

# break bread

Illinois Community Action Association  
Food Security & Advocacy News

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2005

## Hunger Awareness Day Set for June 7

Source: Community Nutrition Institute

For the fourth year in a row, national and local groups around the country will recognize Hunger Awareness Day on Tuesday, June 7, 2005 as a time to take action and raise public consciousness about ending hunger in the U.S.



National non-profit groups such as Bread for the World, America's Second Harvest, and the Food Research and Action Center are sponsoring the event, in addition to organizations such as the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National Association of Counties representing the public sector, and the National Restaurant Association and the Food Marketing Institute, representing the business community. National level Hunger Awareness Day events will include an Interfaith Convocation at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. on June 6 and a Lobby Day in Congress on June 7.

*see HUNGER on page 2*

## Budget Agreement Portends Nutrition Cuts

Source: Community Nutrition Institute

By narrow majorities in both the House and Senate, Congress passed a five-year, \$14 trillion budget outline on April 28, 2005 that will likely reduce federal support for nutrition assistance beginning next year. The House endorsed the plan by a vote of 214 to 211, while the Senate approved it 52 to 47.

The budget resolution calls for \$35 billion in cuts in "mandatory" spending, of which a significant portion is expected to come from programs that aid the needy, such as Medicaid and food stamps. Another \$212 billion would be taken from domestic discretionary (i.e. non-entitlement) programs, with the bulk of the funds also coming from programs that serve low-income people. The budget plan also includes increased spending for defense and security programs, along with new tax cuts for wealthy Americans.

The conference agreement includes instructions to relevant committees to make specific dollar reductions for programs under their jurisdiction – a process called "reconciliation" – no later than September 16. Agriculture committees will have to come up with \$3 billion in savings just in fiscal year 2006, leading to speculation about potential food stamp cuts. The Community Food and Nutrition Program (CFNP), though overseen by different committees, is also vulnerable to cuts or elimination next year.

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# Public Policy Spotlight

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## Congressional Action Expected as Time Runs Short

Source: Community Nutrition Institute

Appropriations bills for fiscal year 2006 are expected to begin moving soon, at least at the subcommittee level, as Congress wrestles with prioritization of spending needs under the budget resolution passed in late April. Action may come quickly, as there are less than 50 legislative days left in this session.

The congressional clock is ticking, with holiday observances planned for Memorial Day and Independence Day in early July. Plus, Congress will take its usual summer recess, a five-week break that starts August 1 and lasts through Labor Day on September 5.

.....  
*HUNGER continued*

On the local level, community and faith-based organizations will bring attention to the issue of hunger in their localities and be involved in activities to alleviate the problem. Examples of local actions include:

- \* A “Potato Drop” in Mobile, AL that will bag 40,000 pounds of sweet potatoes for distribution to local charities;
- \* The “Get Your Hands Dirty for Hunger” event in Orange, CA, where local school children and dignitaries will harvest produce at the “Incredible Edible Park”;
- \* Twin Cities Restaurant Week in Minneapolis and St. Paul, MN, where on June 6-12 over 60 restaurants will make a donation to the local food bank when a customer orders specialty selections off the menu; and
- \* A “One Big Table” event in Burlington, VT, which is featuring a table that will stretch a full city block where local residents will share lunch together.

To find out more about Hunger Awareness Day and activities in your area, go to: <http://www.hungerday.org/content/index.php>.

## USDA’s Subsidies Ignore its Own Dietary Advice

Source: Chicago Tribune, May 2, 2005

The only reference to corn on the Department of Agriculture’s new food pyramid is an image of a bright-yellow ear among a medley of other vegetables. Soybeans aren’t mentioned at all. But corn and soybeans receive a good chunk of the \$15 billion in subsidies to farmers that the Agriculture Department is doling out this year. And while that might seem logical because the food pyramid advocates a plant-based diet, most of the corn and soybeans grown in the U.S. are used to fatten cows, pigs and chickens, while the pyramid recommends that consumers eat more fish and beans.



