



# Fueling up with School Lunch

## The National School Lunch Program

**Guarantees that millions of low-income children receive a healthy lunch during their school day**

Any traditional public, public charter, or nonprofit private school can participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). Public or nonprofit private residential child care institutions can also participate!



Thanks to the D.C. Healthy Schools Act, the copay for students qualifying for reduced priced lunch was eliminated. School meals are filled with fresh produce, whole grains, and lean protein, and local produce is used whenever possible.

## During School Year 2016-2017

**8,947,002**

The total number of lunches served in the District during SY16-17

**\$27,841,102**

The amount D.C. schools received in reimbursements for the National School Lunch Program during SY16-17

**51,747**

The total number of children in the District that participate in the National School Lunch Program in the District in SY16-17

**166**

The total number of schools participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), where all students eat lunch for free.

**23.3%\***

The number of households with children in D.C. that experience food hardship. This is the fourth highest in the nation.

\*FRAC Food Hardship Report, September 2016

## D.C. Hunger Solutions Can Help By

**Advocating** for policy improvements to make school meals work for low-income families and improve meal quality;

**Conducting** outreach to increase participation in school meals;

**Assist** in applying for the Community Eligibility Provision, if you are eligible;

**Promoting** the Healthy Schools Act;

**Implementing** best practices to improve meal quality and meal participation.