

An major issue in Education is poverty. Poverty has a major impact on childrens education and their ability to learn. Poverty has impacts on hunger, illness, insecurity, and instability. The idea of food accessibility stemming from the children not eating breakfast, due to the fact that they dont have lunch money, and they are unable to get resources for food from their families. This is why it is vital that schools offer free and reduced lunch/breakfast options for students in poverty, but also those that might not fall below the line but have no access to food. All students who are unable to be properly fueled will struggle with academics, they will also have increased food insecurity as they grow older. Food insecurity at such a young age can increase the chances of eating disorders as well as other mental health disorders regarding food. Sometimes, when children are unable to receive proper nutrients their immune systems will be weakened and they will have a harder time fighting off illness, illness with a young and weakened immune system can lead to hospitalization or even death. If children come from unstable homes, whether it comes from poverty, divorce, or neglect, they will most likely have behaviors that seem 'rude' or exaggerated and they will be unable to focus in class as well as overall just be a distraction in the classroom. We need to give children the resources they need to live in a healthy, motivated, safe environment where they can experience life no matter their parents' economical status. Children who have these resources are more likely to succeed because they have support and people to help them achieve their goals. If we do not provide these services for children they will have a harder time focusing in classes, and growing as individuals, and they will have a much harder time being able to get jobs and become successful adults. What we can do to help is host fundraisers for families to get resources such as food, medical care, and educational materials. Instead of shaming kids for what they don't have, we can give it to them. Having free/reduced lunch/breakfast provided at schools will benefit children and their future lives. I want all children and families to be able to obtain free and reduced food, but also access to medical care and educational materials. Students around the nation but even in our quaint town of Sheboygan experience the effects of poverty. As educators following the NAEYC code of ethics, P-4-12, when we have evidence that an agency that provides services intended to ensure children's wellbeing is failed to meet its obligations, we acknowledge a collective ethical responsibility to report the problem, to appropriate authorities, YOU or to the public. We shall be vigilant in our follow-up until the situation is resolved. So we need your help in order to provide all students and families with the necessary items.