

## WRI ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

# Report on School Breakfast Shows Progress, Work Still Needed

Check out this [report](#) by the Advocates for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ), about free school breakfast programs. Although there has been tremendous improvement over the last four years, New Jersey still has much work to do to make sure every eligible child receives a free breakfast.

Three of our 8 South Jersey counties have improved their statewide ranking, and **Cumberland County remains the number 1 top performer** in providing free school breakfasts to

### South Jersey Children Receiving Free Breakfast

| COUNTY     | % PARTICIPATING | 2013 RANKING | 2014 RANKING | UNCLAIMED FEDERAL DOLLARS |
|------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Atlantic   | 44%             | 4            | 7            | \$2,343,720               |
| Burlington | 32%             | 18           | 15           | \$1,858,178               |
| Camden     | 50%             | 8            | 5            | \$2,604,689               |
| Cape May   | 53%             | 3            | 2            | \$313,115                 |
| Cumberland | 56%             | 1            | 1            | \$1,246,660               |
| Gloucester | 32%             | 13           | 16           | \$1,682,550               |
| Ocean      | 33%             | 12           | 14           | \$2,931,751               |
| Salem      | 32%             | 16           | 17           | \$621,785                 |

children who are eligible, yet Cumberland County school districts are still only serving 56% of the students who are eligible to receive them. Salem County school districts have the lowest 2014 statewide ranking of the 8 South Jersey counties at 17 out of the 21 counties.

The free school breakfast program is fully reimbursed by the Federal government. Therefore

by these county school districts not serving breakfast to the eligible children, they collectively leave \$13,602,448 on the table! **Everybody knows that students learn better when they are not hungry.**

Betsy Beavers joined WRI in July 2014 as an Administrative Assistant. She holds Bachelor's Degrees in English and German from Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA. She has worked in a variety of capacities, such as paralegal and corporate administration.

Kathleen Johnston joined WRI as a project assistant in September 2014. She received her Bachelor's Degree from Saint Louis University in International Studies in Spanish and is currently studying for her Master's in Public Administration here at Rutgers-Camden. She is currently working on the Delinquency Prevention Project.

WRI welcomes Amanda Moscillo, who joined WRI as a project assistant in September 2014 and is working on the Delinquency Prevention Project. She received her Bachelor's Degree and is currently pursuing her Master's Degree from Rutgers-Camden both in the field of Criminal Justice.

Check our updated website: [HTTP://WRAND.RUTGERS.EDU/](http://wrand.rutgers.edu/) and our new Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/walterrandinstitute>

Questions or comments, please contact us at [wrand@camden.rutgers.edu](mailto:wrand@camden.rutgers.edu) or call 856-225-6566.