Summer Meals Newsletter

APRIL 2016

SPRING IS HERE AND SUMMER IS NEAR
IT IS TIME TO KICK YOUR PLANNING INTO HIGH GEAR!

What's New?

Farm to Summer Best Practices - The SFSP Best Practices page will be updated to include best practices for increasing the use of local foods in summer!
http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/best-practices

Now Available!

Public Health Connections in the Summer Food Service Program webinar. View recording here:

http://origin-qps.onstreammedia.com/origin/usda/%5BInbox%5D/webinars/022316/FNS%20Mandana%20Yousefi%2002-23-16CAPSFINAL.mp4

Integrating Integrity in the Summer Food Service Program webinar. View recording here:

http://origin-qps.onstreammedia.com/origin/usda/%5BInbox%5D/webinars/031016/03102016%20Kowtha%20Summer%20Food%20ServiceCAPSFINAL.mp4

Upcoming USDA and Partner Events

April 4th, 2:00pm EST
National Center for Mobility Management: Rides to Meals, Part 2: Strategies to Connect Youth with Summer Food Service Programs
http://nationalcenterformobilitymanagement.org/ncmm-webinars/

April 7th, 1:00pm EST
Food Research & Action Center: Targeting Mobile and Rural Organizations to Expand Reach of Summer Nutrition Programs
http://org2.salsalabs.com/o/5118/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event_KEY=80876

April 14th, 1:00 pm EST
USDA FNS: Summer Meal Program Resources webinar
https://cc.readytalk.com/r/kkaybjhhr1j9&eom

Proactive Planning- What to do this Month

- Prepare State staff for site visits.
- Identify underserved areas, and ask sponsors if they are willing to expand their meal services to those areas.
- Ensure that areas of highest need have meal service sites that children will be able to access.
- Be prepared to answer questions from new sites and sponsors.

Be sure to check the Summer Toolkit for updated resources!

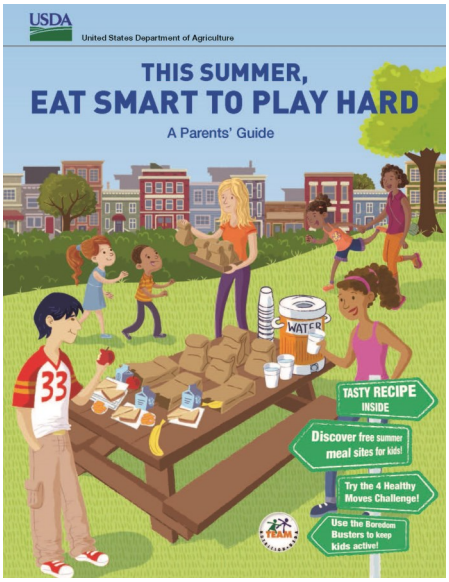
Resources for State Agencies

Free Nutrition Education Materials for Summer Meals

The Summer Food, Summer Moves kit includes an operator's guide, activity guides for families, placemats, promotional flyers, and educational posters.

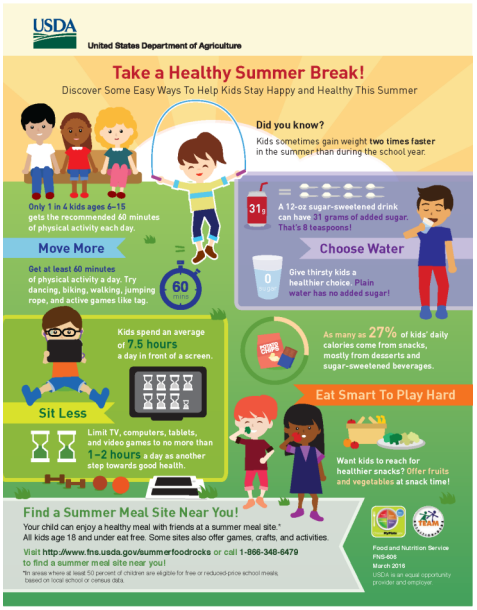
FNS recently released a collection of nutrition education resources for summer meal site operators in English and Spanish that State agencies can distribute to sponsors and sites! These exciting new materials, developed byTeam Nutrition, are designed to help kids and families make healthy food choices and be physically active during the summer months. The new materials include:

- ***Summer Food, Summer Moves –*** A step-by-step kit to help Summer Meal site operators use creative themes, entertaining games, and educational activities to teach children and families about nutrition and exercise.
- ***Take a Healthy Summer Break*** **infographic** – A dynamic social media tool to share with parents/caregivers and community partners to highlight the importance of healthy food choices and physical activity during the summer.
- ***This Summer, Eat Smart to Play Hard*** **handout** – A family-friendly guide that provides nutrition tips, an interactive game, and information about summer meals.



Share these new Team Nutrition Summer Resources with parents/ caregivers at the end of the school year!

Now is the perfect time to help sponsors start planning how summer meal sites can incorporate some (or all) of these resources as part of daily activities or as part of a special kick-off event. A special "prep-o-meter" in the *Summer Food, Summer Moves Operator's Guide* can help guide site operators in developing programming that is right for their site. There are also ways to adjust activities for various ages of children participating, time available, and group size. There is something for every type of site and sponsor!



All of the materials are currently online at http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/summer-food-summer-moves. Free printed copies of materials are expected to be available for schools and summer meal sites participating in the USDA Child Nutrition programs this summer. Follow @TeamNutrition on Twitter for news about print availability or check the Team Nutrition Web site for updates: http://teamnutrition.usda.gov. If you have questions about these new materials, please contact Team Nutrition at TeamNutrition@fns.usda.gov.