That disparity points out an awkward truth about the USDA: what it urges people to eat to remain healthy

*see USDA on page 7*

### Rockford Youth Embrace International Hunger Challenge

Source: <http://www.cofchrist.org/hunger/youthfast/2005testimonies.asp>

On the weekend of March 4–6, 2005, young people in Rockford, Illinois, were joined with thousands of others from around the world, to raise funds for the hungry in the annual International Hunger Challenge by fasting. Sponsored by the church's International Youth Forum and World Hunger and Human Rights Committees, World Accord, and Outreach International (OI), participating congregations used games and activities from OI's Hunger Challenge Kit.

Youth leader Allison Woods, from Rockford, Illinois, shared a little about the experiences at her congregation. With 25 participants, 15 of them ages 4–16, Allison said, "I came into the weekend thinking it was going to be fun and I could see my friends and meet new ones. I realized pretty quickly it wasn't going to be that easy. We were watching television and saw a commercial for McDonalds. It made us realize how hungry we were, but we knew there was nothing to eat. Before we went to sleep, our stomachs growled, but we knew we had to bear it. After going through this weekend, I can understand a little bit about how many of the world's children who are desperately poor must feel. I even felt a little guilty at first, living in a decent home and having parents who can feed and care for me. But then I realized that's why we did the Hunger Challenge—to help people less fortunate than we are."



### New Computers Make Grocery Carts Smarter

Source: Chicago Tribune, May 4, 2005

New supermarket carts equipped with touch screens will guide you to the tomatoes or toothpicks, let you order deli meat without standing in line and keep a running tally of your purchases. What they won't do is tell you how many fat grams or calories are in your cart. The idea is to make it easier for consumers to buy, not induce second thoughts that maybe you should put something back on the shelf.

The touch-screen devices are on display at the supermarket industry's annual convention, which was held the week of May 1, 2005, in Chicago by the Food Marketing Institute. "It helps save you time, and it helps save you money. It's all about making it easy for you," IBM Corp. executive Ken Lawler said in an interview.

"The whole model is driven by advertisers' need to get in front of consumers," said Springboard spokesman Michael Alexandor. "They're not watching 30-second TV ads anymore." People can use a home computer to make their shopping list. Once at the store, they can use their preferred customer card, or a key that fits on a

keychain, to log into a system that will organize their trip through the aisles.

If you're looking for toothpicks, you type in the word or pick it from a list, and the screen will display a map showing where you are and where you can find them. The cart's are equipped with the miniature equivalent of GPS, the global positioning satellite system. Sensors can track the devices to see right where your cart is, so that as you turn into an aisle, the screen can show what's there on your list and which items are on sale.

The systems also keep a running tally of what you buy. Many stores do so already by signing shoppers up for preferred customer cards, but what's new is that the store can offer special discounts based on your buying habits or tell you while you're in the store that one of your favorite products is on sale.

The new computerized shopping assistants don't come cheap. To buy the buddy devices and install sensors it will cost the average store about \$160,000.

# What's Going On ..... a national perspective .....

## Major Changes Recommended for WIC

Source: Community Nutrition Institute

Food packages for women, infants, and children in the WIC Program could be totally revamped next year, if the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) heeds the advice of the National Academy of Science's Institute of Medicine (IOM) report issued on April 27, 2005. Food items in WIC have been essentially unchanged since the program began more than 30 years ago.

*see WIC on page 8*

### Beer Giant Says it Won't Buy Rice from States That Grow GM Crops

Source: [www.ap.org](http://www.ap.org), April 13, 2005

Anheuser-Busch Cos., the nation's No. 1 buyer of rice as well as its largest brewer, says it won't buy rice from Missouri if genetically modified, drug-making crops are allowed to be grown in the state.

Biotechnology firms have been seeking federal approval for outdoor plantings, often called "biopharming," because the idea is to lower drug-making costs by using plants to grow medications.



