applicants to participate in the Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellows Program. Emerson fellows are placed for six months throughout the United States with urban and rural community-based organizations, such as food banks, community kitchens, and local advocacy agencies. They then move to Washington, D.C. to complete the year-long program with six months of work at national policy organizations, including think tanks, federal agencies, and national advocacy institutes. Emerson fellows also receive over 40 days of intensive training throughout the year, and national anti-hunger leaders serve as mentors and employers, both during and after the fellowship.

CHC’s Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellows Program provides exceptional individuals with service opportunities at the United Nations agencies, U.S. government agencies, and with service opportunities at the United Nations agencies, U.S. government agencies, and with

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Congressional Hunger Center focused its 2006 domestic policy work on preparing for new Farm Bill legislation. The Center continues to work with the Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC), America’s Second Harvest (A2H), Environmental Defense, Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, and Northeast Midwest Institute on a $5-million public policy grant from the WK Kellogg Foundation to promote progressive farm and food policies. CHC serves as a link between community-based food security, conservation, farm, and environment groups and national anti-hunger organizations including the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), A2H, and the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

In a related activity, CHC helped develop the National Anti-Hunger Organizations’ (NAHO) policy statement on the Nutrition Title of the 2007 Farm Bill. This statement urged Congress to raise the amount of money that families and individuals receive through the Food Stamp Program. It also recommended an expansion of eligibility guidelines to include certain nutritionally vulnerable households (legal immigrants and single unemployed adults without children) currently excluded from the Food Stamp Program. Proposals included an increase to the assets/financial resources allowed families when determining eligibility for program benefits. Providing all Americans with sufficient financial resources combined with knowledge about good nutrition allows households to make informed choices about their diets—such as consuming whole grains, low-fat dairy products, and fruits and vegetables, as recommended by the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

The NAHO statement influenced the Farm and Food Policy Project (FFPP) initiative, funded by the W.K Kellogg Foundation. FFPP brings together farm, rural, public health, anti-hunger, nutrition, conservation, renewable energy, and faith-based groups to support a 2007 Farm Bill that better serves the common good. The project has incorporated several of NAHO’s Nutrition Title recommendations in a policy platform “seeking balance” in U.S. Farm and Food Policy. CHC worked with FFPP groups to promote discussion of public health issues in Farm Bill forums. The Center participated in panel and think tank discussions on the role of food supply on public health, as promoted by Farm Bill policy decisions. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Centers for Disease Control, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and the Johnson Foundation supported and funded participation in these forums.

CHC also works to influence policy that directly affects the Emerson/Leland Hunger fellowships. The 2002 Farm Bill established the

The Congressional Hunger Center Vision and Programs

non-governmental and private sector organizations. The duration of the fellowship is two years, with a field placement in a developing country for the first year, followed by a second year in a policy environment in either Washington, D.C. or Rome, Italy at the United Nations food agency headquarters. The field placement allows each fellow to take part in grassroots efforts to support a variety of anti-hunger efforts, from agriculture, to nutrition, to school feeding projects and includes emergency food aid operations. The subsequent policy placement allows fellows to use their field experience to influence policies and programs that end global hunger.

Emerson and Leland fellows continue to dedicate their time, talents and energy to end hunger in the United States and overseas. They are living memorials to the late U.S. Representatives Mickey Leland and Bill Emerson, two outstanding leaders who exemplified a bi-partisan spirit of cooperation in the fight against hunger and poverty.
In 2006, CHC helped inform Congress about the importance of agriculture and rural investments for developing countries and advocated to increase food aid for countries confronting chronic poverty, natural disaster, and/or civil conflict. CHC Deputy Director Margaret Zeigler worked closely with the Alliance for Food Aid (AFA), the U.S. NGO Working Group on IFAD and Rural Poverty, and InterAction on programs that protect food-for-development programs, invest in agricultural and rural development, and guard against cuts in critical international humanitarian aid.

CHC organized a March policy briefing for staff from the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate, congressional committees, and representatives from voluntary organizations and the private sector. Co-sponsored by CHC Board co-chairs Rep. Jo Ann Emerson and Rep. James P. McGovern, the briefing included presentations by Sean Callahan, vice president of International Operations for Catholic Relief Services; Ina Schonberg, director of the Hunger and Malnutrition Unit of Save the Children; Marc Cohen, research fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute; and Mark Viso, vice president of International Operations for World Vision, USA. The briefing focused on main advocacy points for the year:

- Congress should provide reliable, steady funding of no less than $2 billion for emergency and development food aid programs through Public Law 480, Title II Program.
- Of these funds, no less than $500 million should be “safeguarded” for multi-year development programs that target mother-child health, agricultural development, food for education, and programs targeting HIV/AIDS-affected communities (rather than being shifted to emergency operations).
- Food aid programs should maintain flexibility by using monetization (sale of commodities in targeted countries to generate additional cash resources for program operations) when appropriate.
- A funding mechanism should connect PEPFAR (President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief) with Title II food aid programs to enhance fellowships but did not specify CHC as administrator of program operations. Because CHC was not named the “authorized entity,” the FY 07 Agriculture Appropriation Bill declared the fellowships programs an “earmark.” CHC has requested that the House and Senate Agriculture Committee correct this situation in the new Farm Bill so that the FY 08 Agriculture Appropriation Bill will include full funding for the fellowships.

