

National Commission on Hunger hosts public hearing in El Paso, TX

El Paso, TX (June 19, 2015) — The National Commission on Hunger invites the public to provide input on how to ensure Americans have access to sufficient, healthy food. Public testimony will inform the Commission's recommendations to Congress and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The 10-member National Commission on Hunger is a congressionally appointed bipartisan commission charged with developing innovative reforms in both public and private food assistance programs to reduce or eliminate food insecurity. The recommendations are meant to include ways to more effectively use USDA programs and funds. As part of its information-gathering process, the Commission is conducting a series of public hearings across the country.



The Commission, in collaboration with USDA, RTI International, and the Texas Hunger Initiative, will host a public hearing in El Paso, TX, on June 26, 2015, at **The La Fe Culture and Technology Center, 721 South Ochoa (Rear Building), El Paso, TX 79901** from 9 am – 6 pm MDT. Invited speakers will testify from 9:00 am – 4:00pm MDT and include:

- Salvador Balcorta, CEO, Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe, Inc.
- Laurie Biscoe, Deputy Director of the Workforce Development Commission, Texas Workforce Commission
- Janet Bono, Workforce Services Program Administrator, Workforce Solutions Borderplex
- Celia Cole, CEO, Feeding Texas
- Linda Farr, Speaker-elect of the House of Delegates, The Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Kathy Komoll, Executive Director, New Mexico Association of Food Banks
- Kathy Krey, Director of Research, Texas Hunger Initiative
- Oscar Munoz, Program Director, Texas A&M Colonias Project in the Center for Housing and Urban Development
- Kori Reed, Vice President, Cause and Foundation, ConAgra Foods
- Joseph R. Sharkey, Professor of Health Promotion and Community Health Science, School of Public Health, Texas A&M Health Science Center; Founding Director, Program for Research and Outreach-Engagement on Nutrition and Health Disparities
- Kathy Underhill, Executive Director, Hunger Free Colorado

The Commission will also listen to testimony from the general public from 4 pm – 6 pm MDT. The public and media are invited to the full hearing. The public can sign up for specific times to testify on the website or on the day of the hearing at The La Fe Culture and Technology Center.

To learn more about the Commission, the public hearing, invited speakers, and upcoming events, visit the Commission website at <https://hungercommission.rti.org/>.

To contact the Commission:

- 1) submit a message at <https://hungercommission.rti.org/Contact> or
- 2) send a tweet to the Commission [@NatlCommHunger](#).

The Hunger Commission held public hearings in Albany, New York; Little Rock, Arkansas; and Oakland, California. Additional hearings are scheduled in Washington, DC and Portland, Maine.

For further information on this El Paso, Texas event or other Commission activities, please contact Andrea S. Anater, PhD at RTI International at 919-541-6977 or aanater@rti.org.