Other food companies, environmentalists and farmers have said they fear genetically altered rice could cross-pollinate with other food crops, introducing the foreign genes into the regular food chain.

### First, They Took On Taco Bell. Now, the Fast-Food World

Source: New York Times, May 22, 2005

Tejano music bounced off the one-story buildings of this farming town and the smell of tamales filled the air as scores of revelers danced into the night outside the headquarters of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers.

The celebration marked a hard-fought, unlikely victory by the workers, a coalition of mostly Guatemalan and Mexican tomato pickers, over



one of the nation's fast-food giants, Taco Bell. They led a four-year boycott against the chain until it agreed in March to pay a penny more per pound for

*see EAST-FOOD on page 8*

Last month, Arkansas-based Riceland Foods Inc., the world's largest rice miller and marketer, asked federal regulators to deny a permit for Ventria Biosciences to grow 200 acres of genetically engineered rice to produce human proteins that can make drugs, saying Riceland's customers don't want to risk buying genetically modified rice.

Anheuser-Busch is believed to be the first major company to threaten a boycott over the issue, according to comments filed last month with the Agriculture Department. "Given the potential for contamination of

*see BUSCH on page 9*

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## Is a Trip to McDonald's Just What the Doctor Ordered?

Source: New York Times, May 2, 2005

For the last 28 years, Dr. Dean Ornish has been trying to persuade people to eat healthier. In his five books, he champions low-fat diets; he was one of the first researchers to show that stringent healthy eating can reverse chronic illness, particularly heart disease.



Among his advice to patients is to eat a lot of vegetables and minimally processed foods, and avoid all things greasy. Dr. Ornish also works for the [McDonald's Corporation](#). As a paid consultant, he meets with top executives, gives talks to employees and recently wrote nutritional words of wisdom about diet and breast cancer for table

displays to go into all McDonald's restaurants in the United States for Mother's Day.

As concerns mount over the nation's elevated obesity rates and the surge in diet-related illnesses, food companies have received heightened scrutiny from

*see MCDONALD'S on page 7*

## MyPyramid - Getting Started

Source: [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)

USDA has released the MyPyramid food guidance system ([www.mypyramid.gov](http://www.mypyramid.gov)). Along with the new MyPyramid symbol, the system provides many options to help Americans make healthy food choices and to be active every day. Below is information that can help you navigate through the new MyPyramid system to educate consumers.



*see MYPYRAMID on page 10*

## Perception Versus Reality in American Class Consciousness

Source: New York Times, May 15, 2005

There is a widening gap between the rich and the poor in America. At the same time, mobility between classes has flattened out and possibly declined. Meanwhile, Americans tend to hold on to the view that ours is a highly mobile

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*see CLASS on page 9*

## The Underside of Salad

Source: Ode Magazine, May 2005

Pre-washed lettuce sold in plastic bags and ready for the salad bowl is one of the latest success stories of the ready-made food industry. But it comes with a price. The catalogue of the hip British sustainable clothing manufacturer HOWIES [autumn/winter 2004/2005] offered the recipe for washed salad:

*Firstly, four pinches of insecticides. Two pinches of fungicide. Two measures of herbicide. After picking, store in conditions that reduce the oxygen from 21% to 3% and replace with the corresponding amount of CO2. This is perfect for stopping the aging process so the salad still appears fresh, but it can't stop the goodness being lost with each day that passes. Keep in this state for anything up to a month. Then take some chlorine, 50 mg per litre should do it [a measure the equivalent of 20 times the strength of your local swimming pool and gently rinse.*

Then simply bag. Ready for sale. Now wash your hands of that.



# What's Going On

# an international perspective

## Iraqi Child Hunger Report Denied

Source: BBC, April 5, 2005

US and UK officials have denied reports that increasing numbers of children in Iraq are facing chronic food shortages and malnourishment. A recent UN report said malnutrition in under-fives had almost doubled since the US-led invasion of 2003.