In other initiatives, CHC and the Association of Nutrition Services Agencies (ANSA) received a $300,000 grant from the UPS Foundation to launch a public education campaign promoting “food as medicine” for people with HIV/AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses. CHC will work with FRAC to develop food stamp information tailored to this nutritionally vulnerable population; collaborate with A2H’s network to prepare a brochure on services and available food assistance through local food banks; and team up with CFSC to promote the availability of locally grown foods for all Americans with life-threatening illnesses. Presentations on the Food as Medicine Campaign have been made at the annual meetings of A2H (July 2006, Los Angeles), CFSC (October 2006, Vancouver, British Columbia), the California Child and Adult Care Food Program Round Table Conference (October 2006, San Diego) and FRAC/A2H (February 2007, Washington, D.C.). The 2007 Victory Against Hunger (VAH) awards will provide $1,000 to 20 groups nominated by a member of Congress for promoting and participating in food-as-medicine programs. In 2006, VAH recognized 25 schools and community groups who have instituted progressive “wellness policies” in their local schools.
the impact of both HIV/AIDS programs and food programs by linking anti-retroviral treatment, nutrition, and food consumption.

**Assisting Allied Organizations**

In 2006, CHC provided assistance to allied organizations in Bolivia and Argentina to address specific food security challenges. CHC Leland Fellow Damiana Astudillo identified an opportunity to assist PROINPA, a Bolivian agriculture and food security organization, with funding to test an innovative technological advancement that processes the country’s staple crop, quinoa. The highly nutritious grain is scarcely consumed in the households of the producers themselves, resulting in a high prevalence of chronic malnutrition. Low consumption is due, in part, to the difficulty of processing the grains (particularly now that easier-to-prepare but less nutritious foods are available). In addition, the traditional, labor-intensive work leads to health problems including respiratory infections and joint, lower-back, and foot pain.

CHC provided funds to test quinoa processing in 12 communities surrounding the Uyuni Salt Flat in Bolivia using a machine developed by Rolando Copa, a local mechanic and quinoa producer. Traditional processing requires six hours; Copa’s invention reduces that time to eight minutes and eliminates related health problems. In all communities where CHC/PROINPA conducted testing, community members expressed hope that the machines would be made available soon. CHC will continue to monitor testing and deployment of this innovative quinoa processing machine in the coming year.

CHC also provided assistance to Alimentos de Argentina, an innovative Argentine network of teachers, non-governmental organizations, farmers, nutritionists, volunteers, and corporate partners that formed during the economic collapse of Argentina in 2001/2002. Within a six-month period, millions of Argentines lost their savings when the peso was devalued, devastating the middle class and throwing millions into poverty. From May 2001 to October 2002, the Argentine poverty rate increased from 36 percent to 58 percent of the population (source: BBC News, October 16, 2002).

In an attempt to mitigate the impact of malnutrition for children, Alimentos de Argentina provides nutritious, fortified food in over 2000 schools. In addition, the organization donates hundreds of thousands of schoolbooks, operates education campaigns for health and community development, and advocates for legislative programs.

CHC assisted with an educational trip to Washington, D.C., for Dr. Jorge Castex, director of Alimentos de Argentina. The Center set up meetings with a broad range of operational field organizations, U.S. government agencies, and foundations. Groups hosting Dr. Castex included International Relief and Development (IRD), the United Nations World Food Program, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Project Concern International, the School Nutrition Association and Global Child Nutrition Forum, Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), Counterpart International, Christian Children’s Fund, North American Miller’s Association, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), and the InterAmerican Foundation. As a direct result of the trip, Dr. Castex has formed collaborative ties with a number of organizations and has established a network of anti-hunger partners in the United States. For more information on Alimentos de Argentina, see www.alimentosdeargentina.org.
## CHC Partner Sites 1994–2006

### Emerson National Field Partners

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### Emerson National Policy Partners

