

# Engaging Youth Volunteers in Summer Meals

Tuesday, May 27, 2014

2:30-3:30 pm EST

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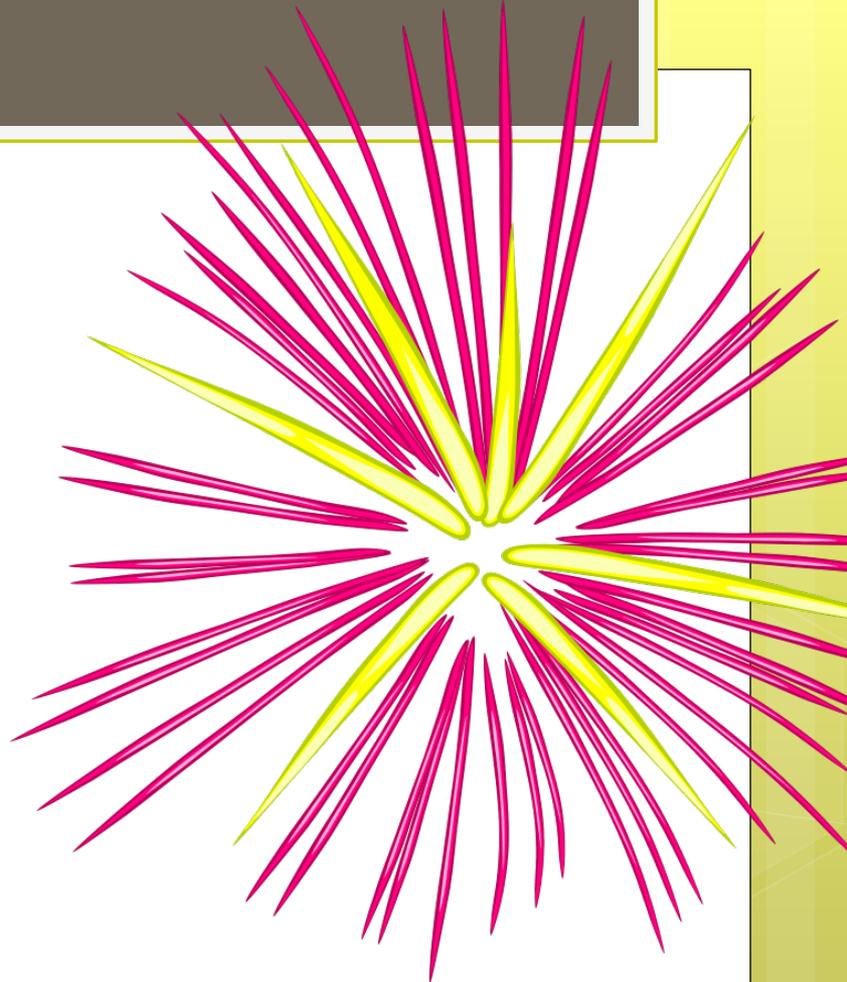
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# Kristin Caulley

USDA Food and Nutrition Service  
External and Government Affairs



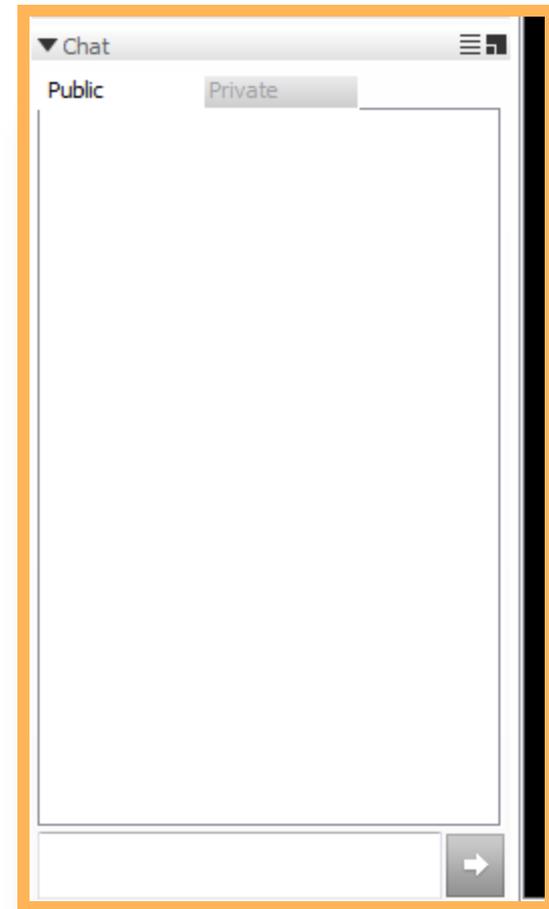
Webinar Moderator

# Ask questions!

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# Agenda

- Overview of SFSP
- DC Hunger Solutions
- Share Our Strength
- The Texas Hunger Initiative

# Why You Should Get Involved?

- In 2013, **21 Million children** received free or reduced priced meals during the school year
- But during Summer 2013, we only reached **a fraction of eligible children** with summer meals

USDA needs your help to reach the hungry children not receiving summer meals



# Summer Food Service Program Basics

- Funds provided by federal government
- Each State Agency administers program
- Low-income kids and teens 18 years old and younger receive free, nutritious meals
- Organizations, schools, local gov't agencies, etc. serve the free, nutritious meals at safe and convenient sites in communities
- Operates when school is not in session



# Benefits to Families & Communities

- Gives children the food they need when they are out of school to keep learning, playing, and growing
- Helps families with tight food budgets
- Sites that serve summer meals provide activities to keep kids mentally and physically active



# Main Players

\*many ways to get involved

- Federal Government
- State Agencies
- Sponsors
- Sites
- Volunteers/Promoters
- Kids & Teens



# What Is a "Sponsor"?

They can be a school, non-profit, faith-based organization, government entity, etc.

