



American Society for Nutrition  
*Excellence in Nutrition Research and Practice*

## **Edward M. Cooney**

Edward M. Cooney served as the Executive Director of the Congressional Hunger Center (CHC) from 2001 to 2015. Prior to joining CHC, Ed was an anti-hunger advocate at the Food Research and Action Center and Connecticut Legal Services. From September 1997 to January 2001, Ed held two senior positions at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as Deputy Administrator for Special Nutrition Programs and Special Assistant for Nutrition to USDA Secretary Dan Glickman. Ed was a member of USDA's Senior Executive Service, the government's top management team.

As an advocate or as a nutrition program administrator, Ed worked with allied groups on every major children nutrition and Food Stamp (SNAP) bill since 1977. His viewpoint on nutrition program and policy issues is sought by key Congressional staff, the Executive branch of government (Food and Nutrition Service, USDA and White House staff) and national anti-hunger organizations.

Ed was a founding member of the National Academies Institute of Medicine's Roundtable on Obesity Solutions and currently serves as a member of the Board of Advisors to the Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University. Ed received the Gene White Lifetime Achievement Award for Child Nutrition from the Global Child Nutrition Association and the School Nutrition Association in 2008.

Ed represented CHC as a member of the National Anti-Hunger Organizations (NAHO). Ed also participated as a consultant to the National Food Service Management Institute on the USDA-funded project: History of School Lunch Programs in the U.S. He has been a member of the Child Nutrition Forum Steering Committee as well as an ex officio member of the National CACFP Forum Board of Directors. At CHC Ed was a partner with the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) on a major anti-hunger initiative. NCSL and its public and private sector partners wish to raise the visibility of hunger in America and improve the availability of healthy foods for hungry families. Ed also works with groups and private sector companies interested in preserving food choice in SNAP. Ed was a founding member of the Tyson Animal Well-Being Advisory Panel and a member of the National Advisory Board of the Society of St. Andrew, chaired by former Senator Elizabeth Dole. Ed was a board member of the Community Food Security Coalition from 2006 through 2011. Ed received a BA degree in History from the College of the Holy Cross and a JD degree from the University of Connecticut Law School. Ed is now retired.