

# Help Fuel Summer Fun!



## Add Value with Summer Meals

### Children need healthy food to thrive.

However, low-income kids in our state lack consistent access to it. School meals help—more than one million students rely on them statewide—but during the summer months, hundreds of thousands of young people face a nutrition gap.

Kids who lack consistent access to quality food are more likely to be sick, less focused on learning, hyperactive, undernourished, and overweight. They are also more likely to experience anxiety and have less energy.

### Your organization can help!

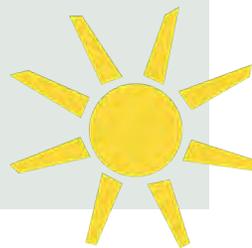
Places in low-income communities where young people gather may be eligible to offer free, nutritious meals and/or snacks through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

#### Under-tapped sites include:

- summer enrichment programs
- housing communities
- libraries
- farmers' markets
- health clinics and medical centers
- YMCAs
- Boys and Girls Clubs
- museums

#### Tried-and-true sites include:

- schools
- faith-based organizations
- public parks, playgrounds, and pools
- low-cost summer camps



**You'll provide low-income kids and teens access to good nutrition. Your organization will benefit as well.**

**Summer meals:**

**Further strengthen your organization's reputation** and commitment to patrons.

**Enrich your youth programs:** Providing meals or snacks will enhance your offerings and may attract new patrons.

**Can be offered at little or no cost:** Public funding is available to cover food and related costs for summer meals. Most organizations use existing resources to help out with meal/snack service.



### **Learn more and get involved:**

**Connect with a summer meals site or sponsor** at an organization similar to yours to find out more, or ask us to connect you.

**Spread the word!** Notify families and caregivers about local meal sites through word-of-mouth, post bulletins, and provide details on your website and social media.

**Invite existing sponsors** to host a meal site on your property if your community lacks summer meal sites.

**Become a summer meals site or sponsor** and provide free meals to kids this summer.

**Visit [SummerMealsNY.org](http://SummerMealsNY.org)** for eligibility information, outreach materials, a summer meals mapper, sponsor contacts, and more.

**To locate summer meal sites** during summer months, call 1-866-348-6479, dial 2-1-1, or text "Food" or "Comida" to 877-877.

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#### *Additional Online Resources*

US Department of Agriculture  
NY State Education Department

[FoodHelpNY.org](http://FoodHelpNY.org)  
[SummerMealsNY.org](http://SummerMealsNY.org)  
[ChildcareMealsNY.org](http://ChildcareMealsNY.org)  
[SchoolMealsHubNY.org](http://SchoolMealsHubNY.org)  
[AfterschoolMealsNY.org](http://AfterschoolMealsNY.org)

[HungerSolutionsNY.org](http://HungerSolutionsNY.org)  



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