



# Sustenance

November 2006 Vol. 4, No. 2

The Congressional Hunger Center Newsletter

## CHC and ANSA Launch Food As Medicine Campaign

CHC and the Association of Nutrition Services Agencies (ANSA) have received a two-year, \$300,000 grant from The UPS Foundation to conduct a major public education campaign about the importance of food as medicine for people living with HIV/AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses. CHC will sponsor public forums on Capitol Hill and at anti-hunger conferences as part of a multi-year campaign to develop and edu-

cate new leaders in Congress about the power of food as medicine. The campaign also seeks to mobilize support from the general public by using national media outlets to publicize research findings.

In partnership with the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), America's Second Harvest, and the Community Food Security Coalition, CHC will work to create educational materials for ANSA affiliates to use in

the campaign. This will help identify food resources that could be tapped from the Food Stamp and the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) programs and from locally grown produce markets so that those suffering from life-threatening illnesses can improve their nutrition.

CHC and ANSA hosted a "Food as Medicine" workshop on October 10 at the Bridging Borders conference in Vancouver, British Columbia.

More than 50 workshop attendees were identified as possible educational outreach partners. More than 900 conference attendees learned about the "Food as Medicine" campaign during the Vancouver conference. ANSA is working to develop and collect outcome measures to demonstrate how the cost of health care can be reduced when critically ill people have access to quality nutrition and nutrition services. ●

## CHC Salutes Former Executive Director!

In May, 2006, Arthur E. (Gene) Dewey received the Distinguished Alumnae Award, Class of 1956, from West Point Military Academy. Gene served as CHC's founding executive director from 1994 to 1997.



Above: Gene Dewey at May, 2006 award ceremony.

Left: Gene Dewey (center) receives award.

# Greetings from the Executive Director

By Edward M. Cooney



## From the Executive Director

This summer, the Congressional Hunger Center's Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland fellowship programs conducted in-depth training sessions (see pages 6 and 8) as part of CHC's ongoing mission to educate anti-hunger leaders. The programs serve as living legacies to representatives Bill

Emerson and Mickey Leland, former members of Congress who exemplified a bi-partisan approach to ending domestic and international hunger.

CHC also has exciting news: We plan to move in early 2007 to the Hall of States Building, at 400 North Capitol Street, NW, near the Senate office buildings and

Union Station. In our new location, CHC will have our first-ever in-house training facility—much needed for the Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland fellowship programs. CHC also looks forward to hosting more educational and policy seminars at our new location. Stay tuned for more details in 2007! ●

## Shaping Farm and Food Policy for the Future

In early January, 2007, major consumer, environment, family farm, and community food security groups will hold a press conference and public briefing outlining policy recommendations for the 2007 Farm Bill. CHC is a partner and subcontractor to the Community Food Security Coalition as part of a W. K. Kellogg Foundation initiative to improve policies for farming, food production and food systems, the environment, and health and nutrition programs. Other major grantees in the initiative include the American Farmland Trust, the Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, Environmental Defense, and the Northeast-Midwest Institute. CHC's role is to help convene a broad coalition of advocates to improve policies on hunger and nutrition leading to passage of the Farm Bill. ●

## Thanks from CHC to Our Partners!

Special thanks go to **Metamorphix, Inc.**, a company that uses modern science to improve the nutrition, quality, and consistency of livestock products, and to **Vicky Geis**, Vice President of Human Resources, for outstanding organizational development sessions and ongoing expert advice.



CHC is also grateful to **Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS)** for their partnership during our Mickey Leland Fellows policy training sessions in July 2006. SAIS provided state-of-the-art meeting space and training facilities during several sessions.

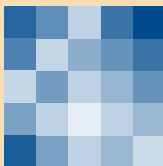
**Jeffrey W. Bernstein** is a special friend of CHC.

He has provided excellent legal services to CHC during the past year, and we greatly appreciate his timely and wise advice. Jeffrey is a founding partner at Goozman, Bernstein and Markuski, located in Laurel and Olney, Maryland.

CHC is grateful to **Mars, Incorporated**, for their generous donation of \$10,000 in November, 2006.

## More Than a Decade of Funding

Our featured partner for this edition of *Sustenance* is **Altria Corporation**, a multi-year donor to CHC. Altria provided funding to CHC shortly after we were established in 1993, and the corporation has continued to match donations from the U.S. government and private foundation grants. Altria contributed \$50,000 during 2006 as a vital matching grant to support our Food As Medicine Campaign, highlighting the role of nutrition in fighting life-threatening illnesses such as HIV/AIDS (see page 1).



