



## *Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund*

### Did You Know?

#### *Fast Facts About Hunger and Poverty in Kentucky and North America*

- The poverty rate among children is on the rise. Thirteen million children (approximately 17.8 percent) in the United States live in poverty. Kentucky's rate of 18.4 percent remains higher than the national average.
- Research indicates that even mild under-nutrition during critical periods of growth impacts the behavior of young children, their school performance, and their overall cognitive development.
- According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, an estimated 13.8 million children lived in food-insecure households in 2006, an increase of 10 percent over 2005.
- 30 percent of client households with seniors had to choose between buying food and paying for utilities and heating fuel. [*Hunger in America 2006*]
- Nearly half of all non-elderly low-income families that used a food pantry last year were working families with children. [*Urban Institute, Many Families Turn to Food Pantries for Help*]
- It is estimated that 8.5 million people, including 2.9 million children, live in homes that experience hunger -- where meals are frequently skipped or individuals go without food for a whole day. [*U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States, 2006*]
- Over \$1.4 million in domestic hunger funds was distributed to 1,900 hunger ministries in the U.S. in 2006.
- Over \$52,000 in Kentucky hunger funds was distributed last year.
- Over 3.5 million meals were fed to the hungry in North America with hunger funds.
- Over 58,000 meals were provided to the hungry in Kentucky last year with hunger funds.
- The Gospel was shared with over 600,000 people, at their point of need through hunger ministries.
- There were over 30,000 professions of faith as a result of hunger ministries throughout the world. That includes 113 decisions for Christ last year as a direct result of ministries supported by Kentucky hunger funds.