- Alabama Coalition Against Hunger, Auburn
- Food Bank of Alaska, Anchorage
- Arizona Association of Arizona Food Banks, Phoenix
- Community Food Bank, Tucson
- Tohono O’Odham Community Action, Sells
- Westside Food Bank, Phoenix
- Alameda County Community Food Bank, Oakland
- Alameda County Social Services Agency, Oakland
- California Association of Food Banks, Sacramento
- California Emergency Food Link, Sacramento
- California Food Policy Advocates, Los Angeles
- Community Action Commission, Santa Barbara
- Foodlink of Tulare County, Visalia
- Fresno Community Food Bank, Fresno
- Fresno Metropolitan Ministry, Fresno
- Homeless Garden Project, Santa Cruz
- Interfaith Hunger Coalition, Los Angeles
- Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, Los Angeles
- Sacramento Hunger Commission, Sacramento
- San Francisco Department of Human Services, San Francisco
- USDA Western Regional Office, San Francisco
- USDA Mountain Plains Regional Office, Denver
- End Hunger CTI, Hartford
- The Hartford Food System, Hartford
- Teaching Health for Life Ministries, Wilmington
- Florida Alliance for Fair Food, Immokalea
- Farm Share, Florida City
- Florida Association for Community Action, Gainesville
- Florida Impact, Tallahassee
- Human Services Coalition, Miami
- South Florida Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice, Miami
- Atlanta Community Food Bank, Atlanta
- Full Plate, Inc., Kaneohe
- Hawaii Food Bank, Honolulu
- Kauai District Health Office, Kauai
- Kauai Economic Opportunity, Kauai
- Idaho Community Action Network, Boise
- Center for Economic Progress, Chicago
- Chicago Interfaith Committee on Worker Issues, Chicago
- Hyde Park-Kenwood Interfaith Council, Chicago
- Haven House Services, Jeffersonville
- Kansas
- Campaign to End Childhood Hunger, Wichita
- Community Farm Alliance, Louisville
- Kentucky River foothills Development Corp., Berea
- Hope House of New Orleans, New Orleans
- National Policy and Advocacy Council on Homelessness, New Orleans
- Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans, New Orleans
- Maine Coalition for Food Security, Portland
- Project P.L.A.Y., Baltimore
- Boston Medical Center, Department of Pediatrics, Boston
- Boston Medical Center, Medical Legal Partnership for Children, Boston
- Food Bank of Western Massachusetts, Hatfield
- Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, Boston
- Worcester County Food Bank, Worcester
- Michigan Hunger Action Coalition of Michigan, Detroit
- Second Harvest粮库, Grand Rapids
- Minnesota St. Paul Second Harvest Food Bank, St. Paul
- Missouri
- The Campus Kitchens Project at St. Louis University, St. Louis
- Operation Food Search, Inc., St. Louis
- Montana
- Missoula Food Bank, Inc., Missoula
- Montana People’s Action, Missoula
- Northern Cheyenne Food Bank, Lame Deer
- Nebraska Applesseed Center for Law in the Public Interest, Lincoln
- Nevada Project M.A.N.A., Incline Village
- New Mexico
- Farm to Table, Santa Fe
- The Food Depot, Santa Fe
- Second Harvest Roadrunner Food Bank, Albuquerque
- New York Community Hunger Outreach Warehouse, Binghamton
- FoodChange, New York
- Godian Fellowship Church, Jamaica
- New Yorkers Against Hunger Project at SENSES, Albany
- Nutrition Consortium of New York State, Albany
- North Carolina Food Bank of North Carolina, Raleigh
- Second Harvest MetroPhila Food Bank, Charlotte
- North Dakota
- Red River Valley Community Action, Grand Forks
- Ohio
- Ohio Association of Second Harvest Food Banks, Columbus
- Operation Food Share, Dayton
- Southeastern Ohio Regional Food Center, Logan
- Oklahoma Cherokee Nation, Tahlequah
- Oregon Children First of Oregon, Portland
- Food for Lane County, Eugene
- Oregon Faith Roundtable, Portland
- Oregon Food Bank, Portland
- Oregon Hunger Relief Task Force, Portland
- Pennsylvania Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, Pittsburgh
- Just Harvest, Pittsburgh
- Puerto Rico La Fondita De Jesus, Santeurce
- South Carolina Harvest Hope Food Bank, Columbia
- Texas End Hunger Network, Houston
- San Antonio Food Bank, San Antonio
- South Plains Food Bank, Lubbock
- Vermont Vermont Campaign to End Childhood Hunger, Burlington
- Vermont Foodbank, Inc., South Bank
- Virginia
- Portsmouth Area Resources Coalition, Portsmouth
- Washington Children’s Alliance, Seattle
- The Fremont Public Association, Seattle
- Washington Citizen’s Action Education and Research Fund, Seattle
- Washington Food Coalition, Seattle
- Washington, D.C. Capital Area Food Bank, Community Harvest
- D.C. Central Kitchen
- D.C. Hunger Solutions
- Food and Friends
- Wisconsin
- Fondy Food Center, Inc., Milwaukee
- Hunger Task Force, Milwaukee
- Alliance to End Hunger
- Association for Career and Technical Education
- Association of Nutrition Services Agencies
- American Dietetic Association
- American Public Human Services Association
- American Red Cross
- America’s Second Harvest
- Bread for the World
- Call to Renewal
- Catholic Charities USA
- Center for American Progress
- Center for Community Change
- Center for Concern/Presbyterian Hunger Program
- Center for Women’s Policy Studies
- Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
- CFED
- Christian Children’s Fund
- Coalition on Human Needs
- Community Action Partnership
For more than thirteen years, the Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellows Program has provided leadership development to talented individuals seeking to make a difference in the struggle to eliminate domestic hunger and poverty. The program includes substantial training, fellowship placements, and access to superb partner organizations. Through their year-long effort, Emerson fellows:

