



**Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County**

**[www.cumberlandcf.org/WomensGivingCircle](http://www.cumberlandcf.org/WomensGivingCircle)**

# ***2015 Biannual Community Scorecard***

**The Status of Women and Children in  
Cumberland County, NC**



# 2015 Biannual Community Scorecard

## Status of Women and Children in Cumberland County, NC

Highlighting Areas of Basic Needs

### Scorecard Purpose

**Education:** The scorecard is updated biannually as a tool to educate the membership of the Women's Giving Circle and the community using data\* relating to homelessness, food insecurity, health care, and the educational attainment of children.

**Collective Focus:** This biannual scorecard allows the Women's Giving Circle to set focus areas for grant making and highlight areas for collective efforts throughout the community to improve the lives of women and children in Cumberland County.

### About WGCCC

The Women's Giving Circle was founded in 2008 by a group of women committed to philanthropy. It is a charitable fund that was established under the auspices of the Cumberland Community Foundation. The Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County seeks to:

- **Empower** women givers of all ages and backgrounds
- **Educate** donors and our community on women's issues
- **Impact** substantial, positive change for women and children in Cumberland County by philanthropy and education.

*\*Although information in this document has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, WGCCC does not guarantee its accuracy or completeness. Throughout this publication where charts indicate that a third party is the source, please note that the source references the raw data received from such parties.*



# Grant Recipients

## 2009

- Cumberland Interfaith Hospitality Network \$13,500
- Cumberland Co. Medication Asst. Program \$6,000
- CARE Center Family Violence Program \$3,500
- Second Harvest Food Bank \$1,500

## 2010

- Cumberland Co. Dept. of Public Health \$20,000
- CEED \$12,500
- St. Ann Neighborhood Youth Center \$7,500
- Planned Parenthood of Central NC \$4,500
- Child Advocacy Center \$4,000
- Hungry Angelz \$1,500

## 2011

- Fayetteville Area Operation Inasmuch \$25,000
- Cumberland Interfaith Hospitality Network \$15,000
- Grace and Mercy House, Inc. \$9,340

## 2012

- CARE Center Family Violence Program \$15,000
- Cumberland Co. Coordinating Council on Older Adults \$15,000
- Cumberland Interfaith Hospitality Network \$15,000
- Hungry Angelz \$10,000

## 2013

- Better Health of Cumberland Co. \$25,000
- Cumberland Interfaith Hospitality Network \$20,000
- The Fayetteville Police Dept. \$3,000
- The Salvation Army \$6,050
- St. Ann Neighborhood Youth Center \$4,000

## 2014

- Connections of Cumberland Co. \$22,580
- Ferguson-Easley Elementary \$6,505
- Cumberland Co. Library \$8,625
- Partnership for Children \$11,400



# Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard

## Status of Women and Children in Cumberland County, NC

### Executive Summary

## FOOD INSECURITY

The data indicate that **61.09%** of Cumberland County Schools students are recipients of **free or reduced price meals**, this indicates both poverty and a reliance on meals served at school as an important source of daily nutrition.

**70,165** individuals in Cumberland County receive **benefits from NC Food and Nutrition Services** (formerly referred to as food stamps).

Too many women and children live in **poverty**, with **47.3%** of all Cumberland County families with children under age five living below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level. High rates of poverty and food insecurity often go hand-in-hand.



# Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard

## Status of Women and Children in Cumberland County, NC

### Executive Summary

## HOMELESSNESS

According to the Point-in-Time survey data collected in January 2014, **653** individuals were **homeless** in Cumberland County.

**93** unsheltered homeless people in Cumberland County were **children** according to the 2014 Point-in-Time Survey. This represents 24% of the total.

Cumberland County Schools data indicate that **811** children enrolled in 2014 -2015 were homeless\* up from 628 in 2013-2014.

\*Definitions of homelessness and data collection methodologies vary.



# Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard

## Status of Women and Children in Cumberland County, NC

### Executive Summary

## EDUCATION

Evidence shows that a failure to read proficiently in third grade is a strong indicator of future academic problems therefore in 2013 the Women's Giving Circle included 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading levels in the Scorecard. The data reviewed in the 2011-12 test scores revealed that third graders at schools with high populations of economically disadvantaged students did not perform as well as students at other schools. As a result, this scorecard focuses on the schools with the highest populations of economically disadvantaged students. There have been changes in the reading proficiency tests and scoring systems over the last several years limiting direct comparisons. Some of the schools with large populations of economically disadvantaged students are performing at levels comparable with other schools in the county and state while others lag significantly behind.



# Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard

## Status of Women and Children in Cumberland County, NC

### Executive Summary

## TEEN PREGNANCY

Cumberland County is ranked **20<sup>th</sup>** in NC in 2013 (1 is highest and 100 is lowest) of **teen pregnancies**, an improvement from 13th in 2012 however, **508** teen pregnancies were recorded in 2013 (the most recent data available).

The percentage of **repeat teen pregnancies**, at **24.2%**, is similar to the state average (24.3%).



# Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard

## Status of Women and Children in Cumberland County, NC

### Executive Summary

## Uninsured

In 2014 16% of Cumberland County residents lacked health insurance compared to the state rate of 19%. Having no health insurance is one of the leading causes of bankruptcy and loss of housing.





# Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard

## Highlighting Economic Characteristics

### Female Headed Households Living below 100% of Federal Poverty Level

North Carolina	2004 - 2009	2005 - 2010	2009 - 2013
Percent of Female Headed Households that include other persons related by birth, marriage, or adoption.	32.2%	34.7%	34.6%
Percent of Female Headed Households with Dependent Children under age 18	44.4%	40.4%	43.7%
Percent of Female Headed Households with Dependent Children under age 5	49.4%	53.7%	52.0%

Cumberland County	2004 - 2009	2005 - 2010	2009 - 2013
Percent of Female Headed Households with other persons related by birth, marriage, or adoption.	38.4%	32.5%	33.9%
Percent of Female Headed Households with Dependent Children under age 18	44.9%	41.1%	41.4%
Percent of Female Headed Households with Dependent Children under age 5	47.3%	40.6%	47.3%

Sources: [http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS\\_11\\_5YR\\_DP03](http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_11_5YR_DP03) ; 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates \*For federal poverty guidelines: Refer to Appendix D



# Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard

## Highlighting Food Insecurity

### Food and Nutrition Services

% of Students Receiving Free or Reduced Price Meals	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Cumberland County	51.09%	59.99%	61.09%
North Carolina	56.00%	56.14%	57.56%

SNAP Benefits (Formerly Food Stamps)	As of May 2011	As of May 2012	As of May 2014	As of April 2015
Cumberland Households	32,121	32,043	33,616	33,675
Cumberland Individuals	70,872	67,942	70,311	70,165
NC Households	747,700	781,834	800,587	796,349
NC Individuals	1,615,715	1,653,436	1,643,679	1,627,167

#### Key Findings

- The data indicate that nearly two out of every three students attending Cumberland County schools depend on meals served at school as an important source of daily nutrition.

#### Key Findings

- The data indicate that 17.2% of Cumberland County Individuals are eligible for and receive support to achieve daily nutritional needs. This compares to 15.8% of NC Individuals eligible for and receiving support.

Sources: NC Dept. of Human Services, Food and Nutrition Services Participation Reports (1qtr, 2010; 1Qtr 2011); [www.ncpublicschools.org/fbs/resources/data](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/fbs/resources/data) NC Dept. of Public Instruction, Free and Reduced Student Data, Public School year-to-Date Data 2013-2014 (updated 3/25/15). American Community Survey(2010); Cumberland County QuickFacts from the US Census Bureau, 2012 Estimates Cumberland County population: 324,049. <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/37/37051.html>; 2012 Estimate NC population: 9,752,073



# Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard

## Highlighting Unsheltered Homeless Women and Children

CC PIT* Unsheltered Women & Children	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Total Unsheltered Homeless</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>739</b>	<b>776</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>385</b>
<b>Unsheltered Women</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>Unsheltered Women and Children</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>Unsheltered Children (NOT including Unaccompanied Youth)</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>Unsheltered Unaccompanied Youth</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

