



# Food Stamp Hunger Champions Program 2005

The **Food Stamp Hunger Champions Program** is a Food Stamp Outreach Coalition initiative that honors local food stamp offices for providing exemplary service to clients. The **Coalition and its Hunger Champion** committee members are comprised of federal, state, and non-profit members.

There are hundreds of food banks, community and faith-based groups, and other organizations nationwide that help people learn about and apply for food stamps. FNS formed the Outreach Coalition in 2003 to join forces with those efforts. By working together, FNS hopes to create a national community of people interested in helping fight hunger and promoting nutrition through food stamp outreach.

## 2005 Hunger Champions Mentors

### Dept. of Human Services, Polk Co., IA

Takes extraordinary efforts to educate and assist eligible food stamp clients. Their income maintenance personnel use traditional and creative outreach methods to serve their customers. The media campaign included media advertisements and an outreach blitz that took the office to the streets. The latest technology was used to expedite the processing of applications. Their creativity goes far beyond average outreach and customer service.

### Santa Cruz Co. Human Resource Agency; Santa Cruz, CA

Demonstrates an innovative approach to customer service and administering the FSP. This office has a strong partnership with community organizations to strengthen anti-hunger resources in the Santa Cruz area and to provide one-on-one assistance to potential clients. One partner stated that the “administrative staff, supervisors, eligibility workers and intake staff perform above and beyond the call of duty in training community workers, answering questions on regulations...” this agency is seen in the community as an exemplary agency.

## 2005 Hunger Champions Honorable Mentors

### Charlottesville Dept. of Social Services; Charlottesville, VA

Offers Limited English Proficiency services and a walk-in intake system where customers are seen within 10 minutes.

### Dept. of Health & Human Services; Portland, ME

Provides a one-stop-shop for all eligibility programs and uses a one-page application. The 230 daily walk-in clients are seen on a first come, first serve basis.

### Richmond City Dept. of Social Services; Richmond, VA

Well known for its client-friendly, customer service approach to people in need. The staff receives yearly customer service training focused on positive client and public relations.

### West District PA Co. Assistance Office; Philadelphia, PA

Demonstrates a unique willingness to change customer service delivery, the community’s perception of the FSP, and to reverse the massive decline of the food stamp rolls.

## 2005 Hunger Champions

Allegheny Co. Office; PA  
Allegheny/Covington DSS; VA  
Bangor ME Food Stamp Office; ME  
Bellingham WA DSHS; WA  
Biddeford Regional DHHS; ME  
Bluegrass Rural Services Region; KY  
Boon Co. Family Support Office; KY  
Burke Co. DSS; NC  
Butler Co. Office; PA  
Bradley Co. DHS; AR  
Carbon Co. Board of Assistance; PA  
Chemung Co. DSS; NY  
Clinton Co. DHS; IA  
Cottonwood Family Assistance Admin.; AZ  
Des Moines Co.; IA  
Family Investment Admin. DHS; MD  
Fayette Co. DHHR; WV  
Federal Way CSO; WA  
First Response Unit McCurtain Co; OK  
Gallatin Co. Office of Public Assistance; MT  
Grant Co. Family Support; KY  
Health & Human Services; TX  
Jefferson Co. Family Support; KY  
Kent Co. Family Independence Agency; MI  
Kenton Co. Dept. for Family Support Offices; KY  
Kentucky River Service Region; KY  
Little River Co. AK DHS; AK  
Linn Co. DHS; IA  
Marshall Co. Office; IA  
Mineral Co.; WV  
Monroe Co. Office of Family & Children; IN  
Nebraska HHS SONA Office; NE  
Okanogan Community Services; WA  
Olympia CSO; WA  
Pottawattamie Co. DHS; IA  
Prince Edward Co. DSS; VA  
Sanford DHHS/BFI; ME  
Sequoyah Co. DHS; OK  
Smokey Point Community Service; WA  
Socorro NM Human Services Dept.; NM  
Stark Co. Social Services; ND  
Summers Co. DHHR; WV  
Suncoast Region-FL DCF; FL  
Wapato CSO; WA  
Washington Co. Assistance Office; PA  
Washington Co. DHS, Family Support Div; OK  
Westmoreland Co. Office; PA  
Wenatchee Community Services; WA  
Woodbury Co. DHS; IA

To become a part of the Food Stamp Outreach Coalition contact Dawn Washington at [FSOC@fns.usda.gov](mailto:FSOC@fns.usda.gov)

For more information on the Food Stamp Program visit: [www.fns.usda.gov/fsp](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp)