



Summer Meals Newsletter

OCTOBER 2016 • SPONSORS

SUMMER 2016 WAS GREAT...
LET'S START PLANNING FOR AN EVEN GREATER 2017!

Great News!!

With your help, New York state exceeded their goal of a 3% increase in summer meals! Thank you to all of our sponsors! Lets get out there and try to feed even more kids next summer!

Don't forget to submit your claims on time!

- August claims must be in by **October 30th**
- September claims must be in by **November 30th**



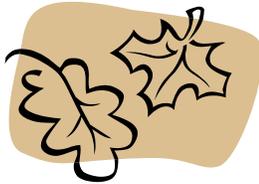
Keeping People Connected



The USDA National Hunger Hotline is a resource for individuals and families seeking information on how to obtain food. The National Hunger Hotline staff connects callers with emergency food providers in their community, government assistance programs, and various social services. Share this information in your community to help combat hunger.

Proactive Planning

Providing Summer Meals is a year-round effort. It is never too early to start thinking about how to maintain and expand your summer meals program. Here are some general points to help you start thinking about your program for next year!



Fall



- * Ensure that all claims for reimbursement have been filed.
- * Consolidate daily meals counts and submit reimbursement claims.
- * Take time to reflect on the summer with site administrators and what could be improved or what worked.
- * Reflect on the service provided by your vendor. Ensure the food was well-received by the children. Revise menus as needed.
- * Review unserved or underserved areas near current sites. Recruit sites to these areas of need.
- * Compare participation from this year to that of prior years, as well as current participation for free and reduced-price meals in local schools.
- * Reach out to sites that were underutilized and offer support to increase participation for the coming year.
- * Consider providing nonmonetary awards to recognize sites that excelled during the summer.

Things to think about for next summer.....

- Consider expanding your program to include weekend meals.
- Instead of closing your sites 2 weeks before school starts, consider keeping them open to help fill in the food gap before the school year begins.
- Re-evaluate your operation times. Are you reaching the maximum number of children during your time of operation?

