

## Hunger Study 2010

This study is conducted every four years and gives the Houston Food Bank insight into hunger in Southeast Texas. Clients are randomly selected from a sampling of 450 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and other hunger relief charities across 18 Southeast Texas counties.

### Clients Served

- **865,800** unique individuals require assistance from HFB annually, a **74% increase** from 2006
- Each week we feed **137,000** people, up from 80,000 people fed per week in 2006, an **increase of 70%**
- Only **23%** of our clients receive **food stamps**, a reflection of the low participation in the food stamps program in Southeast Texas

### Difficult Choices

- 60% of our clients are forced to choose between paying utility bills and putting food on the table, up 13% from the last hunger study
- 52% of our clients must choose between paying for food and the mortgage
- The number of clients choosing between going to the doctor or filling prescriptions and paying for food has risen to 43% since the last Hunger Study

### Face of Hunger in Southeast Texas

- 47% are children
- 49% of households have at least one working adult
- 94% are **not** homeless
- 18% of our clients are Anglo, 39% are African-American, and 41% are Hispanic; a fairly balanced cross-section of our community

**81%** of the clients we feed are food insecure, meaning they live with the day-to-day risk of running out of food.

### Agencies

- Volunteers are essential to HFB and our agencies: More than 90% of our agencies rely on volunteers
- 68% of our agencies are faith based; e.g. congregations, social service ministries

*\*Data is based on a local and nationwide survey conducted on behalf of Feeding America by Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.*