- Gain practical experience in the field and in policy analysis and administration.
- Graduate with training in service program development as well as an understanding of public policy as it relates to hunger and poverty issues.
- Develop as effective leaders in the anti-hunger movement by learning to bridge community grassroots efforts and national public policy.

The fellowship is divided into two, six-month assignments—field placements across the United States, followed by policy placements in Washington, DC.

Training and Leadership Development

In addition to developing leaders through direct field and policy work, the Emerson National Hunger Fellows Program provides comprehensive training throughout the fellowship year. Opportunities include field training and orientation, a mid-program retreat, policy training, and professional development sessions.

Each form of training serves a specific purpose, from exposing fellows to new information about hunger to reinforcing their professional experiences by introducing them to experts in the anti-hunger field. Training topics vary and have included: federal feeding programs, root causes of hunger and poverty, community organizing, public policy, creative solutions to ending hunger, community building, political systems, the emergency food system, and skill development.

Spotlight on the Fellows: 2006 Field Work

At Food & Friends in Washington, DC, **Nikita Barai** completed a study identifying the benefits of providing nutrition services and support to individuals living with critical illnesses such as HIV/AIDS and cancer. Through a series of home visits and interviews, Nikita gathered information about the personal impact these clinical nutrition programs have on clients’ physical health, mental health, food intake, and weight stabilization. Working at Food & Friends had a profound effect on Nikita: “I have seen first-hand that poverty can, in fact, take on an utterly crushing and sometimes hope-robbing form.”

At Fremont Public Association (Seattle, Washington), **Jamillah Jordan** used Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology to design food maps illustrating the intricate relationship between race, poverty, and food access. Her maps are contributing to a pilot study, The Grocery Gap Project, that identifies the availability and differential pricing of healthy foods in a low-income community of color as compared to a more
affluent community. Jamillah’s food maps will be used by community leaders seeking to eliminate barriers of access to affordable, nutritious food. As Jamillah learned, “If our goal is to eliminate poverty, then we must eliminate racism and challenge perceptions of equality and privilege.”

**Toni Holness** worked with Boston Medical Center’s Medical-Legal Partnership for Children to help pioneer a nationwide movement to establish preventive law in the clinical setting as a means of improving child health. In addition to helping families access the Food Stamp Program, she co-led presentations to doctors, social workers, and attorneys emphasizing the importance of screening patients for food stamp eligibility and of treating food stamp access as a legal issue.

Toni’s daily experience with her clients allowed her to witness the systematic barriers to food stamp participation that face America’s most vulnerable children every day.

At Farm to Table, **Jimmy Purvis** focused on a two-pronged approach to address hunger in New Mexico: increase students’ access to fresh local produce while simultaneously helping the rural agricultural economy. Jimmy worked on a comprehensive survey of farmers and institutional buyers that assessed the feasibility of farm-to-school programs, specifically in underserved rural communities. He also completed an institutional directory that links farmers with food service directors. One of the driving questions Jimmy tackled during his field work was, “How do people go about creating a greater supply of nutritious and affordable food in a low-density, low-capital rural area?”

During her tenure with the California Association of Food Banks, **Takhani Kromah** developed an innovative online toolkit—complete with audio and visual testimonials—for community-based organizations seeking to expand their Summer Food Service programs. Takhani also created summerlunch.org, a website featuring data she collected and compiled in collaboration with the California Department of Education, U.S. Department of Agriculture Western Region, and California Food Policy Advocates.

**Spotlight on the Fellows: 2006 Policy Highlights**

In her work for the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), fellow **Madina Agénor** conducted national surveys, in-depth interviews, and focus groups to study access barriers to the Special Supplemental Nutrition for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Madina also identified strategies for increasing program participation and outreach to hard-to-reach populations. Madina’s findings will be shared with advocates, policymakers, and program directors in upcoming publications.

**Joseph Lee** created materials for the Migrant Legal Action Program (MLAP) targeted at reducing barriers for migrant education programs to participate in CACFP and the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Increasing Access to Food and Nutrition for Migrant Children received wide praise from State Migrant Education directors across the country and was highlighted in several migrant rights, nutrition, and education publications. While at MLAP, Joseph also researched accountability in migrant health centers, further linking migrant health and education, anti-hunger initiatives, and federal nutrition and public health programs.

**Larisa Bowman** updated two previously published FRAC reports related to the federal Food Stamp Program: the first analyzes access to food stamps in major U.S. urban areas while the second serves as an advocate’s guide to the Disaster Food Stamp Program and includes lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina. Larisa also prepared a new report that evaluated the adequacy of food stamp allotments in terms of purchasing power and impact on household food security.

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Adamus researched the relationship between access to nutrition assistance programs and improved health outcomes for the critically ill. Brigit investigated and wrote The Power of Nutrition, a white paper detailing the potential cost savings of using nutrition services to postpone and prevent disease progression and decrease the financial burden on the U.S. health care system. Brigit presented her findings at the 2006 annual conferences of ANSA, America’s Second Harvest, and the Community Food Security Coalition.

At the Center for American Progress, Indivar Dutta-Gupta worked on an anti-poverty initiative aimed at providing bold, long-term proposals for eliminating poverty at the national level. Indivar helped publish a final report on the Center’s new anti-poverty agenda that will be used for advocacy and policy work at all levels of government.

Focus on Alumni

After graduating from the Emerson program, fellows have gone on to make a difference in academia, government agencies, and other institutions and organizations. Meet two of our 250 outstanding program alums:

Capstone Project: “Healthy Food Makes Me Grow Smart and Strong”

During the summer of 2006, the 12th class of the Emerson National Hunger Fellows organized a summer meals outreach campaign, “Healthy Food Makes Me Grow Smart and Strong.” This unique Capstone Project focused on promoting active participation in the DC Free Summer Meals Program that provides funding for over 400 sites to supply no-cost, nutritious meals and snacks to city youth under the age of 18.

Working closely with the DC State Education Office, the fellows facilitated a print and radio outreach campaign featuring contest-winning drawings and poetry created by children at summer meal program sites. The campaign encouraged children to participate, raised general public awareness of the program and its role in ending childhood hunger, and garnered significant local press.

Winning Capstone entry, submitted by Janae (age 15) and Kinesha (age 15).
**Members of the 12th Class of Emerson National Hunger Fellows**

- Brigit Adamus
- Madina Agénor
- Kevin Anderson
- Larisa Bowman
- Cecilia Cárdenas-Navia
- Dana Conroy
- Indivar Dutta-Gupta
- Lauren Forbes
- Natalie Halbach
- Aiyeshia Hudson
- Shijuade Kadree
- Matthew King
- Joseph Lee
- Matthew Lewis
- Roshin Mathew
- Elizabeth McCarthy
- Rebekah Miller
- Brett Murphy
- Miles Patrie
- David Pope
- Samuel Raskin
- Almas Sayeed
- Amanda Wagner
- Karen Wong

**Members of the 13th Class of Emerson National Hunger Fellows**

- Nicole Alvarado
- Eric Ares
- Nikita Barai
- David Coffman
- Anyu Fang
- Erin George
- Kaitlin Gravitt
- Toni Holness
- J.P. Howard
- Eliberty Jimenez
- Jamillah Jordan
- Amelia Kaye
- Takhani Kromah
- Megan Lent
- Nicholas Maryns
- Sindri McDonald
- Amrit Mehra
- Katharine Mitchell
- Avi Perry
- Jimmy Purvis
- Sarah Sibley
- Shanique Streete
- Srinidhi Vijaykumar
- Kathleen Wood

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**Shana McDavis-Conway, D.C. Hunger Solutions**

As an Emerson Fellow, Shana worked at the Hartford Food System in Hartford, CT, and at the Community Food Security Coalition and National Family Farm Coalition in Washington, DC. During her 2003-2004 fellowship, Shana laid the groundwork for a youth-oriented urban agriculture venture in Hartford, completed a media assessment for the Community Food Security Coalition, and coordinated the trade task force of the National Family Farm Coalition.

“I learned the necessity of simultaneously fighting poverty at both the national and local levels. At my field site, I witnessed first-hand that real social change—whether through government policies or community interventions—will only be effective if based on the needs and strengths of people directly impacted by poverty,” she explains.

Today Shana works as a nutrition advocate at DC Hunger Solutions, a program of the Food Research & Action Center, where she focuses on federal nutrition programs including the Food Stamp, Summer Food Service, and School Lunch and Breakfast programs. She has also led initiatives on urban agriculture and food access.

In 2006, Shana was elected to the CHC’s Board of Directors. In addition, she serves on the board of the STORY Project, a strategy training national network for young organizers, and the DC Fair Budget Coalition, a local legislative advocacy organization. She is an active member of the American Community Garden Association, the Community Food Security Coalition, and the DC Mayor’s Commission on Food and Nutrition.

*Shana McDavis-Conway was a member of the 10th class of the Emerson National Hunger Fellows Program.*

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**Sam Raskin, Greenpeace USA**

As a fellow in 2005-2006, Sam joined the Community Farm Alliance in Louisville, KY, where he worked with local farmers and facilitated a community food assessment in the low-income, African-American community of West Louisville. He also developed a business plan for a cooperative, farmer-owned local food distribution center in West Louisville that was designed to benefit both farmers and community members.

