



Summer Meals Newsletter

APRIL 2017 • SPONSORS

SPRING IS HERE AND SUMMER IS NEAR—TIME TO
KICK OUR PLANNING INTO HIGH GEAR!

Upcoming USDA and Partner Events

**April 6, 1:00 PM EDT | [Summer Meals in Rural and Tribal Areas](#)
Conference Call (Summer Meals
Matter Monthly Training Series) |
Food Research and Action Center
(FRAC)**

FRAC's Summer Meals Matter monthly training call or webinar typically occurs the first Thursday of the month at 1:00 PM EDT. Mark your calendars for future reference!

What's New

Farm to Summer Webinar Now Available

Incorporating local and seasonal foods into your summer program is an excellent way to improve the quality and appeal of meals while supporting your local economy. Recently, USDA's [Office of Community Food Systems](#) hosted a webinar on how sponsors' Farm to Summer efforts can be supported by State agencies and regional offices. View the webinar [here](#) to get ideas for how you can work with your State agency to better incorporate Farm to Summer principles into your program. More information on Farm to Summer is available [here](#).

Updated Power Up for Summer Fun Resources

Summer Meals promotional materials have been updated for summer 2017. Check out the flyers, posters, bookmarks, and business cards [here](#).

SUMMER FOOD, SUMMER MOVES

Summer Food, Summer Moves is a fun, hands-on resource kit to help get kids excited about healthy eating and physical activity during the summer months. Designed for use by summer meal site operators, the kit focuses on using music, games, art, and movement to motivate children to choose more fruits and vegetables, to choose water instead of sugary drinks, to get enough physical activity every day, and to limit screen time.

The resource kit includes:

- An operator activity guide
- Activity guides for families
- Posters
- Flyers
- Placemats
- Recipes for a healthy summer



Resources are available in both English and Spanish. Printed resources for SFSP operators are available for order [here](#).

All materials are also available for electronic download [here](#).



Announcing the Inaugural Turnip the Beet Winners!

USDA recently awarded the first-ever Turnip the Beet awards, recognizing outstanding Summer Meal Program sponsors who work hard to offer high quality meals that are appetizing, appealing, and nutritious. Summer sites have the opportunity to positively impact children's healthy development by offering nutritious meals and encouraging children to develop healthy habits at a young age. Plus, kids vote with their feet in the summer! Offering meals that children enjoy can help sustain and increase participation.

In 2016, 49 sponsors from across the country earned Bronze, Silver, or Gold Turnip the Beet awards. Congratulations to all of the 2016 awardees! We thank you for your commitment to the health and well-being of our nation's children and encourage you to keep up the great work.

Gold Award Winners

Lakeside Union School District (CA)
FLIPANY (FL)
Baldwin County School Nutrition (GA)
Carrollton City Schools (GA)
Northern Illinois Food Bank (IL)
Abilene Public Schools (KS)

OLHSA Meet Up and Eat Up (MI)
Buncombe County Schools (NC)
Chapel Hill & Carrboro City Schools Food for the Summer (NC)
Wauzeka-Steuben School District (WI)



Silver Award Winners

Tallapoosa County Schools (AL)
Tuscaloosa County School System (AL)
Hope Public School District (AR)
Manteca Unified Nutrition Education (CA)
Natomas Unified School District Nutrition Services (CA)
West Contra Costa Unified School District (CA)
City of Aurora Parks, Recreation and Open Space (CO)
Brantley County Summer Lunch Program (GA)
Carroll County School Nutrition Program (GA)
Cherokee County School Nutrition Program (GA)
Douglas County Schools (GA)
Floyd County Schools (GA)
Fulton County School Nutrition Program (GA)
Marietta City Schools School Nutrition Program (GA)
North Lawrence Community Schools (IN)
Dare to Care Community Kitchen (KY)

Owensboro Public Schools (KY)
Calvert County Public Schools Judy Centers (MD)
Buchanan Community Schools (MI)
Fenton Area Public Schools (MI)
Coahoma County School District (MS)
True Vine Life Center (MS)
Swope Corridor Renaissance (MO)
YWCA of Adams County (NE)
YMCA of Western North Carolina (NC)
Oklahoma Regional Food Bank's Hope Kitchen (OK)
Lawrence County Social Services (PA)
Cumberland County School Nutrition (TN)
Putnam County Schools (TN)
Green Bay Area Public Schools (WI)
Sheboygan Area School District (WI)



Bronze Award Winners

Rogers Public School District (AR)
Capital School District (DE)
Seaford School District (DE)
Savannah-Chatham School Nutrition Program (GA)

Ray Bird Ministries (IN)
Gwinn Area Community Schools (MI)
Columbus Municipal School District (MS)
Rockingham County Schools (NC)

