2017 Summer Food Service Program Numbers

To date, Kansas Summer Food Service (SFSP) Sponsors have served over 1,389,000 meals. This is an increase of over 60,000 meals from last summer! Together Kansans Can!

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Reimbursement Claim Submission Deadlines

- August claim by 10/30/17

2018 Team Up for Summer Success – Save the Date!

Team Up for Summer Success will be held on Wednesday, February 21, 2018 in Topeka at the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library. More details coming in December!

Summer Meals Regional Summits – Plan to Attend!

Five regional summits will be held across the state for SFSP Sponsors, coordinators and community partners. The regional summits will be held on the following dates:

- Tuesday, November 7 in Dodge City
- Wednesday, November 8 in Oakley
- Monday, November 13 in Iola
- Tuesday, November 14 in Salina
- Thursday, November 16 in Bonner Springs

For more information or to register, go to [http://www.kansaskidstable.org/2017-agenda.html](http://www.kansaskidstable.org/2017-agenda.html).

Child Nutrition & Wellness KANSANS CAN 2016-17 Best Practice Award Winner – Labette County Health

The vision of Labette Health is to improve the health of communities that we serve. In the Parsons School District, 50% of children in all schools qualify for free and reduced price meals. The number increases to 80% in the elementary school. Because children are at an increased risk for food insecurity, malnutrition and obesity during the summer when school is not in session and the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs are not available, Labette Health has partnered with the Parsons School District, the Parsons Recreation Center, Labette Center for Mental Health and the City of Parsons to provide Summer Food Service Program meals to children through the summer months serving more than 14,000 meals in the last 3 years. While ensuring that at-risk children receive healthy meals during the summer, the hospital also teaches healthy habits and the importance of nutrition. Labette has previously applied for a Team Nutrition grant and the diabetes nurse educator and dietitian visited with over 800 students each month and presented a healthy nutrition message, provided a healthy snack and led students in a short physical activity. For the past 4 years, Labette Health as a sponsor of the Summer Food Service Program has collaborated with the Recreation commission for the Annual Day of Play. Over 300 children participate in activities at the park, even a fishing derby this summer, and children receive a meal. Labette Health was recently named one of the three recipients of the Healthy Kansas Hospitals Centers of Excellence awards for 2017. Labette Health has taken a leadership role in helping students learn to make healthy eating and active lifestyle choices.
Harvester's Featured on USDA Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Integrity and Fiscal Accountability Website

Harvesters Community Food Network is featured on the new USDA SFSP Fiscal and Accountability website. The website is considered a living document that will continuously feature Sponsors and State Agencies working toward improving integrity practices throughout the year, through technology based solutions, training and efficient communications. To read about Harvesters and other best practices implemented, go to https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/integrity-and-fiscal-accountability.

2017 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Best Practice Awards

The 2017 Summer Food Service Program has drawn to a close and the efforts of Kansas Sponsors of the Summer Food Service Program are appreciated. Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) would like to recognize the hard work of individuals and organizations working to increase access to meals during the summer. Nominations are being accepted in the following Best Practice Awards Categories: 1) Best Outreach Efforts, 2) Volunteer of the Year, 3) Summer Champion, 4) Best Site Programming and 5) Innovative Approach to Increase Access. KSDE will also present an award to the Sponsor with the Greatest Increase in Meals Served. To nominate an individual or organization for one of these awards, describe why the individual or organization should receive the award and email the nomination to Kelly Chanay at kchanay@ksde.org by October 31, 2017.

Be Recognized for your Summer 2017 Success

Apply for a Child Nutrition & Wellness KANSANS CAN 2017-18 Best Practice Award. The Kansas State Board of Education has a new vision: Kansas leads the world in the success of each student. This new vision for education calls for a more child focused system that provides support and resources for individual success and will require everyone to work together to make it a reality. The academic achievement and physical well-being of our students in Kansas today will impact the success of our communities, our state and the nation in the future. The good health that results from good nutrition and physical activity, and the learning that is possible as a result, is primary among those tools. The purpose of this program is to encourage and reward outstanding practices in Child Nutrition & Wellness Programs in Kansas that support the Kansans CAN vision. There are many outstanding child nutrition programs in Kansas. We encourage you and your staff to make nominations for outstanding and/or innovative practices for recognition of your efforts.

A nomination entry form is available at www.kn-eat.org, Summer Food Service Program, What's New. Nominations are due to the Child Nutrition & Wellness office on or before June 30, 2018. Winners will be notified by July 31 and presentations will be made at the August State Board of Education meeting. Please do not hesitate to contact the Child Nutrition & Wellness team at (785) 296-2276 if we can be of assistance with this process. We look forward to receiving your nominations and celebrating the Kansans CAN Best Practice Awards with you at the August 2018 State Board of Education Meeting.

Turnip the Beet! High Quality Summer Meals Award Program

The Turnip the Beet Award recognizes outstanding Summer Meal Program sponsors across the nation that work hard to offer high quality meals that are appetizing, appealing, and nutritious during the summer months. The awards are open to all sponsors operating the Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option. There are three award levels available: Bronze, Silver, and Gold. Offering high quality meals during the summer is important for a number of reasons. 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. In addition, kids vote with their feet in the summer! Offering meals that children enjoy can help sustain and increase participation. It’s a win-win, so let’s turnip the beet on meal quality in the Summer Meal Programs! Visit https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/turnip-the-beet for more information and to apply.
It's Not Too Early to Start Planning for 2018!
We hope that you will consider joining Child Nutrition & Wellness and Kansas Appleseed at one of the regional summits to make plans for expanding the Summer Food Service Program in your community in Summer 2018 and build upon current successes! If you can’t make it to one of the summits but could use a little help with planning and programming for 2018, contact Child Nutrition & Wellness. It’s not too early to start planning. Summer will be here before we know it!

Kelly, Cheryl and Mark