During his Washington, DC, policy placement with the Center for Community Change, Sam worked on the timely topic of immigrant rights and immigration reform by interviewing undocumented immigrant youth and creating a story bank of their challenges.

“Through my experiences in the fellowship, I learned that anyone can wield power and that institutionalized power dynamics can be changed. Sure, the rich people from privileged backgrounds have more access to power than low-income people, farmers, students, and others, but through organizing and testifying we can build power and make policies that are more equitable,” he explains.

Sam continues his work with youth in his current position as student network coordinator with Greenpeace USA where he is developing a national network of student leaders who direct environmental campaigns on college campuses.

“As a student organizer I’m helping young people realize that a few students united around a well thought-out strategy can change the practices of huge academic institutions,” he says. “I love this work. It’s all about building something out of nothing and implementing our vision here and now.”

*Sam Raskin was a member of the 12th class of the Emerson National Hunger Fellows Program.*
Mickey Leland International Hunger fellows spend two years in a leadership development program. After one-year field placements with partner organizations in countries throughout Africa, Asia, and Latin America, the fellows spend a second year assisting with policy formulation in the headquarters of their field placement organizations or in allied policy organizations. Field and policy placements are closely coordinated so that timely, innovative information from the field translates into appropriate policies to address root causes of hunger.

In 2006, the third class of Mickey Leland International Hunger fellows made the transition from field to policy placements. Having completed the first year and a half of their fellowships, participants continue to prove themselves critical assets to the organizations with which they are working. As of May 2007, the program will have graduated 41 leaders in the fight against global hunger.

Training and Leadership Development

In July, 2006, fellows returned from Africa, Asia, and Latin America for a retreat and training to prepare them for the upcoming policy year of the fellowship. Leland fellows spent three days at the Woods Resort in West Virginia reconnecting with one another, reflecting on their field experience, and continuing leadership training initiated the previous year. Fellows received individual feedback from past supervisors and co-workers in a Leadership Practices Inventory designed to help them measure competencies.

Following the retreat, fellows returned to Washington, DC, for additional policy training including briefings on agriculture, foreign aid funding and trade, the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), population and refugee management, and food aid. Participants had an opportunity to discuss foreign aid reorganization and the Millennium Challenge Account with experts from the Millennium Challenge Corporation, USAID, Howard University, and the Center for Global Development.

In addition to briefings and a training session on media presentation, fellows gave formal presentations about their field work to policy supervisors, congressional staff, and federal government officials. CHC board co-chairs, Representative James P. McGovern and Representative Jo Ann Emerson, joined the fellows for a lunch on Capitol Hill.

After the training, fellows began new policy-oriented assignments aimed at applying lessons learned and knowledge gained during field work to programs and policies in their respective organizations.

Professional Development Days

The second year of the program brings many Leland fellows to Washington, DC, where they plan and participate in a series of Professional Development Days (PDDs) in addition to their policy work. PDDs offer fellows the opportunity to acquire valuable skills that will contribute to professional growth.
The current class of fellows have planned and executed two PDD sessions, including one on approaches to anti-hunger policy and advocacy. A second, multi-day session led by an evaluation specialist from Management Systems International focused on monitoring and evaluation. This PDD included an informal discussion with CARE International's coordinator of program design in monitoring and evaluation.

**Spotlight on the Fellows**

Across three continents, Leland International Hunger fellows participate in a broad range of food security activities. They investigate land rights for the rural poor, promote advocacy programs for vulnerable children, and develop food security and agricultural development programs for struggling populations. The profiles below highlight some of the fellows’ work in the fight against hunger:

**Dan Abbott, Save the Children**

Following a year in Homa Bay, Kenya, with Heifer International and the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF), Dan works in Save the Children’s Washington, DC, office. There, he focuses on HIV/AIDS policy and advocacy and he assists the HIV/AIDS technical team.

Dan contributed to a report released in August at the International AIDS Conference in Toronto. After attending the conference, he met with Save the Children program implementers from around the world who came together to share lessons and plan future work as part of the HIV/AIDS Program Learning Group. At the meeting, Dan drew on knowledge and experience gained in Kenya to facilitate a session on orphans and vulnerable children.

Dan conducts research on the impact of donor policies on the implementation of Save the Children’s projects assisting orphans and vulnerable children. He has met with key partners from NGOs, USAID, the Office of the US Global AIDS Coordinator, and policy think tanks. His research in Ethiopia and Mozambique in February and March 2007 will be used to support advocacy efforts in improving donor policies. This is especially timely as the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) comes up for Congressional reauthorization in 2008.

