

**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
July 1, 2009

**CONTACT:** Gretchen Wright  
202/371-1999

**Hunger After the School Bell:  
A Briefing on the Congressional Reauthorization  
Of the Afterschool and Summer Child Nutrition Programs**

**WHAT:** Briefing for policymakers, advocates, and media on the vital roles played by the afterschool and summer nutrition programs in providing food for hungry children. The briefing will also highlight the actions needed in the upcoming Child Nutrition Reauthorization to improve the programs.

**WHEN:** Wednesday, July 8, 2 - 3 p.m.

**WHERE:** Capitol Visitors Center, North Meeting Room

**WHO:** Speakers will include representatives from the Food Research and Action Center and the Afterschool Alliance, as well as representatives from afterschool and summer programs in Iowa, Maryland, and New York.

The Afterschool Alliance and the Food Research and Action Center, in conjunction with the Senate Hunger Caucus and the House and Senate Afterschool Caucuses, invite you to a policy briefing which will examine the strengths of the before-school, afterschool and summer nutrition programs as well as strategies to expand them. When the school day ends or schools close for the summer, millions of children rely on afterschool and summer programs to provide them with healthy and nutritious food. But, the programs as structured now reach too few children and there is an urgent need to expand their reach.

At the event, FRAC will share newly released state-by-state data on participation in the Summer Nutrition Programs. The Afterschool Alliance will share a recent report that highlights the effect a weakened economy is having on afterschool programs serving low-income families. Panelists will explore how programs are working in the states and examine ways to increase program enrollment among those in need. Speakers will address the specific steps policymakers can take to improve these child nutrition programs which are due to be reauthorized by Congress this year.

# # #

*The Afterschool Alliance is a nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. More information is available at [www.afterschoolalliance.org](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org).*

*The Food Research and Action Center ([www.frac.org](http://www.frac.org)) is the leading national organization working for more effective public and private policies to eradicate domestic hunger and undernutrition.*