

**The Honorable Eva M. Clayton**  
**U.S. Representative of Colorado (1992–2003)**

**Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress**

**Reflecting on the Past**

Representative Clayton explains the connection between her mother and her legislative interest in food and hunger.

*Interview recorded May 15, 2015*

And, and interesting, as you, as you mature you begin to realize that it's some reflection of what your parents did. Early in the school I went to, because of my age and also the segregation, we didn't have a lunchroom. I think kids carried food from home or wherever. But my mother became the president of the PTA, and she was insistent that there be a lunchroom. And they made a lunchroom out of almost a school closet where they kept books, and she and one other person, they would rotate. And they would give, finally the school began giving oranges and fruit, you know, and that was the beginning of a lunchroom. So part of, part of my evolution to food was my mother.