# Altria

CHC would like to thank the **General Mills Foundation** for their generous donation of \$25,000! This grant supports CHC's policy work on reducing hunger and improving the nutrition and health status of the nation's children.

# Victory Against Hunger Awards

CHC announced the winners of the 2006 Victory Against Hunger Awards at the 39th Annual Conference of the Society for Nutrition Education in San Francisco on July 18. In keeping with this year's theme, "Developing and Implementing Local School Wellness Policies," members of Congress nominated schools and community groups for the awards. CHC received 84 nominations and made 20 awards to deserving winners, who received \$1,000 checks provided by Victory Wholesale Grocers of Springboro, Ohio,

and Boca Raton, Florida. Three recipients attended the awards ceremony in San Francisco: the San Francisco Unified School District, nominated by **Rep. Nancy Pelosi** (D-CA); the California Food Policy Advocates, nominated by **Rep. George Miller** (D-CA); and the Poplar Bluff Rhode Island School District, nominated by **Rep. Jo Ann Emerson** (R-MO). ●

Ken Hecht (left), Executive Director of California Food Policy Advocates receives Victory Against Hunger Award from CHC Executive Director, Ed Cooney.



Congressperson	Awardee	Location
Sen. Jeff Bingaman (NM)	Zuni Public School District	Zuni Pueblo, NM
Rep. Michael Capuano (MA)	Somerville Public Schools	Somerville, MA
Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (NY)	FoodChange	New York City, NY
Sen. Christopher Dodd (CT)	End Hunger Connecticut, Inc.	Hartford, CT
Rep. Mike Doyle (PA)	Pittsburgh Public Schools	Pittsburgh, PA
Rep. Jo Ann Emerson (MO)	Poplar Bluff R-I School District	Poplar Bluff, MO
Rep. Sam Farr (CA)	Healthy Eating and Lifestyle Principles (HELP) (CA)	Monterey, CA
Sen. Tom Harkin (IA)	Des Moines Public School System, Division of Food and Nutrition Management	Des Moines, IA
Sen. Blanche Lambert Lincoln (AR) Rep. Vic Snyder (AR)	Searcy School District (AR)	White County, AR
Rep. Jim McDermott (WA)	Seattle Public Schools (WA)	Seattle, WA
Rep. George Miller (CA)	California Food Policy Advocates (CA)	Sacramento, CA
Rep. James Moran (VA)	Arlington County Public Schools	Arlington, VA
Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC)	District of Columbia Public Schools	Washington, DC
Rep. Nancy Pelosi (CA)	San Francisco Unified School District	San Francisco, CA
Rep. Earl Pomeroy (ND)	Valley City Public Schools	Valley City, ND
Rep. Deborah Pryce (OH) and Rep. Ted Strickland (OH)	Ohio Action for Healthy Kids	Columbus, OH
Rep. Adam Putnam (FL) and Sen. Bill Nelson (FL)	Polk County School District (FL)	Bartow, FL
Sen. Gordon Smith (OR)	Community Health Partnership	Portland, OR
Rep. John Sweeney (NY)	Glens Falls City School District	Glens Falls, NY
Rep. Diane E. Watson (CA)	Healthy School Food Coalition, Center for Food and Justice at Occidental College (CA)	Los Angeles, CA



# Emerson National Hunger Fellows Program Report

By Emerson Program Staff

## Emerson Program Update

### *"Healthy Food Makes Me Grow Smart and Strong": Involving D.C. Children in Summer Meals Outreach*

The twelfth class of the Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellows Program undertook a unique Capstone Project this year to promote participation in the D.C. Free Summer

Meals Program. The project was designed to draw on the field experiences of the fellows and to capture a diverse group of people's thoughts, feelings, and experiences about hunger

and poverty. Working closely with the D.C. State Education Office, fellows facilitated a print and radio outreach campaign featuring drawings and poetry created by children at

Summer Meals sites, and they selected the winners through a contest process. The outreach campaign encouraged children to access D.C. Free Summer Meals, raised public awareness of the nutrition support 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).



#### Food

When I eat good foods  
I get big and strong  
It helps me have energy all  
day long  
It helps me get faster and  
not much sassier  
Eat veggies like me  
Your body will be free  
You'll see.

