MESS HALL ROUNDUP:

A Community Approach to the Summer Food Program

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What is the state of food insecurity in your community?



What effect does being hungry have on learning and engagement?



What role does the library play?



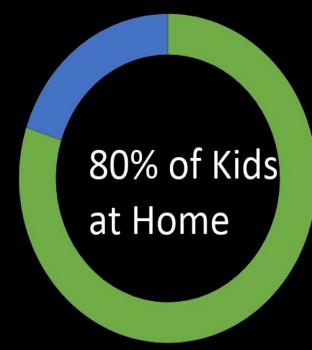
Objectives

- Understand the impact of being hungry
- Review the logistics of being a summer food site
- Explore a community-centric approach





SUMMER HUNGER COST







From Share Our Strength's 2013 National Survey of Low-Income families. bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/summer-meals/summer-meals-survey-findings

THE COST OF HUNGER FOR A CHILD



\$12,000

THE AVERAGE COST OF A CHILD'S HOSPITALIZATION. FOOD INSECURE KIDS ARE 31% MORE LIKELY TO BE HOSPITALIZED.



\$300

THE ADDITIONAL
AMOUNT LOW-INCOME
FAMILIES SPEND ON
GROCERIES EACH
MONTH DURING SUMMER.



\$1,540

THE AMOUNT SCHOOLS
SPEND IN RE-TEACHING A
STUDENT STRUGGLING WITH
SUMMER LEARNING LOSS



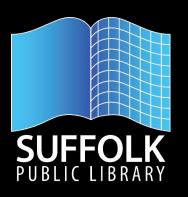
\$10.090

HOW MUCH MORE A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE EARNS THAN SOMEONE WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE

NO KID HUNGRY

On average, only 15% of Virginia kids who rely on free or reduced-price school lunches are also accessing a no-cost Summer Meal.

That means hundreds of thousands of our students are missing out on a free meal on any summer day



SUMMER HUNGER IN SUFFOLK

During the 2017-2018 school year, 49% of Suffolk students were eligible for free/reduced means (approx. 7,100 students)



SUMMER MEAL PROGRAM

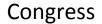
- Children and teens 18 years old and under
 - No charge
 - No questions asked
 - No identification required
 - No proof of income required
- Intended to reach students who count on F/R meals during the school year
- Must eat on-site ("congregate" meal time)







Who: The Key Players



Legislate the program and the funding

USDA

Oversee national implementation, set rules and regulations, disburse funds to states

State Agencies

Oversee implementation in the state, approve actors, monitor program, disburse funds

Sponsors

Direct meal programs, accountable for providing meals and contracts

No Kid Hungry

Connects best practices and resources to improve system

Vendors

Contract with sponsors, provides meals for sites

Point of service – where meals meet kids; must be in low-income areas

Sites (YOU!)





Where: The Site HOSTS THE MEAL SERVICE

- Serves and supervises meals
- Makes sure kids eat on the premises of the site
- Counts and tracks the number of meals and/or snacks served
- Maintains proper food care and sanitation
- Liaises with sponsor
- Encouraged: provides enrichment activities



LOGISTICS

- Sponsor
 - ✓ Space
- ✓ Site Coordinator
- Set day and time for the program
 - Enrichment activities
 - ? Fridge
 - ? Staff to hand out food



ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

Monday Mastery Arts and Crafts

Tech Tuesday
 Kano, makey makey, ozobots, ipads,

snap circuits (video games?); coding

activities

Win it Wednesday Board Games & Puzzles

Thinkers Thursday Engineering

Fun Friday Outside games

















GARDEN



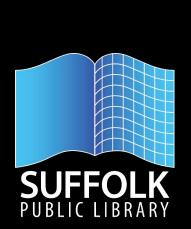
SUFFOLK PUBLIC LIBRARY







FOOD DISTRIBUTION





LESSONS LEARNED



SERIOUS

- Lots of kids don't have access to meals during the summer
- Raising a family is hard!
- Relationship building is a huge tool
- Importance of advocacy

LESSONS LEARNED



FUN

- Lack of mayo = riot
- Beyblades are a thing
- George Michael lives on
- 6 year olds are smarter than you think!
- Awkward silences are horrible!-Music!

LESSONS LEARNED



YES

- It's a lot of work!
- It's OK to ask for help!
- It takes some planning!

BUT

- You're feeding kids!
- You're building relationships!
- You're learning about your community

OUTCOMES



- Kids were being fed
- Families saving money
- Kids in the building
- Relationship Building
- Identified additional needs



WHAT'S STOPPING YOU?



QUESTIONS?

