# STATE OF HUNGER

PENNSYLVANIA 2013

### Hunger profile:

## **BERKS COUNTY**

Population: 412,778



## FOOD INSECURITY

What percentage of county residents are food insecure?

13% | Food insecurity rate

21% | Child food insecurity rate

People who are food insecure at times lack access to enough food for an active, healthy life.

## ON THE WEB

#### www.hungerreportpa.com

- Interactive map with hunger data for all 67 counties
- Downloadable fact sheets on each PA county
- Tools to take action on hunger issues
- · Where to find help in your county

## HOW NUTRITION PROGRAMS HELP

A safety net of programs helps low-income families in Pennsylvania put food on the table every day.

#### SNAP | 63,218 participants

#### 1 in 7 residents receives SNAP

Formerly known as food stamps, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides low-income residents with monthly food assistance to buy food at grocery stores, farmers' markets and small businesses.

#### **SCHOOL MEALS**

## 23,559 | Students receiving free or reduced-price lunch each day 7,291 | Students receiving free or reduced-price breakfast each day

Low-income children can qualify for free or reduced-priced meals at school through the National School Lunch and School Breakfast programs. However, only 34 low-income students eat school breakfast for every 100 who eat school lunch.

#### WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program | 9,660 participants

WIC serves low-income pregnant women, new moms, infants and children up to age 5. They receive vouchers for healthy foods, nutrition education and health care referrals.

#### State Food Purchase Program | 75,165 participants

The State Food Purchase Program is a state-funded program that provides food to food pantries, soup kitchens and other charities to feed low-income residents.

## STATEWIDE FIGURES |

#### Summer Meals | 119,195 Pennsylvania children receive free summer meals

The Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option provide free summer meals to low-income kids when school is out.

Child Care Food Program (CACFP) | 129,443 Pennsylvania children participate each day The Child Care Food Program pays for nutritious meals and snacks for low-income kids in daycare, afterschool programs and homeless shelters.



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau (2011), Feeding America (2010), Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare (2012), Pennsylvania Department of Education (2011 & 2012), Pennsylvania Department of Health (2012), Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (2010-2011), Food Research and Action Center (2011)