~winning Capstone Project  
entry by Ogechi (age 9)

## Farewell to the Twelfth Class

In the sunlit City View Room at George Washington University, the twelfth class of Bill Emerson Hunger fellows celebrated their commencement with co-workers, friends, and family. Surrounded by postcard-quality views, the group enjoyed the July evening as Master of Ceremonies, CHC Director **Ed Cooney**, welcomed the group. CHC board co-chairs,

**Rep. Jo Ann Emerson** (R-MO) and **Rep. James P. McGovern** (D-MA), thanked the Emerson fellows for their hard work. **Janet Poppendieck**, author of *Sweet Charity? Emergency Food and the End of Entitlement*, gave the keynote address and praised program participants for a year of dedicated service.

The Emerson Fellows Program extended thanks

to **Melissa Daigle** of the United States Department of Agriculture and **Roger Rosenthal** of the Migrant Legal Action Program by presenting them with this year's leadership awards, which recognized their valuable contributions to the anti-hunger community and their mentorship of Emerson fellows. Though only two supervisors could be honored,

CHC expresses appreciation to each Emerson fellow supervisor who worked with a fellow this past year. You helped create a memorable and thought-provoking year.

Best wishes to the twelfth class of Emerson Hunger fellows, and congratulations on a job well done! ●

# Welcome to the Thirteenth Class of Emerson Fellows

During the spring, Emerson Program staff interviewed more than 80 potential Emerson Hunger fellows who had been selected as semi-finalists from a pool of more than 200 applicants. In August, CHC and the larger anti-hunger community welcomed the thirteenth class of Emerson National Hunger Fellow Program participants.

From tutoring elementary school children and recent immigrants to conducting agricultural research in Nepal, members of the new class enter the anti-hunger movement with substantial—and varied—experience to draw on. One fellow interned at the House Hunger Caucus; another taught creative arts classes at a homeless shelter in D.C., and another trained as an emergency medical technician. Whether serving as student body president, as director of a campus American Civil Liberties Union chapter, or on a university's Board of Trustees, fellows have already demonstrated a commitment to public service. They bring diversity to the program, as well: While one studied math in Hungary, another worked as a documentary film producer and yet another conducted street outreach to youth in Chiapas, Mexico. From founding an organic farm to conducting research on rural food insecurity to volunteering on a Hurricane Katrina Response team, new fellows have witnessed the challenges faced every day in the fight against hunger. ●



The thirteenth class of Emerson fellows celebrates on the Capitol Steps.

Emerson Hunger Fellow	College	Hometown
Nicole Alvarado	Humboldt State University	Dinuba, CA
Eric Ares	Boston College	Los Angeles, CA
Nikita Barai	Cornell University	Munster, IN
David Coffman	Berea College	Pikeville, KY
Anyu Fang	University of Chicago	Fairfax, VA
Erin George	Bryn Mawr College	West Roxbury, MA
Kaitlin Gravitt	University of California, Santa Cruz	Los Angeles, CA
Toni Holness	University of Pennsylvania	Pembroke Pines, FL
John P. Howard	Howard University	Greenville, SC
Eliberty Jiménez	Carnegie Mellon University	Bronx, NY
Jamillah Jordan	University of California, Santa Cruz	Los Angeles, CA
Amelia Kaye	University of North Carolina	Chestnut Hill, MA
Takhani Kromah	Tufts University	Silver Spring, MD
Megan Lent	Cornell University	Penn Yan, NY
Nicholas Maryns	St. Olaf College	Minneapolis, MN
Sindri McDonald	St. Mary's College of Maryland	Burtonsville, MD
Amrit Mehra	University of Chicago	Roswell, GA
Katharine Mitchell	Duke University	Carmel, IN
Avi Perry	Yale University	New Haven, CT
James Purvis	Wesleyan University	Lexington, MA
Sarah Sibley	University of Notre Dame	Hughes, AR
Shanique Streete	Tufts University	Trenton, NJ
Srinidhi Vijaykumar	Stanford University	San Leandro, CA
Kathleen Wood	Gonzaga University	Pueblo, CO



## New Fellows Arrive for Training

The thirteenth class of Emerson fellows traveled from states across the country and settled into the William Penn House in Washington, D.C., for twelve days of field training. There, they learned about the CHC and the Emerson Program; made personal and professional connections; were briefed on anti-hunger initiatives; and examined connections between hunger and other social inequalities.

