

## REPORT CARD ON HUNGER KINGSTON, 2009



The Food Providers Networking Group is a coalition of food providing organizations in Kingston. Our numbers show that more and more people in Kingston are turning to food banks and emergency meal programs to get by each month.

How does Kingston measure up?

**Hungry Kingstonians:** A+  
for surviving on inadequate benefits and low wages in the face of rising rent and food costs.

**Kingston's Food Providers:** A+  
For creativity and resilience in meeting the steadily increasing need for food in the community.

**Politicians and Policy Makers.** Need Improvement  
for being slow to implement changes that will help to alleviate poverty and hunger in Ontario.

## Kingston Facts on Hunger 2009

- The Partners in Mission Food Bank reports an increase of 35% in new clients this year.
- Faced with a dramatic and unanticipated rise in the need for groceries in July, 2009, St Vincent de Paul has had to limit people to getting groceries every other month

Meal programs in Kingston report steady increases in the numbers of meals served.

- This September, Lunch by George, the lunch program at St George's Cathedral, saw a surge of almost 24% more meals served compared to September 2008.
- The Food Sharing Project which provides nutrition to students at schools in the KFL&A region has added 5 new schools to its program since the beginning of this school year. The Food Sharing Project feeds 3800 children a day.
- Martha's Table reports that "we are seeing more and more families with young children than ever before at our tables".
- So far in 2009, Martha's Table is serving an average of 315 more meals per month than in 2008.

**We call on elected officials  
and policy makers to  
Pull Up Their Grades.**

For more information on campaigns and issues that address poverty, hunger and homelessness in Kingston and in Ontario, visit <http://dothemath.thestop.org/> or <http://lovingspoonful.org>