



**SCHOLARS**  
STRATEGY NETWORK

## Providing School Meals for All Is a Win for CT Families

**Brooke Bennett**, Clemson University

Hunger affects one in eight children in **Connecticut**. We have an opportunity to change that by supporting the provision of universal school meals for all students.

The School Breakfast Program and the National School Lunch Program are available in nearly all districts and provide meals that meet strong nutrition standards. Most people know that these meals are available at no cost for low-income families. However, most people don't know a family of four must have a pre-tax income of **no more than \$36,075** to qualify for free meals and **no more than \$51,338** to qualify for reduced-cost meals.