Training highlights included activities hosted at the Church of the Reformer, Capital Area Food Bank, and D.C. Central Kitchen. A number of professors, policy experts, and program directors shared their knowledge with the fellows: **Dr. Craig Gunderson**, Iowa State University professor, provided an overview of hunger and food security. **Alan Berube**, Brookings Institution fellow, discussed the connection between poverty and hunger by illustrating a picture of concentrated urban pov-

erty. **Maureen Black** of the University of Maryland School of Medicine and **Lynn Parker** of the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) helped the fellows understand the health dimensions of hunger. Then **Traci Brucker**, assistant director from the Center for Rural Affairs, expanded the urban poverty discussion by presenting on rural poverty. After developing a familiarity with hunger and poverty issues, the fellows listened to Georgetown University's sociology and anthropology department chair, **Dr. Sam Marullo**, outline the history of social movements.

Following these critical introductions to hunger-related topics, training focused on government programs. Experts from FRAC—**Geri Henchy**, **Crystal FitzSimons**, and **Alexis Bylander**—introduced the fellows to Child Nutrition Programs. Program participants learned about con-



Hunger fellow alumna Liz Wroe (7th class) and current Emerson fellow Jamillah Jordan meet at the Capitol Area Food Bank during field training.

temporary welfare programs such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and the Earned Income Tax Credit with **Debbie Weinstein** from the Coalition on Human Needs and **Roxanne Caines** from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Professor **Peter Edelman** of Georgetown University Law Center walked the fellows

through a history of welfare and welfare reform.

Trainers rounded out orientation by helping program participants build skills such as meeting facilitation, interviewing, group decision-making, and conflict management. Training was a huge success! ●

## Work in the Field

In early September, the thirteenth class of Emerson fellows began their work on issues as varied as farming and community food security, Earned Income Tax Credit and Food Stamp outreach, disaster preparedness, child nutrition programs, migrant farm worker organizing, and other projects that link public health, law, and nutrition. We welcome new field site host organizations and remain grateful for the contributions of our veteran host organizations. ●

### 2006-2007 Emerson Fellows Program Field Sites

Alliance for Fair Food (Immokalee, Florida)\*  
Atlanta Community Food Bank (Atlanta, Georgia)\*  
Boston Medical Center, Medical Legal Partnership for Children (Boston, Massachusetts)\*  
Boston Medical Center, Department of Pediatrics (Boston, Massachusetts)  
California Association of Food Banks (Sacramento, California)\*  
D.C. Hunger Solutions (Washington, D.C.)  
Farm to Table (Santa Fe, New Mexico)  
FoodChange (New York, New York)

Food and Friends (Washington, D.C.)\*  
Fremont Public Association (Seattle, Washington)  
Hunger Task Force (Milwaukee, Wisconsin)\*  
Kauai Economic Opportunity (Kauai, Hawaii)\*  
Kauai District Health Office (Kauai, Hawaii)\*  
Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest (Lincoln, Nebraska)\*  
Sacramento Hunger Commission (Sacramento, California)\*  
Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans (New Orleans, Louisiana)

\* Denotes new site

# Emerson Program Alumni Updates

Congratulations to National Hunger Fellow Alumni who have earned new jobs since our last newsletter:

- Liz Wroe (7th class): U.S. Senate Committee on the Budget
- Kate Bolz (8th class): Interim Associate Director—Emerson Hunger Fellows Program, Congressional Hunger Center
- Shireen Zaman (8th class): Program Officer, Vital Voices Global Partnership
- Matt Newell Ching (8th class): Western Regional Organizer, Bread for the World (Portland, Oregon)
- Ebony Walden (9th class): Community Planner, Sustainable Long Island
- Elizabeth Whelan (10th class): Program Associate—Leland Hunger Fellows Program, Congressional Hunger Center
- Lori Leibowitz (10th class): Director, Jews United for Justice
- Shawn Powers (11th class): Food Bank of Alaska
- Laura Tatum (11th class): WakeUp Wal-Mart
- Alex Cawthorne (11th class): Legislative Assistant, U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs
- Kevin Anderson (12th class): Staff Assistant, Office of Jan Schakowsky, U.S. House of Representatives
- Dana Conroy (12th class): Meyer Foundation
- Indivar Dutta-Gupta (12th class): Center for American Progress & Freedman Consulting
- Lauren Forbes (12th class): Paralegal, New York District Attorney's Office, Rackets Bureau (New York, New York)
- Aiyeshia Hudson (12th class): Human Services Coalition (Miami, Florida)
- Matthew King (12th class): Consultant, Hunger Task Force (Milwaukee, Wisconsin)
- Matthew Lewis (12th class): OMB Watch
- Elizabeth McCarthy (12th class): Families USA
- Rebekah Miller (12th class): Grants Specialist, National Children's Alliance
- Almas Sayeed (12th class): Center for American Progress
- Sam Raskin (12th class): GreenPeace
- Miles Patrie (12th class): Legislative Correspondent, Office of Senator Kent Conrad (D-ND)
- Karen Wong (12th class): Policy Analyst, Catholic Charities USA



Sabina Taj (6th class) and husband Anshu Saksena welcomed baby girl Ayla Taj Saksena on July 12, 2006.

