



NEWS RELEASE

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REP. CHARLOTTE DOUGLAS SPEAKS TO NATIONAL HUNGER CONFERENCE

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas (April 23, 2016) –

Rep. Charlotte Douglas spoke to legislators and state leaders nationwide on Friday about Arkansas's efforts to ensure children have access to healthy meals over the summer break. Last year, about 221 providers sponsored almost 800 sites across Arkansas and served more than three million meals to children.

Rep. Douglas is co-chair of the House Hunger Caucus and recently appointed to the National Hunger Commission.

More than 21 million children rely on free and reduced school meals during the academic year. Only 1-in-6 of these kids participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). SFSP seeks to address food insecurity among children and youth during the summer months when they are out of school.

Rep. Douglas co-hosted a national webinar on April 22 to highlight best practices in Arkansas and what role state policymakers can play to help alleviate hunger in the summer months. The Arkansas Department of Human Services is currently seeking schools, nonprofit organizations and government agencies that are willing to provide children with nutritious meals and snacks as part of the agency's Summer Food Service Program.

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