



Office of Food and Nutrition Service
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Brian Ralph, Director

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June 3, 2019

MEMORANDUM

To: Community Partner

From: Brian Ralph
Director of Food and Nutrition Service

Subject: 2019 Summer Meals Program

Childhood food insecurity remains at unacceptable levels across the country and children are most acutely at risk during the summer, when they do not have access to school meals. In 2015, about 3.8 million children received Summer Meals - far fewer than the 21 million children who receive free or reduced price lunches through the National School Lunch Program during the school year. This means that during the summer we are not reaching the vast majority of children who rely on school meals to meet their nutritional needs. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) operates summer meals programs to address this problem.

We are pleased to inform you that our 2019 Open Site Summer Meals Program will begin on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 and run through Wednesday, August 21, 2019. The program hours will vary from location to location. All children 18 years of age and younger who drop in at any of the sites may receive free meals. Parents or guardians do not need to apply to get these summer meals for their children.

Community partners play an important role in caring for students and helping them achieve and excel during the school year. We believe that your organization can help us reach out and connect families with summer meals, thereby continuing to make a difference in the lives of our students after the school year ends. We are requesting your help to make access and participation in the summer meals program a priority. Please encourage your constituents to share information, reach out, and connect families with the 2019 Summer Meals Program before the school year ends. The program needs champions like you!

Please see/share the attached information with constituents.

If you have any questions, please contact HCPSS Food and Nutrition Service at 410-313-7134 or at www.hcpss.org/food-services.

cc: Mr. James LeMon, Executive Director of Community, Parent and School Outreach
Ms. Mary Schiller, Partnerships Office Manager

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