- Amanda Wagner (12th class): Consultant, FoodChange

Other alumni moved on to further academic studies this fall:

- Sarah Garrett (10th class): MBA, Stanford University
- Katie Gigliotti (10th class): JD, University of California Los Angeles
- Allegra Cira (10th class): JD, DePaul University
- Sean Coffey (10th class): MPA, University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill
- Bob Zager (10th class): Masters in Economics, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Katy Mastman (11th class): JD, New York University
- Brigit Adamus (12th class): MD/MPH, Oregon Health and Science University
- Madina Agénor (12th class): MPH, Columbia University
- Larisa Bowman (12th class): JD, Stanford University
- Cecilia Cárdenas-Navia (12th class): Masters of Philosophy in the History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge
- Shijuade Kadree (12th class): JD/MPH, Emory University
- Joseph Lee (12th class): MPH, University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill ●



Hunger Task Force (Milwaukee) fellows: (first row) Aiyeshia Hudson (12th class), Alexis Bylander (11th class), Lori Liebowitz (10th class), Amrit Mehra (13th class), Megan Lent (13th class); (second row) Matt Ching (8th class), Saleem Hue Penny (9th class)



# Leland International Hunger Fellows Program Report

By Leland Program Staff

## International Hunger Fellows Retreat and Policy Training

In July, the third class of Mickey Leland fellows returned from field placements around the world to participate in a retreat and policy training designed to prepare them for the upcoming policy year of the fellowship. Program participants spent three days at the Woods Retreat Center in rural West Virginia before returning to Washington, D.C., for policy training. While in Washington, the fellows received briefings on agriculture, foreign aid funding, trade, and poverty within the context of World Trade Organization negotiations,

the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), and food aid.

Fellows also participated in a lively discussion on foreign aid reorganization and the Millennium Challenge Account with experts from the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the U.S. Agency for International Development, Howard University, and the Center for Global Development. In addition to these briefings and media training, fellows presented their field placement work to one another, their policy supervisors, and Congressional staff. CHC



Leland fellows convene at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) for policy training.

board co-chairs, **Rep. Jo Ann Emerson** (R-MO) and **Rep. James P. McGovern** (D-MA) joined the fellows for lunch and an informal discussion about the political challenges of fighting hunger.

Following the training session, fellows began their

policy placements, where they will work to apply lessons learned in the field to improve programs and policies during second-year assignments in Washington, D.C. ●

## Updates from Mickey Leland Fellows

### Critical Linkages: HIV/AIDS, Food, and Nutrition

By Lilia Gerberg, Mickey Leland Fellow

While in Washington, D.C., I worked for the Office of Food for Peace at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), as well as for the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC). Congress mandated OGAC to develop a strategy to address the nutritional requirements of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) as they receive care and treatment. The strategy was to be developed through consultations, and OGAC needed someone to facilitate the process and draft the report.

I co-chaired the interagency technical working group that focused on the critical

linkages between HIV/AIDS, food, and nutrition. We held regular meetings with representatives from the USAID, Health and Human Services (HHS), Peace Corps, and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to discuss the evidence base, gather promising program models, organize consultations, and revise drafts. We met with United Nations agencies as well as with other donors and Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOs). All participants brought their respective areas of expertise to bear, whether their focus was on nutrition, food aid, agriculture, livelihoods, maternal and child

health, or HIV/AIDS. It was an exciting opportunity to draw together multiple actors.

We discovered that substantial evidence demonstrates the need for nutritional support as part of comprehensive care and treatment for PLWHA. However, there is less evidence on the impact of specific nutritional interventions. Many organizations are piloting and implementing HIV-related nutrition interventions, but their benefits have not been thoroughly investigated and best practices tend to be based on anecdotal evidence. This landscape is changing as scientific studies are underway and more

## Now Recruiting

Spread the word! CHC is accepting applications for the fourth class of Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellows. Interested candidates should refer to our website (<http://www.hungercenter.org/international/appinfo.htm>) for work placements listings. Please see the website, as well, for necessary qualifications and detailed instructions. The application deadline is January 15, 2007. ●

organizations are conducting operations research. Consequently, in the near future we should be better able to demonstrate successful, integrated nutrition and HIV/AIDS program models. ●

