



Thanksgiving Action Against Hunger 2006

Mon., November 20, 2006

On Monday, November 20, 2006 please join groups across the state to encourage solutions to this devastating problem that exists in the wealthiest country in the world. The theme for this year's Thanksgiving Action is **Increase Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP) funding and Raise the Welfare Grant.** We are urging elected officials to increase funding for HPNAP to \$32.19 million to meet the rising demand for emergency food. This vital program is the main source of state government funding for food banks and soup kitchens and was cut by \$2 million in 2003 (it has been otherwise flat funded each year at \$22.8 million). In addition, there has been an increase in the number of people using emergency food programs: 75% of food pantries, 63% of soup kitchens, and 40% of shelters reported that there has been an increase since 2001 in the number of clients who come to their sites for assistance (2006 America's Second Harvest report).

New York also needs to raise the welfare grant. Welfare helps poor children and their parents obtain basic necessities such as heat, housing, food and clothing. The Governor and the State Legislature have **not raised the welfare grant since 1990**, and now the value of welfare benefits has fallen to only half of the federal poverty level. With a new Governor taking office in 2007, we need to renew the state's commitment to end poverty and hunger. Please join us today!

Yes! We will Cosponsor the Thanksgiving Action Against Hunger.

We will organize the following event:

- Organize a local press conference.
- Write a letter to the editor on hunger.
- Invite our elected official to a food pantry or soup kitchen in our area and talk about the need to increase the welfare grant and HPNAP.
- Organize a community meal.
- Organize a letter writing campaign to elected officials about hunger issues.
- Other: _____

We are interested in talking to the media about hunger in our community.

We know lower-income clients who are interested in talking to the media about hunger.

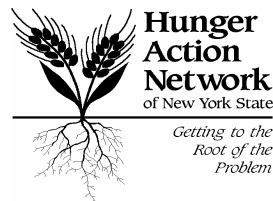
Please download our Action Packet to help you in organizing your event! www.hungeractionnys.org

Organization: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Please complete this form and return it to Hunger Action by fax or mail:
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