

**Food Stamp Outreach Coalition (FSOC)**  
**January 10, 2008**  
**Congreso de Latinos Unidos Outreach Campaign**  
**Project Summary**

**Project Overview**

Two-pronged Approach Educational Campaign and Outreach Project to increase the knowledge and participation of the working poor, immigrant, and elderly populations

The intent of the program was to have it take place within the framework of providing eligible participants with the needed information to make educated decisions about participation in the Food Stamps Program. Our belief was that many non-participating, but eligible participants were unaware of their eligibility and not aware of points of entry to the program due to multiple factors such as cultural and language barriers, the stigma

**Education**

Worked within its existing CareerLink and Congreso Family Social Services programs to identify and educate individuals during the intake process. Provided pre-screening for benefits to individuals using a pre-screening tool designed by the Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger.

Education also focused on Congreso staff of programs that do not necessarily focus on Food Stamps.

**Outreach**

Directed to potential enrollees at community events and through local advertisements in the free Spanish newspapers focused on informing people of eligibility criteria, the nutritional benefits of the program and increasing connection with the public system to facilitate enrollment.

Increase Awareness through Mass Media Outlets such as free Spanish Newspapers, Radio Call-in Show

**Facilitating Enrollment**

Staff submitted applications on behalf of clients

Use of COMPASS (Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Access to Social Services)

Use of The Benefit Bank

**Outcomes**

Provided Outreach to 2,710 people

Prescreened 196 people

Assisted Application to 187 people

Successfully acquired benefits=146

78% success rate of applicants

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**Please direct additional questions to :**

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