*Lilia is now spending the second year of her fellowship with Helen Keller International in Senegal, creating a monitoring and evaluation system for a pilot nutritional support project for people living with HIV/AIDS.*



## Note from the Field:

### *The Ironies of History and Water in Rural Cambodia*

By Brian Bogart, Mickey Leland Fellow

Visitors to Cambodia marvel at the splendor and beauty of the ancient temple of Angkor Wat, constructed over 800 years ago at the apex of the Khmer empire. Few casual observers realize, however, that the city of Angkor once supported a population of more than one million inhabitants through a sophisticated system of irrigated rice production. The foundation for a prosperous and stable Cambodia, then as now, depends upon efficient agricultural production through a mastery of the country's abundant water resources.

Lagging behind most of Asia, the rate of agricultural productivity in contemporary Cambodia is less than half that of its neighboring countries, Thailand and Vietnam. Differing levels of agricultural investment explain much of this disparity, especially investment in irrigation. Perhaps a corollary, the figures for child mortality and malnutrition in Cambodia remain among the highest in the world. The World Food Program (WFP) seeks to reverse the situation of food insecurity in rural Cambodia by rehabilitating small-scale irrigation infrastructure with an extensive program of Food for Work (FFW) projects.

FFW serves the double objective of meeting the immediate income and nutritional needs of vulnerable populations, while concurrently promoting the development of essential infrastructure at the community level. Since the advent of regional peace in the early



Food for Work program participants attend a food distribution in Kampong Chhnang, Cambodia

1990s, WFP has constructed or rehabilitated hundreds of kilometers of canals, dikes, and water storage facilities, in addition to thousands of kilometers of roads. Since 1993, FFW has injected the equivalent of over \$15 million directly into the rural economy, generating employment and rebuilding communities after decades of war.

In a stark reminder of Cambodia's darkest hour, even the renovation of irrigation projects harkens back to the days when the Khmer Rouge ruled this star-crossed land. In its brutal and pathological campaign to replicate the ancient glories of Angkor, the Pol Pot regime relied on terror and forced labor to bring about national self-reliance through

improved agricultural yields. A central tenet of the regime's efforts utilized *saha kar*, or communal labor, to develop irrigation infrastructure. Following years of conflict and neglect, many canals and dikes became inoperative.

WFP is now working to rehabilitate these irrigation systems. In Tuol Khpos commune—a remote area of the Kampong Chhnang province controlled by remnants of the Khmer Rouge into the 1990s—WFP FFW recently restored four kilometers of canals. The project will provide desperately needed irrigation to hundreds of hectares of rice fields, benefiting over 300 households from six villages.

Mah Kream, a member of the Muslim Cham minority,

a group faced with particularly harsh discrimination at the hands of Pol Pot, clearly remembers working on the original structure as a young girl in 1978. Kream, now 48, recounts laboring every day in exchange for a bowl of *bor bor*, or watery rice gruel. Her mother and father were sent to prison for being too sick to work. Since the arrival of the United Nations in 1993, conditions have been steadily improving for Kream and her family. With peace, she is able to concentrate on farming and providing an education for her grandchildren. "Before, we worked for the Khmer Rouge to stay alive," she says, "Now we labor to bring water to our fields. Now we work for hope." ●

## Alumni News

After serving as a livelihoods consultant for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (June–September 2006), **Amanda King** continues to work in Indonesia in East Kalimantan. Her research, funded by a Fulbright grant, focuses on the affect of agroforestry development—in particular, oil palm production—on agrobiodiversity and farmer livelihoods.

Congratulations to **Steve Archambault** and his new

wife, Mara, who were married in July. Mara works as a medical doctor for lower income communities in New Mexico.

**Sherry Stanley** has a baby girl! Reimi Anais was born on May 10, 2006.

**Alisha Myers** serves as the monitoring and evaluation technical advisor for Catholic Relief Services, Malawi. She writes, “I am back to my first love, food security, and we are implementing the largest Development Assistance Program (DAP) worldwide at \$70 million over five years. I am providing monitoring and evaluation technical oversight and support for the DAP. We

are currently implementing HIV/AIDS, health, justice and peace, and agriculture projects.”

**Tammy Palmer’s** work as the East African regional coordinator for the Global Education Partnership was recognized by the 2004 Hafkin Communication Prize for cutting-edge innovations. Specifically, she received the award for her work integrating IT applications into rural economic development activities in Africa. ●



At a UN World Food Program distribution site in Conakry, Robert Oliver (a member of the first class of Leland Fellows) sits beside a child whose family has been affected by HIV/AIDS.