The UK government says hunger levels fell between 2000 when a Unicef survey was carried out and 2004 when the Iraqi Statistical Office did its own survey. The US ambassador to the UN in Geneva also criticised the UN findings. The recent UN hunger report blamed the worsening situation in Iraq on the war led by coalition forces.



About 8% of Iraqi children are now going hungry compared with 4% under former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, Mr Ziegler told the UN Human Rights Commission meeting in Geneva.

Kevin Moley, the US ambassador to the UN in Geneva, dismissed Mr Ziegler's findings. "First, he has not been to Iraq, and second, he is wrong," he said, adding Mr Ziegler had been a long-term critic of the Iraq invasion. "The surveys that have been taken... have indicated that the recent rise in malnutrition rates began between 2002 and 2003 under the regime of Saddam Hussein," Mr Moley said. "If anything, vaccination and food aid have improved dramatically since the fall of Saddam Hussein," he added.

The UK's Department for International Development says the Unicef and Iraqi statistics suggests a decline in child malnutrition from 17.3% in 2000 to 11.7% in 2004. UK advisers in Baghdad are working with the Iraqi government on ways of reforming the food ration system to ensure that the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable families are protected. "Reform is needed in order to reduce the burden on Iraqi finances of providing free food to everyone, and the negative effects this has on domestic agriculture and food traders," a government spokesman said.

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## UN Video Game Makes Hunger Point

Source: BBC, April 14, 2005

A video game which aims to teach children about global hunger has been released by the United Nations. Food Force is the brainchild of the World Food Programme (WFP), which last year fed more than 100 million people.



The UN body seeks to capitalize on the popularity of video games to educate youngsters about hunger and the work of the aid agency. Written for the PC and Mac, the free game is aimed at eight to 13-year-olds for download at [www.food-force.com](http://www.food-force.com). Neil Gallagher, WFP's director of communications, said: "Children in the developed world don't know what it's like go to bed threatened by starvation.

"In an exciting and dynamic form, Food Force will generate kids' interest and understanding about hunger, which kills more people than AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined." Food Force was developed by Deepend, a computer design studio based in Rome, and game developers Playerthree in London. The challenge for players is to complete a series of missions, guided by a team of WFP characters.

There are six missions, each beginning with a briefing by one of the Food Force characters, who explains the challenge ahead. The player then has to complete the task - in which points are awarded for fast and accurate play and good decision making. The missions range from dropping food parcels from the air to a Sim City type game in which players use food aid to rebuild the country's economy.

At the end of each mission, players are shown a short video explaining how the aid agency would have dealt with the situation. Children can also compare their scores with other players across the world on the Food Force website. The game will be available first in English, with translation into other languages planned.

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*USDA continued*

does not match what it pays farmers to grow. In fact, fruit and vegetable farmers receive no subsidies from the government, though fruits and vegetables should make up the largest share of Americans' diets, according to the new pyramid.

"We're pleased that they continue to say that fruits and vegetables in general are important," said Robert Guenther, vice president of public policy for the United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Association, who would like federal help with marketing produce rather than subsidies for growing it. "But what we're saying to [the Agriculture Department] and others in Congress is you can't just issue these reports and this new pyramid and walk away. You need to get behind it."

Calvin Dooley, a California Democrat who retired from Congress last year, said U.S. farm policy has been developed with little regard for the diets of Americans. Rather, he said, it's the result of a Depression-era program that was supposed to give temporary relief to farmers for low commodity prices.

Farm subsidies primarily benefit a handful of "program" crops, including corn, soybeans, cotton, rice, wheat and sugar, which does not receive subsidies but is protected from foreign competition by tariffs and quotas, he said. "It's only products that have wheat and corn in them in the supermarket that get any subsidies," said Dooley, a farm owner and longtime member of the House Agriculture Committee.