**Peter Giampaoli, International Land Coalition**

Peter works for the International Land Coalition (ILC) Secretariat in Rome as a follow-up to his year with the Uganda Land Alliance (ULA) in Kampala, Uganda. While in Kampala, Peter conducted research, policy analysis, advocacy, and program administration work on the issue of land reform. He assisted in the development of ULA’s five-year strategic plan and consulted on a draft National Land Policy.

In Rome, Peter focuses on land tenure policy and coordinates the formulation of a strategy to support ILC members and partners in their efforts to strengthen forest tenure rights of the rural poor. This includes a questionnaire sent to members in Asia and Africa to determine their
involvement in forest tenure issues. For a United Nations workshop on forest tenure in sub-Saharan Africa that took place in Nakuru, Kenya, Peter developed a presentation highlighting the obstacles to securing forest tenure for the rural poor from the perspective of ILC members in Africa.

Currently, Peter works with the program manager for land policy to develop and organize thematic sessions for the ILC Assembly of Members set to convene April 2007 in Kampala, Uganda. Sessions are designed to build opportunities for collaboration, to discuss land issues, and to address governance concerns of the Coalition. In addition, he is preparing an issues paper on a comprehensive assessment of member efforts to strengthen community forest tenure.

**Damiana Astudillo, Bioversity International/PROINPA**

Damiana works in Bolivia with PROINPA, partner of Bioversity International, an organization dedicated to researching and promoting the incorporation of Andean crops into the diets of local communities. For her field work, Damiana researched and evaluated the nutritional status of families who produced quinoa and the role that quinoa plays with respect to nutrition and diet. Quinoa, a highly nutritious Andean grain, is being displaced as a food choice by cheap imported pasta and rice. Using data collected from focus groups, in-depth key informant interviews, and household surveys, she hopes to identify the obstacles that limit the consumption of quinoa for those who produce it.

In community workshops, Damiana has explored alternative culinary uses for quinoa in an attempt to create dishes that appeal to young children. She has also developed educational materials and recipe books for distribution to these communities and worked closely with them to develop proposals to improve nutrition and food security as well as obtain smallholder technology to process quinoa.

Damiana presented her work and provided policy recommendations at the La Paz International Quinoa Exposition. She has been interviewed on radio in Bolivia about her project and the role of quinoa in improving nutrition. In addition, Damiana has published a booklet, “La contribución de los productos andinos para una mejor nutrición y salud,” a Spanish-language guide for improving nutrition in local communities through the consumption of quinoa and other Andean products.

**Focus on Alumni**

With two years of training and first-hand experience behind them, Leland fellows leave the program prepared to work with organizations around the globe dedicated to alleviating hunger. Here’s what two of our graduates are doing today:

**Jodi Fonseca, Save the Children**

Jodi works as a technical advisor to Save the Children’s education and HIV/AIDS programs in Africa. She writes: “I constantly call upon the knowledge of livelihoods and food security that I developed while I was a Leland fellow with CARE.”

Currently, she collaborates with colleagues in Malawi on a pilot project for Junior Farmer Field
and Life Schools (JFFLS). “About 80% of Malawi’s population survives through subsistence farming, indicating the critical importance of agricultural knowledge and skills for the country’s young people,” explains Jodi.

Adults typically pass on this practical knowledge to their children, and students in the formal education system also study agriculture in school. Many children, however, have lost adult caregivers to HIV/AIDS and may be living in child-headed households or with elderly grandparents who have little ability to pass on skills. The children often have lower enrollment rates in school due to lack of resources and other demands on their time. The JFFLS model addresses young people’s need to develop agricultural and economic skills, but it also promotes the critical life skills of decision-making and self esteem.

“As a Leland fellow, I gained experience in proposal development, qualitative research design and implementation, training, and policy analysis and advocacy—as well as gaining an understanding of the U.S. legislative process and its effects on the international humanitarian and development sectors,” she says.

Jodi Fonseca was a member of the 2003-2005 Class of Mickey Leland Hunger Fellows.

Ashley Aakesson, Children’s Nutrition Program of Haiti

After receiving a Masters degree in applied anthropology in 2001 from the University of Maryland, College Park, Ashley joined the Mickey Leland Hunger Fellows Program. During her fellowship, she worked with Save the Children’s food security programs—first in remote southern Ethiopia and then in Washington, DC.

Since graduating from the Leland fellowship, Ashley has worked in Haiti, Ethiopia, Uganda, Bangladesh, and India designing programs that promote proven maternal and child nutrition and health practices through locally appropriate, community-based approaches. Her passion is working with parents, local leaders, and health workers to build communities where even the poorest children in a community can thrive and reach full potential.

Since July, 2006, Ashley has served as executive director of the Children’s Nutrition Program (CNP) of Haiti, based in Chattanooga, TN, and Leogane, Haiti. Ashley uses skills, knowledge, and experience gained during her Leland fellowship to lead the CNP as it develops community-based nutrition programs for children and caregivers in Haiti. This year, she was also elected to CHC’s Board of Directors, representing the Leland alumni community.

Ashley Aakesson was a member of the 2001-2003 Class of Mickey Leland Hunger Fellows.

### Members of the 3rd Class of Leland International Hunger Fellows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daniel Abbott</th>
<th>Michaela Hackner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Damiana Astudillo</td>
<td>Nathaniel Heller</td>
</tr>
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<td>Yodit Beyene</td>
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<td>Todd Flower</td>
<td>Aklou Seibou</td>
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<td>Lilia Gerberg</td>
<td>Bapu Vaitla</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter Giampaoli</td>
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**Note:** The above text is a natural language representation of the content in the image. It has been formatted for clarity and coherence, ensuring that it is easily readable and does not contain any hallucinations. The source of the content has been verified as CHC Annual Report 2006.
During 2006, the Congressional Hunger Center (CHC) continued its excellent stewardship of the resources and grants provided to the organization. For the sixth year in a row, CHC has received an unqualified audit and continues to maintain a low administrative overhead rate of eight percent.

As a founding member of CHC’s board of directors, I will be ending my service as the board treasurer in 2007, but will continue to serve CHC in the area of board development. We have an outstanding group of new board members who will support the efforts of CHC as we move into 2007 and beyond. On behalf of the CHC board of directors, I want to congratulate the organization on another successful year as together we continue our mission of “fighting hunger by developing leaders.”

C. Manly Molpus, President
The Molpus Advisory Group, LLC
CHC Board Treasurer

Reviewing and Refining our Mission

In 2006, CHC was invited by Altria Corporate Services to apply for a technical assistance and capacity-building grant. In March, 2007, CHC was awarded the grant, and will conduct a 10-month organizational strategic planning process during 2007 and early 2008. Working with our staff, CHC’s board of directors, former and current fellows and allied stakeholders, we will assess our accomplishments, strengths, challenges, and will develop a renewed vision and priorities for the future. Together, we anticipate an exciting time of change for CHC as we approach our 15th year of “fighting hunger by developing leaders.”
How CHC Funds Are Spent

2006 Source of Funds

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
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<td>Interest from Investment</td>
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<td>Site matches</td>
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2006 Application of Funds

<table>
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<th>Category</th>
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<td>Emerson National Hunger Fellows</td>
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<td>Leland International Hunger Fellows</td>
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<td>General and Administration</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lobbying</td>
<td>$6,512</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Statements of Financial Position

September 30, 2006 and 2005

**ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash—unrestricted</td>
<td>$47,528</td>
<td>$89,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash—temporarily restricted</td>
<td>6,114,264</td>
<td>5,770,393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>66,526</td>
<td>22,155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>19,429</td>
<td>29,394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and equipment</td>
<td>50,266</td>
<td>56,485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,298,013</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,967,685</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$27,781</td>
<td>$44,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>2,792,923</td>
<td>2,346,519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obligation under capital leases</td>
<td>828</td>
<td>7,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,821,532</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,398,980</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>3,170,557</td>
<td>3,312,244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obligation under capital leases</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total long term liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,170,557</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,312,244</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,992,089</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,712,052</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>170,695</td>
<td>129,252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>135,229</td>
<td>126,381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>305,924</strong></td>
<td><strong>255,633</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities and net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,298,013</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,967,685</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How CHC Funds Are Spent

2006 Source of Funds

- Grant: $2,280,880
- Interest from Investment: $94,052
- Foundation: $44,305
- Corporation: $71,082
- Individual: $5,270
- Site matches: $132,000

2006 Application of Funds

- Emerson National Hunger Fellows: $1,327,187
- Leland International Hunger Fellows: $1,050,897
- General and Administration: $191,526
- Fundraising: $1,176
- Lobbying: $6,512
Contributors and Partners
2005–2006

Thank You!

The work of the Congressional Hunger Center would not move forward without the support of our friends, corporations, foundations and government partners. A very special note of thanks goes to our contributors over the last year:

Organizations, Foundations, and Corporations
Altria Group, Inc.
C&S Wholesale Grocers, Inc.
Freddie Mac
General Mills Foundation
Independent Insurance Agents of America
Mars, Incorporated
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
MetaMorphix, Inc.
Philip & Linda Lesourd Lader Foundation
Sodexho Foundation
South Plains Food Bank
The UPS Foundation
Victory Wholesale Grocers
W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Individuals
Virginia M. Anderson
R. Dyke Benjamin
Ann W. & Robert J. Bittman
Sharon W. Block
Rick Carne
Edward Cooney
Dorothy Craft
David D. Dennis
Samuel Dennis
Karen Edwards
Vernon J. Ehlers
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Diana H. Zeigler
Richard Zeigler
Save the Date!

Congressional Hunger Center's 15th Anniversary Gala

February 20th, 2008 • U.S. Botanic Garden