A member of the second class of Leland fellows, Amanda King (third from the left) attends Participatory Rural Appraisal training in Nias, Sumatra, Indonesia.



Melody McNeil (right) and a colleague from Catholic Relief Services walk the boundary of a watershed in Ghor Province, Afghanistan.

## Leland Fellow Publishes

Now working for Save the Children in Washington, D.C., **Jodie Fonseca** continues to publish articles on nutrition and HIV/AIDS based on research conducted during her Leland fellowship in Malawi and at CARE’s Washington, D.C., office. Her publications include:

- “Risking Death for Survival: Peasant Responses to Hunger and HIV/AIDS in Malawi” (co-author), *World*

*Development*. September 2006, Vol. 34, No. 9.

- “An Enduring or Dying Peasantry? Interactive Impact of Famine and HIV/AIDS in Rural Malawi” (co-author), in *AIDS, Poverty and Hunger: Challenges and Responses*. Stuart Gillespie, ed. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute, 2006. <http://www.ifpri.org/pubs/books/oc50/oc50ch05.pdf>

- “Risking Death for Survival: Household and Village Responses to the Threat of Hunger and HIV/AIDS in Rural Malawi” (co-author), working paper for the HIV/AIDS and Food and Nutrition Security: From Evidence to Action conference, Durban, South Africa, April 2005. <http://www.ifpri.org/events/conferences/2005/durban/papers/brycesonWP.pdf>

- “Social Pathways from the HIV/AIDS Deadlock of Disease, Denial and Desperation in Rural Malawi” (co-author), Lilongwe, Malawi: CARE Malawi, May 2004. [http://www.sarpn.org.za/documents/d0000906/P1019-Malawi\\_Social-pathways\\_May2004.pdf](http://www.sarpn.org.za/documents/d0000906/P1019-Malawi_Social-pathways_May2004.pdf)



# International Policy Report

By Margaret M. Zeigler, Deputy Director

## CHC Co-Chairs Call for International Food Program Support

Speaking from the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives on September 28, **Rep. James P. McGovern** (D-MA) and **Rep. Jo Ann Emerson**

(R-MO), co-chairs of the CHC Board, outlined the need for reauthorization and additional funding for the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education Program.

Originally named the Global Food For Education Initiative (GFEI), the program began in 2001 and was renamed the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education Program

in 2003 in honor of former Senators **George McGovern** and **Robert Dole**. Below are excerpts from statements by Representatives McGovern and Emerson.

### Floor Statement by Rep. James P. McGovern

Today, Congresswoman Jo Ann Emerson (R-MO) and I, along with 23 of our House colleagues, introduced legislation to reauthorize the George McGovern-Robert Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program (McGovern-Dole). This unique and flexible program, administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), helps promote education, child development, and food security for the world's poorest children.

Sadly, an estimated 300 million children go hungry every day around the world. Of these children, an estimated 120 million do not attend school, in part because of hunger or malnourishment. Because of cultural traditions, prejudice, or simple economic need, many of these children are girls or children engaged in labor to increase their families' basic income. Providing meals in schools has proven to be the single most effective incentive for convincing parents to send their children to school, including their daughters.

Named in honor of former Senators George McGovern and Robert Dole, who worked closely during their tenures in the U.S. Senate to address the problems of hunger and malnutrition in the United States and around the world, the McGovern-Dole program was initiated in 2000 by President Bill Clinton as a \$300 million pilot program, the Global Food for Education Initiative (GFEI). From 2001-2003, the GFEI fed nearly 7 million children through 48 projects in 38 countries. Enrollment increased by up to 10 percent in participating schools, and other donors provided almost \$1 billion of funding to complement the GFEI program. In 2003, as part of the Farm Bill Reauthorization, the GFEI was established as a permanent program, and renamed the McGovern-Dole Program.

In the true spirit of George McGovern and Bob Dole, Congresswoman Emerson and I are also very proud that this bill reflects the strong bipartisan support that the McGovern-Dole Program has received since first initiated. In a time of intense partisanship, this bill demonstrates that men and women of good will not only can come together, but want to come together, on issues and programs that genuinely make a difference in children's lives and help make our world a better place.



### Floor Statement by Rep. Jo Ann Emerson

Mr. Speaker, I want to join with the gentleman from Massachusetts, my good friend, in introducing this bill to reauthorize the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program. I first want to thank the gentleman for doing such a tremendous job in leading the charge on this particular program today and for spearheading efforts to increase discretionary funding for the program year after year. This is a very important program for all of the children of the world who do not have access to nutritional meals.

This legislation, quite frankly, is a win-win for the American people, and it is a win-win for children all over the world who desperately need food assistance and who need an education. We all know, so very well, that our country is currently engaged in daily battles with individuals who want to harm Americans. However, we are also engaged in the daily battles for the hearts and minds of the "man on the street" in under-developed countries. It is in this battle that the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program holds great potential.

I cannot think of anything more important for us to do as a nation. Senator McGovern stated it best when he said we had a moral responsibility as a country with rich and valuable natural resources and an abundant, safe food supply to help people who cannot help themselves. Increased funding for the program, which is included in this bill, would not only allow our partner organizations to reach more students, but would also allow the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program to expand and to begin providing resources for organizations which provide assistance to mothers with children under the age of five years. America needs friends, not just in the capital cities around the world, but on the streets in the poorest areas of the countries. This is one program that lets the world's poor observe our values first hand.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program reflects the humanitarian values Americans share, it reflects the value Americans

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To learn more about the McGovern-Dole Food for Education Program, visit [www.friendsofwfp.org](http://www.friendsofwfp.org).



# CHC Welcomes New Staff

**Kate Bolz** serves as interim associate director of the Emerson Hunger Fellows Program. She comes to the Congressional Hunger Center from the University of Michigan, where she received her Masters in Social Work. Kate brings experience in advocacy, community organizing, and public policy, and she is a proud alumna of the eighth class of Emerson National Hunger Fellows.



Kate Bolz

**Joy Wiskin** joined CHC in October as program assistant for the Emerson Hunger Fellows Program. Previously, Joy worked as a field and outreach fellow at Population Connection (formerly Zero Population Growth). In 2004, she graduated from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia.



Joy Wiskin

**Tracy Bruce Wright** became CHC's operations manager/development associate in May. Skilled in operations and event management, board relations, and fundraising, Tracy comes to CHC with over five years of experience at SeaWeb and Conservation International. He earned a BA in Business Management from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville.



From left: Elizabeth Whelan, program associate for the Mickey Leland Hunger Fellows Program, and Tracy Bruce Wright, CHC operations manager/development associate, at the annual FRAC Banquet.

In April, CHC hired **Elizabeth Whelan** as program associate for the Mickey Leland Fellows Program. Elizabeth, a talented photographer, graduated

from University of Virginia in Charlottesville with a BA in English. She is an alumna of the tenth class of Emerson National Hunger Fellows, and she has worked in Haiti for Partners in Health.

**John Zarafonetis** became program advisor to the Mickey Leland Fellows Program in July. John brings



From left: Mickey Leland Fellows program director Jose Ravano, program associate Elizabeth Whelan, and program advisor John Zarafonetis

over 30 years of management and development experience to CHC including positions as country director for the Peace Corps and director of the Development Policy and Practice Unit at InterAction. John and Elizabeth join CHC veteran staffer **Jose Ravano** to lead the Mickey Leland Fellowship Program. ●



Honorable Jo Ann Emerson  
Member of Congress  
CHC Board Co-Chair

Honorable James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress  
CHC Board Co-Chair

Honorable Byron Dorgan  
Member of Congress

Honorable Dennis Hertel  
Member of Congress (Ret.)

Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress

Honorable Frank Wolf  
Member of Congress

David Beckmann  
President  
Bread for the World

Ann Western Bittman  
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American Forest and Paper Association

Karen Coble Edwards  
President  
KCE Public Affairs Associates

Brian Folkerts  
VP, Government Relations—Food  
Altria Corporate Services

Al Franken  
Actor/Author

David Kantor  
President  
Victory Wholesale Grocers

Elizabeth Emerson Leger  
The Leger Company, Inc.

Marshall Matz  
Olsson, Frank and Weeda

Manly Molpus  
President and CEO  
Grocery Manufacturers Association

Jim Scheibel  
Executive Director  
Ramsey Action Programs

Mary Catherine Toker  
Vice President, Government Relations  
General Mills

Edward M. Cooney  
Executive Director

Dr. Margaret M. Zeigler  
Deputy Director

Ambassador Tony P. Hall  
Founder

Ambassador Arthur E. (Gene) Dewey  
Founding Director

In Memory Of:  
Honorable Bill Emerson  
Honorable Mickey Leland

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place on an education—regardless of sex or race, the program utilizes American resources, benefiting the American economy, and it makes us safer. The McGovern-Dole Program deserves not only to be reauthorized but expanded.