### Key Findings

- **The Point-In-Time (PIT) Survey counts are conducted using definitions set by HUD. Homeless definitions and reporting categories have changed multiple times making year-to-year comparisons difficult.**

Sources: North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness, Point In Time (PIT) Data 2008-2014; <http://www.ncceh.org/PITdata/>



# Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard

## Highlighting Homelessness

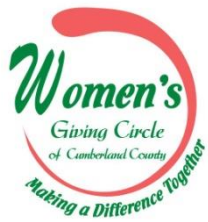
Point In Time (PIT) Survey*	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Total Cumberland County Homeless</b>	955	1,033	1,061	1,606	615	653
<b>Homeless Women without Children</b>	119	99	81	185	75	82
<b>Homeless Women with Children</b>	137	141	109	211	90	n/a
<b>Total Women</b>	256	240	190	396	165	n/a
<b>Homeless Children (birth to age 18)</b>	399	344	357	454	182	178
<b>Homeless Victims of Domestic Violence</b>	66	51	122	69	32	37
<b>Homeless Unaccompanied Youth</b> HUD has defined an unaccompanied youth as any person under age 18 who presented for services alone.	17	n/a	22 Boys-16 Girls- 6	60 Boys-32 Girls-28	0	1

### Key Findings

- The 2013 Point-In-Time (PIT) Survey count was conducted using the New HUD definition which limited the number of homeless who could actually be counted. Therefore, 2009 -2012 homeless data cannot be compared to 2013 or 2014 data. In addition, beginning in 2014, some survey categories changed.

Sources: North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness, Point In Time (PIT) Data 2008-2014; <http://www.ncceh.org/PITdata/>

\* See Appendix A & C for PIT information



# Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard

## Highlighting Homelessness

### Point-In-Time County Comparisons

Point-in-Time Survey County Comparisons	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Fayetteville/Cumberland Co. Total Population	309,542	319,431	324,885	324,885	324,049	326,328
Fayetteville/Cumberland Co. PIT Homelessness Results	965	1,033	1,061	1,606	615	653
Winston-Salem/Forsyth Co. Total Population	337,198	350,067	354,952	354,952	358,137	365,298
Winston-Salem/Forsyth Co. PIT Homelessness Results	465	547	527	556	394	515
Raleigh/Wake Co. Total Population	829,218	900,993	929,780	929,780	929,780	998,691
Raleigh/Wake Co. PIT Homelessness Results	1,152	1,124	1,150	1,132	1,098	1170

### Key Findings

- The 2013 Point-In-Time (PIT) Survey count was conducted using the New HUD definition which limited the number of homeless who could actually be counted. (NEW restrictive definition is provided in Appendix.) Therefore, 2009 -2012 homeless data cannot be compared to 2013 data.

Sources: North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness, Point In Time (PIT) Data 2008-2014; County Populations: <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/37000.html>



# Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard

## Highlighting Homeless Children

McKinney-Vento Children Cumberland County School System	2009- 2010	2010- 2011	2011- 2012	2012- 2013	2013 – 2014	2014- 2015
<b>Homeless Students</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>659</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>811</b>

As defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvement Act of 2001. See APPENDIX B

### Key Findings

- The data indicate that substantially more children are counted as homeless through the McKinney-Vento count conducted by the Cumberland County School System than during the one night Point-In-Time (PIT) survey.