Ed Loyd, an Agriculture Department spokesman, disputed the notion that there is a conflict between the agency's role of subsidizing certain crops and providing dietary advice. "I don't think there's a good basis there to make that correlation," Loyd said. "I think the question is being able to make informed decisions about how much food one eats. The issue isn't that there are bad foods."

For years, critics of the Agriculture Department have raised concerns about an alleged conflict between the agency's role in promoting both nutrition and agriculture. Two years ago, then-Sen. Peter Fitzgerald (R-Ill.) said allowing the USDA to provide nutrition advice was "like putting the fox in charge of the henhouse," and he introduced legislation to move the nutrition program to

the Department of Health and Human Services. His legislation fizzled.

Marion Nestle, a nutrition professor at New York University, said the Agriculture Department has struggled with a conflict of interest since its mission was expanded beyond farming to dietary advice and food assistance to the poor. The result, she said, is that lobbying from the food industry has historically influenced the agency's nutrition advice, including the composition of the new pyramid.

"The new pyramid brilliantly avoids giving any 'eat less' messages," she said. "The dietary take-home messages from USDA are: Exercise is what really matters, and you can eat anything you want."

"The instruction from Congress on commodity promotion [programs] is clear: to increase consumption of these commodities," Wilde said. "You have to ask overall, is it possible to have more beef consumption, more pork consumption and more dairy consumption and still be consistent with the dietary guidelines?"

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*MCDONALD's continued*

Congress and face threats of litigation from trial lawyers. In response, companies have fashioned "health and wellness" initiatives. And companies like McDonald's, Kraft, PepsiCo and the Coca-Cola Company have created advisory boards, putting people who might otherwise be critics on the payroll.

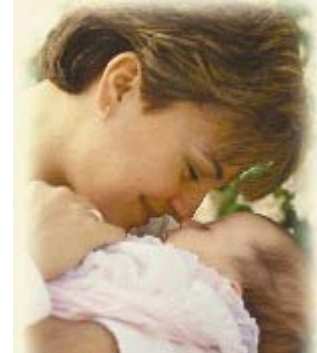
Some critics say that working for a large food company compromises the credibility of scientists' research and makes them look like part-time company representatives. They say advisory boards and tacit endorsements from health gurus do more to make companies look good and help them sell products than inspire change.

Dr. David Ludwig, director of the childhood obesity program at Children's Hospital in Boston, has also turned down paid consulting offers and says he has ruled out being on a company's advisory board, even unpaid. "If Coca-Cola were interested in my thoughts about how it could design more healthful products, I would be delighted to offer my opinion to them," said Dr. Ludwig. "But I won't accept money in return, nor will I accept a seat on their advisory board. I think it implies that you are representing the interests of the company."

# More ..... Information

## *WIC continued*

“Because scientific knowledge about nutrition has greatly increased since the WIC Program’s inception, and the nutritional challenges facing families have altered significantly, it is definitely time for a change in the foods offered through WIC,” explained Dr. Suzanne Murphy, a University of Hawaii professor and chair of the IOM committee. “We know more about the links between nutrition and chronic diseases, plus the nation is in the midst of an obesity epidemic,” added Dr. Murphy. “Our proposed revisions would make it easier for participants to improve their diets and health.”



Key changes would: offer fruits and vegetables for participants over six months; increase food choices by including yogurt, tofu, and soy milk; allow only milk with 2 percent or less fat for women and children over two years of age; mandate whole grain cereals, and include alternatives such as brown rice and tortillas. To keep the proposals cost neutral, the IOM recommended significantly cutting the monthly allotments of cheese and eggs and reducing the amount of juice and milk provided to participants.

Under a law passed by Congress in 2003, USDA will have 18 months to review the changes and issue final rules for their implementation. For additional details, see: <http://www.IOM.edu>

## *EAST FOOD continued*

Florida tomatoes and to adopt a code of conduct that would allow Taco Bell to sever ties to suppliers who commit abuses against farmworkers.



