

Two Hunger Organizations Meet



California hunger activists (left to True, Sam Karp and Marion Standish.

The California Child Care Food Program Roundtable, an organization composed of Child Care Food Program sponsors, child care advocates, state child nutrition program officials and representatives from the U.S. Agriculture Department, met in Pasadena, California on May 14.

The Roundtable alternates its meetings between Southern and Northern California. Patti Whitney-Wise of the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation provides the staff support and leadership to the Roundtable. The inspiration for the Roundtable was the November 1977 Agriculture Department hearings on the operation of child nutrition programs. At these hearings information was exchanged and contacts were made and an action agenda on child care food issues began to emerge.

Initially, state officials from the Office of Child Nutrition Services were hesitant about participation to a "roundtable approach" to solving problems. However, at the recent May 15 meeting of the Roundtable, six state agency officials made presentations during the first part of the session. Officials from state child nutrition office and state auditors responded to questions and concerns about program operations, new audit regulations and state agency policies on CCFP.

During the second half of the meeting, Whitney-Wise and Food Research and Action Center Deputy Director Ed Cooney gave updates on state and federal legislative activities.

California Roundtable is noted by child nutrition experts as one unique and very successful example of how child

Northern California Hunger Action Coalition Meets

On May 16, 1986 the Northern California Hunger Action Coalition held a conference on "Impact on Hunger Through Legislation" in Oakland, California. Laurie True of coalition and Marion Standish, executive director of the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, provided the format at the forum for a variety of speakers from California and Washington, D.C.

The principal focus of the meeting was a panel discussion of what kind of hunger action agenda is possible today, given the fiscal constraints imposed under the federal Gramm-Rudman-Hollings legislation and a California tax initiative known as the Gann appropriation limit. The Gann initiative, enacted by California voters under Proposition 4 in 1979, limits government spending to the amount spent in 1978 through 1979, adjusted each year only by the rate of inflation and population growth. Any tax revenue collected in excess of this amount is required to be rebated to taxpayers. Those funds may not be spent on new programs under the law.

Sam Karp, Executive Director of the Santa Cruz-based Food and Nutrition Services, gave a general outline of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings law and Cooney highlighted the House Budget Committee strategies to fund low-income programs despite restrictions imposed by the budget balancing act.

Lenny Goldberg of the California Tax Reform Association and Candace Blase of the Friends Committee on Legislation spoke about the need to either create an

CHILD CARE FOOD PROGRAM ROUNDTABLE

In association with

**CALIFORNIA FOOD POLICY ADVOCATES
(CFPA)**

Submittal of

A Work Plan for Delivering Organizational Development Services

To

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