Source: Cumberland County Schools Social Work Coordinator



# 2015 Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County Annual Scorecard

## **Highlighting 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade EOG English Language Arts Proficiency Scores** **Comparing Cumberland County** **with 75% or higher Economically Disadvantaged Student Populations in Grade 3 English Language Arts**

School	*EDS Students	All Students	White Students	Black Students	Hispanic Students	All Students	White Students	Black Students	Hispanic Students
	% Economically Disadvantaged	% Reading Prof.	% Reading Prof.	% Reading Prof.	% Reading Prof.	% Reading Prof.	% Reading Prof.	% Reading Prof.	% Reading Prof.
	w/o Pre-K	2013-14	2013-14	2013-14	2013-14	2014-15	2014-15	2014-15	2014-15
NC	Not Available	60.2	73.1	43.4	45.0	59.0	72.3	42.2	43.6
CC	65.9	60.0	72.0	47.3	63.4	59.1	71.5	48.6	57.9
Lillian Black	82.4	55.2	60.0	55.6	NA	55.9	NA	50.0	66.7
Cashwell	88.3	46.1	68.8	43.1	37.5	45.9	72.2	39.3	35.7
Brentwood	88.5	52.0	70.0	45.7	63.6	55.2	38.5	54.7	69.2
Cumberland Road	85.0	60.3	73.9	47.8	50.0	61.7	88.2	51.7	16.7
Manchester	84.8	52.5	42.9	52.9	62.5	47.0	70.0	36.8	50.0
Sunnyside	74.6	53.2	52.9	45.0	60.0	47.9	66.7	46.2	60.0
J.W. Coon	82.8	52.5	60.0	47.1	40.0	62.1	55.6	72.7	20.0
Ferguson-Easley	94.1	48.1	NA	45.8	NA	39.2	NA	35.6	NA

Source: Cumberland County Schools

N/A: There must be a minimum of 5 students with data in order to display a score.

Economically Disadvantaged Students: Classification identified by the U.S. Department of Education

Data revised 10-5-15



## 2015 Annual Community Scorecard

# **Highlighting 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade EOG READING Proficiency Scores**

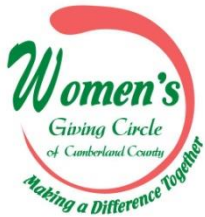
## **Comparing NC and Cumberland County Schools that have high economically disadvantaged student populations\***

### **Key Findings**

- Numerous studies show that a failure to read on grade level at third grade is a strong predictor of future academic problems even when demographic characteristics are included as controls.
- The importance of reading proficiency at third grade is emphasized in a new NC law that took effect in 2013-14 that sets a higher standard for student promotion from third grade.

**Source:** "Excellent Public Schools Act., Part 1A North Carolina Read to Achieve Program, House Bill 950/Session Law 2012-142." "Read by third grade, or face consequences," Charlotte Observer, July 22, 2013.





# Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard

## Highlighting Teen Pregnancy

Cumberland County Teen Pregnancy	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total Pregnancies Ages 15 - 19	768	673	592	<b>508</b>
Total Pregnancies Ages 10-14	15	15	10	<b>9</b>
Teen Pregnancy Ranking <i>1 is highest and 100 is lowest in ranking among all North Carolina counties</i>	11	17	13	<b>20</b>

### Key Findings

- The data indicate that Cumberland County teen pregnancy rates declined for ages 15 - 19 going from 673 in 2011 to 508 in 2013.
- County ranking improved, dropping from 17th place to 20th place in the NC scale measuring Teen Pregnancies Per County in 2013; however, the teen pregnancy rate for Cumberland County continues to be higher than the state rate.

Teen Pregnancy Rates per 1,000 persons	2010	2011	2012	2013
North Carolina	49.7	43.8	39.6	<b>35.2</b>
Cumberland County	67.7	61.8	56.3	<b>48.6</b>

% REPEAT Pregnancies	2012	2013
North Carolina	24.5%	<b>24.3%</b>
Cumberland County	25.3%	<b>24.2%</b>

Sources: NC State Center for Health Statistics, 2004-2008, 2005-2009, 2010, 2011; ShiftNC – Sexual Health Initiatives for Teens, NC DHHS, State Center for Health Statistics 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011



**Since 2009 the Giving Circle has funded over \$300,000 to projects benefiting women and children in Cumberland County.**

**Join us in helping to better our community!**



## Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard HUD Definition of "Homelessness" APPENDIX A

**HUD defines sheltered homeless persons** as adults, children, and unaccompanied children who, on the night of the count, are living in shelters for the homeless. This includes all beds dedicated for use by homeless persons that are reported by a CoC in their Housing Inventory Count (HIC), including dedicated beds located in:

- Emergency shelters, including Domestic violence shelters; Any hotel, motel, or apartment voucher arrangements paid by a public or private agency because the person or family is homeless; Safe Havens; Transitional housing, including HUD-funded Rapid Re-housing Demonstration Grant programs.