With that triumph, the farmworkers group is turning to a larger target: the rest of the fast-food industry. The coalition has sent letters

to executives at McDonald’s, Subway and Burger King asking them to follow Taco Bell’s lead. “When we started this, it was like man going to the moon - nobody thought it was possible,” said Lucas Benitez, a leader of the coalition. “With the help of people around the country, we have built a way to go to the moon. Now we must continue moving forward.”

The fast-food chain, which buys 10 million pounds of Florida tomatoes a year, has also agreed to help the farmworkers persuade the other fast-food chains, and eventually supermarket retailers, to increase pay and

monitor suppliers to make sure farmworkers are not held against their will, beaten or forced into indentured servitude.

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers formed a dozen years ago to help increase the wages of farmworkers, who earn as little as 40 cents for every 32-pound bucket of tomatoes picked, according to the group.

In the late 1990’s, the coalition began investigating slavery cases in which farmworkers were being beaten and held against their will by labor contractors. A coalition member, Romeo Ramirez, went undercover to help the authorities build a case, taking a job with labor contractors suspected of illegally detaining workers. The coalition has helped investigate five slavery cases that have gone to trial and is in the middle of investigating three new cases in central and north Florida. Mr. Benitez, Mr. Ramirez and Julia Gabriel, also a coalition member, received the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award in 2003 for investigating farmworker slavery.

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*BUSCH continued*

commercial rice production in this state, we will not purchase any rice produced or processed in Missouri if Ventria introduces its pharma rice here,” Jim Hoffmeister, a vice president at Anheuser-Busch, said Tuesday.

Scott Deeter, president of Sacramento-based Ventria, called Anheuser-Busch’s threat “totally irresponsible” and said fears of contamination are overblown. He cited Ventria’s plans to use “a totally closed system of production” with a plant that pollinates itself and is separated geographically from any other crop.

Biopharming has been growing for a decade despite continued attacks from genetic engineering foes who fear such work hasn’t been studied enough to ensure the safety of the nation’s food supply if accidental mixing occurs. Genetically modified crops are regulated by the USDA, with state governments allowed to review safety procedures and suggest more stringent regulation of the companies before a permit is issued.

Since 1995, the USDA has approved more than 300 biopharming plantings around the country, though most are for small outdoor plots of less than an acre each. If Ventria’s application is approved, it would be the largest such growth site to date, USDA spokeswoman Karen



Eggert said. No human drug made from genetically engineered crops has been approved for commercial use.

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*CLASS continued*

society where people move in and out of social classes easily. New research suggests that economic advantage actually lasts five generations instead of two or three, as was believed a few decades ago.



According to Gary Solon, a University of Michigan economist, “people would say, ‘Don’t worry about inequality. The offspring of the poor have chances as good as the chances of the offspring of the rich.’ Well, that’s not true. It’s not respectable in scholarly circles anymore to make that argument.” Another mobility researcher, David I. Levine, points out that “being born in the elite in the U.S. gives you a constellation of privileges that very few people in the world have ever experienced. Being born poor in the U.S. gives you disadvantages unlike anything in Western Europe and Japan and Canada.”

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The issue has already roiled California’s \$500 million-a-year rice industry. Last year, California regulators denied Ventria’s application to grow commercial quantities of rice with human genes after rice growers said they feared international customers would refuse to buy conventionally grown crops out of contamination fears.

Meanwhile, farmers in southeast Missouri, where nearly the state’s entire \$100 million rice crop is grown, have presented Missouri’s agriculture director a petition with 175 signatures opposing the plans. Missouri is the sixth-largest rice-producing state. Despite the concerns, the Missouri Farm Bureau has continued to support Ventria, which recently announced it was moving from Sacramento, Calif., to Northwest Missouri State University to be the anchor tenant of a new center for plant-made pharmaceuticals.

More

# Information

*MYPYRAMID continued*

**MyPyramid symbol** – ([www.mypyramid.gov/downloads/MyPyramid\\_Anatomy.pdf](http://www.mypyramid.gov/downloads/MyPyramid_Anatomy.pdf))

These are physical activity, variety, proportionality, moderation, gradual improvement, and finally personalization. More information on these messages can be found on the “Anatomy of MyPyramid” handout.

**MyPyramid’s Basic Messages** – ([www.mypyramid.gov/downloads/MiniPoster.pdf](http://www.mypyramid.gov/downloads/MiniPoster.pdf)) These can be found on the miniposter and the website. For example:

- Eat at least 3 ounces of whole-grain cereals, rice, or pasta every day;
- Go low-fat or fat-free when you choose milk, yogurt, and other milk products and
- Choose food and beverages low in added sugars.

**MyPyramid Plan—Help consumers find the kinds and amounts of foods they should eat each day at MyPyramid.gov** ([www.mypyramid.gov/professionals/food\\_tracking\\_wksht.html](http://www.mypyramid.gov/professionals/food_tracking_wksht.html))

When they enter their age, gender, and activity level, they get their own plan at an appropriate calorie level. The food plan includes specific daily amounts from each food group and a limit for discretionary calories (fats, added sugars, alcohol). Their food plan is one of the 12 calorie levels of the food intake patterns from the Dietary Guidelines. They can print out a personalized miniposter of their plan, and a worksheet to help them track their progress and choose goals for tomorrow and the future.

**MyPyramid Tracker — for consumers who want a detailed assessment and analysis of their current eating and physical activity habits, have them try MyPyramid Tracker** ([www.mypyramidtracker.gov/](http://www.mypyramidtracker.gov/)). This dietary and physical activity assessment tool asks for entry of all foods eaten each day and all physical activities performed.

From this, a wealth of output shows their current status in comparison to the 2005 Dietary Guidelines recommendations, nutrient intake, and energy balance. A history function allows consumers to track their progress over time, up to one year.

**Additional Information**, such as a 7-day menu plan at 2000 calories and tips for eating out can be found at: [www.mypyramid.gov/tips\\_resources/index.html](http://www.mypyramid.gov/tips_resources/index.html)



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- Save the Date -

National Community Action Partnership's  
2005 Annual Conference

The Partnership's 2005 Annual Convention will take place **August 30–September 2, 2005**, in New Orleans, Louisiana, at the New Orleans Marriott hotel. Call 1-800-654-3990 for reservations, \$149 single/double, \$159 view or go to [www.communityactionpartnership.com](http://www.communityactionpartnership.com) for additional information.

National Hunger Awareness Day –  
June 7, 2005

National Hunger Awareness Day 2005, is the grassroots movement to raise awareness about the solvable problem of hunger in America. Tuesday, June 7th, 2005, will mark this year's observance with activities taking place in communities across America.

Get involved. Whether you're an individual, a member of a group, or an employee of a corporation, your participation is welcomed in the National Hunger Awareness Day activities.

Visit [www.hungerday.org](http://www.hungerday.org) to view materials that can be used to promote this very important day. Join in this effort to end hunger, **you can make a difference.**

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If someone you know has an interest in food assistance programs or nutrition advocacy, we would be happy to add them to our mailing list.

The break bread staff would like to thank the USDA's midwest region, food and nutrition service for the inspiration for this newsletter. Their newsletter, *insight...out*, focuses on nutrition news and can be obtained by contacting [kathleen.fiorito@fns.usda.gov](mailto:kathleen.fiorito@fns.usda.gov).

## ICAA's Mission Statement

The Illinois Community Action Association is a membership organization which serves as the network for Illinois' not-for-profit corporations and units of government which strive to raise the health, education and economic standards of the low income population in every county within the State of Illinois. The Illinois Community Action Association serves the collective interests of its members by: advocating public policies, promoting the value of the Association, providing information on issues relevant to the membership, and building partnerships that advance the community action network.

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