



Steve McCoid, Chairman of the State Task Force on Hunger, offers several suggestions that have come from a year and a half of study.

Possible relief solutions offered

By June Russell
Emerald Reporter

A one cent tax on carbonated beverages and additional funding to state programs were among the recommendations made Wednesday by the State Task Force on Hunger following an 18-month investigation of the hunger problem in Oregon.

The task force found that in 1989 more than 380,000 Oregonians — 14 percent of the state

population — accessed the emergency food system. Almost 50 percent of these people are children under the age of twelve, said task force chairman Steve McCoid.

Currently, hunger relief efforts in Oregon fall to private nonprofit agencies and the federal government through the Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program, the Food Stamp Program and the Women, Infants and Children Program.

Another recommendation of the task force involved requiring school districts to participate in the national school breakfast program by the beginning of the 1992-93 school year if 25 percent or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced price lunches or where other criteria are met.

According to task force findings 74 percent of the schools in the state do not have school

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