**The following types of people should not be counted** as part of the sheltered population:

- Persons living doubled up in conventional housing; Formerly homeless persons living in Section 8 SRO, Shelter Plus Care, Supportive Housing Program permanent housing or other permanent housing units; Persons living in conventional housing and receiving temporary assistance (Rapid Re-housing or Homelessness Prevention) from a program funded by the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP); Children or youth, who because of their own or a parent's homelessness or abandonment now reside temporarily or for a short anticipated duration in hospitals, residential treatment facilities, emergency foster care, or detention facilities; Adults in mental health facilities, chemical dependency facilities, or criminal justice facilities.

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development *A Guide to Counting Sheltered Homeless People Third Revision, Jan. 2012, p. 6-7, <http://www.ncceh.org/files/2027/>*



## Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard Highlighting Homelessness in Cumberland County, NC APPENDIX B

### **McKinney-Vento Definition of "Homeless"**

**Subtitle B of Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (Title X, Part C, of the No Child Left Behind Act) defines "homeless" as follows:**

The term "homeless children and youths" —

- (A) means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (within the meaning of section 103(a)(1)); and
- (B) includes--
- (i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement;
  - (ii) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (within the meaning of section 103(a)(2)(C));
  - (iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
  - (iv) migratory children (as such term is defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).

Source: CCS Transition Times (Fall 2010) ;For more information on determining homelessness, visit [Determining Eligibility for Services Under McKinney-Vento](http://center.serve.org/nche/ibt/sc_eligibility.php); [http://center.serve.org/nche/ibt/sc\\_eligibility.php](http://center.serve.org/nche/ibt/sc_eligibility.php)



## 2015 Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County Annual Scorecard Highlighting Homelessness in Cumberland County, NC APPENDIX C

### Information about Point-in-Time Count

- The count is a tally of who is homeless on a given night and provides a snapshot of who experiences homelessness throughout the year.
- The Point-in-Time Count is a one-day, statistically reliable, unduplicated count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals and families in the country.
- It is required that communities applying for **HUD Continuum of Care** funding to serve the homeless do a count each year in the last week of January. Programs that have beds dedicated to serve homeless individuals and families also conduct a bed inventory during the count.

Source: <http://www.ncceh.org/pointintime/>



## Appendix D

### 2015 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia

Persons in family/household	Poverty guideline 100%
1	\$11,770
2	\$15,930
3	\$20,090
4	\$24,250
5	\$28,410
6	\$32,570
7	\$36,730
8	\$40,890
For each additional person, add \$4,160	

#### **Definition of The Poverty Guidelines**

**Guidelines** are issued each year in the *Federal Register* by the **Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)**. The guidelines are a simplification of the poverty thresholds for use for **administrative** purposes — for instance, determining financial eligibility for certain federal programs.

The [Federal Register notice of the 2015 poverty guidelines](#) is available. The poverty guidelines are sometimes loosely referred to as the “**federal poverty level**” (FPL).

#### **Definition of The Poverty Threshold**

**Thresholds** are updated each year by the **Census Bureau**. The thresholds are used mainly for **statistical** purposes — for instance, preparing estimates of the number of Americans in poverty each year. (In other words, all official poverty population figures are calculated using the poverty thresholds, not the guidelines.) For an example of how the Census Bureau applies the thresholds to a family’s income to determine its poverty status, see “[How the Census Bureau Measures Poverty](#)” on the Census Bureau’s web site.



## Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard Highlighting HUNGER in Cumberland County, NC APPENDIX E

### DEFINITIONS OF FOOD INSECURITY AND HUNGER

- **Food Insecurity:** “Limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods or limited or uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways.”
- **Hunger:** “The uneasy or painful sensation caused by a lack of food. The recurrent and involuntary lack of access to food. Hunger may produce malnutrition over time...Hunger...is a potential, although not necessary, consequence of food insecurity.”

These conceptual definitions were operationalized and a scale was developed to measure the operational conditions at the household level in the U.S. population under guidance and sponsorship of the National Center for Health Statistics and the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1995-97.

**SOURCE:** <http://feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/hunger-studies/child-food-insecurity-econ-impact.aspx> *Child Food Insecurity: The Economic Impact on our Nation*, was prepared by **Feeding America** (agency that works to support local food bank efforts to source food) and includes the following paragraph in the introduction: “This report summarizes results of research completed by Children’s HealthWatch (formerly the Children’s Sentinel Nutrition Assessment Program (C-SNAP), and by many other researchers, on the impacts of food insecurity and hunger on children’s health, growth and development...”



## Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County 2015 Scorecard **Childhood Hunger and Food Insecurity as a Health Problem** **APPENDIX F**

Excerpts taken from

### ***Child Food Insecurity: The Economic Impact on our Nation***

- While every American is morally offended by the existence of childhood hunger, pediatricians and public health professionals see the tragic effects of this unnecessary condition graphically imprinted on the bodies and minds of children;
- Hungry children are sick more often, and more likely to have to be hospitalized (the costs of which are passed along to the business community as insurance and tax burdens);
- Hungry children suffer growth impairment that precludes their reaching their full physical potential.

**“ The healthy development of all children benefits all of society by providing a solid foundation for economic productivity, responsible citizenship, and strong communities.”**

**Jack P. Shonkoff, MD, Director  
Center on the Developing Child  
Harvard University**

- Hungry children incur developmental impairments that limit their physical, intellectual and emotional development.
- Short-term: hungry children have greater odds of being hospitalized, and the average pediatric hospitalization costs approximately \$12,000.
- Long-term: results of chronic under-nutrition contribute to high health care costs.

SOURCE: <http://feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/hunger-studies/child-food-insecurity-econ-impact.aspx> *Child Food Insecurity: The Economic Impact on our Nation*, was prepared by **Feeding America**; Cook, John, PhD, Project Director and Karen Jeng, AB, Research and Policy Fellow "Child Food Insecurity, The Economic Impact on our Nation", pp. 9 - 10, 2009 Feeding America, [www.feedingamerica.org](http://www.feedingamerica.org)





## 2015 Women's Giving Circle of Cumberland County Annual Scorecard **Child Hunger as an Educational Problem** **APPENDIX G**

Excerpts taken from

### ***Child Food Insecurity: The Economic Impact on our Nation***

- Hungry children ages 0-3 years cannot learn as much, as fast, or as well because chronic under-nutrition harms their cognitive development during this critical period of rapid brain growth, actually changing the fundamental neurological architecture of the brain and central nervous system
- Hungry children do more poorly in school and have lower academic achievement because they are not well prepared for school and cannot concentrate
- Hungry children have more social and behavioral problems because they feel bad, have less energy for complex social interactions, and cannot adapt as effectively to environmental stresses

**“ So the sobering message here is that if children don’t have the right experiences during these sensitive periods for the development of a variety of skills, including many cognitive and language capacities, that’s a burden that those kids are going to carry; the sensitive period is over, and it’s going to be harder for them. Their architecture is not as well developed in their brain as it would have been if they had the right experiences during the sensitive period. That’s the sobering message.”**

**Jack P. Shonkoff, MD  
Harvard University  
School of Public Health**

SOURCE: <http://feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/hunger-studies/child-food-insecurity-econ-impact.aspx>  
**Child Food Insecurity: The Economic Impact on our Nation**, was prepared by **Feeding America**; Cook, John, PhD, Project Director and Karen Jeng, AB, Research and Policy Fellow "Child Food Insecurity, The Economic Impact on our Nation", pp. 9 - 10, 2009 Feeding America, [www.feedingamerica.org](http://www.feedingamerica.org)