Really any organization that can handle the financial, administrative, and food service responsibilities of running the Summer Food Service Program



Sponsors come in all shapes and sizes!

# What Does a "Sponsor" Do?

- Signs agreement with State Agency setting forth responsibilities of each party
- Gets trained by State Agency on how to run the program
- Accepts financial and administrative responsibility
- Manages food service (prepares food themselves or contracts with food service company)
- Train sites (actual place where kids eat) (sponsor may have from 1-200 sites – sponsors can be sites themselves!)
- Gets reimbursed for summer meals served (operating and administrative costs)



# What Is a "Site"?

- The actual place where meals are served and kids eat
- Sites can be anywhere, but ideally it's where the kids usually are during summer



local gov't building



trucks/buses/vans



apartments/  
housing complexes

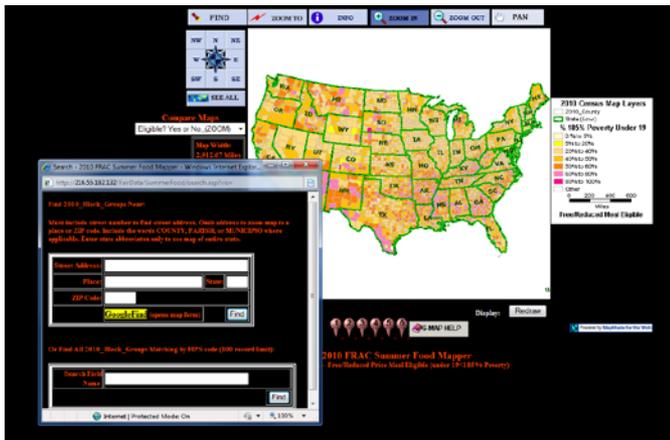


rural areas/  
migrant centers



# Open Sites VS Enrolled Sites

- Open sites – all children eat free without the need of additional paperwork because the site is *area* eligible



<http://216.55.168.186/FairData/SummerFood/map.asp?command=scope&map=0>

- Enrolled Sites – all children eat free because 50% or more of the children *enrolled* at the site are income eligible.

# What Does a "Site" Do?

- Trained by "Sponsor"
- Run by staff or volunteers
- Order and receive meals from "Sponsor"
- Make sure kids eat meals at site and are safe
- Do not discriminate against any child
- Prepare complete and accurate records of deliveries, meals served, other paperwork so "Sponsor" can be reimbursed
- Plan fun physical and/or mental activities



\*A sponsor can also be a site (for example: a local Boys and Girls Club that prepares their meals and kids eat there in the club facilities)

# How Can Children & Teens Get Involved

- Spread the word
- Volunteer at a feeding site
- Site programming

# Alyia Smith-Parker

Anti-Hunger Program and Policy Associate  
DC Hunger Solutions, and Initiatives of the  
Food Research and Action Center

# D.C. Hunger Solutions

- Founded in 2002 as an initiative of the Food Research and Action Center
- Specifically we:
  - Seek to improve public policies to end hunger, reduce poverty, promote nutrition, curb obesity, and increase the availability of healthy, affordable food in low-income areas.
  - Maximize participation in all federal nutrition programs
  - Educate the public and key audiences both to the stark reality of hunger's existence in the midst of plenty and to solutions that are already at hand.



D.C. Hunger Solutions

Ending hunger in the nation's capital

# DC Free Summer Meals



Ranked #1 Summer Food Program in the Country 8  
Consecutive Years

Average Daily Participation in Lunch: 21, 514

Sites: 338

Sponsors: 2012

(data based on Summer 2012)



D.C. Hunger Solutions

Ending hunger in the nation's capital

# DC Summer Youth Employment Program(SYEP)

- The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) is a locally funded initiative sponsored by the Department of Employment Services (DOES) that provides youth ages 14 to 21 with summer work experiences
- Summer 2013:
  - 11, 247 SYEP participants
  - 434 host sites across the city
    - District government agencies: 4,738 (42%)
    - Community-based organizations: 3,782 (34%)
    - Private organizations: 1,160 (10%)
    - Charter schools: 1,057 (9%)
    - Federal government agencies: 510
- Benefits of partnering with SYEP
  - Communication
  - Youth led outreach
  - “More than Meals”



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# SYEP Youth in Action: Partnering with Libraries to Promote Summer Meals

- 13 libraries participated in the DC Free Summer Meals Program last summer
- Libraries hosted 65 SYEP youth and engaged youth in promoting summer meals in the following ways:
  - Serving meals
  - Offering Book Buddies, which pairs teens with children ages 5-10 to introduce children to the joy of reading
  - At Anacostia Library, SYEP teens offered an “open mic” session during meal time where children recited poetry, hip -hop, and rhymes
  - At Petworth Library’s Midday Café, SYEP staff paired meals with storytelling and music as well as a host of special presentations including a puppet show
  - Outreach
    - Youth Website
    - Social Media
    - Outreach within the library and the community



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# Kim Caldwell

No Kid Hungry Senior Program Manager  
Center for Best Practices  
Share Our Strength

# Sam Read

Online Organizer  
Share Our Strength

# SODEXO FOUNDATION

TAKE HUNGER PERSONALLY\*

- Youth Ambassadors: College aged students placed in states across the country.
- Engage with outreach, research, social media, etc



## Ending Childhood Hunger in District Of Columbia

HUNGER AT A GLANCE

 CHOOSE ANOTHER STATE

**30%**

of kids in District Of Columbia struggle with hunger

**38,000**

low-income children in District Of Columbia receive free or reduced-price lunch.

### THE PROBLEM

All of these kids are eligible for other critical meals, but too many are missing out.

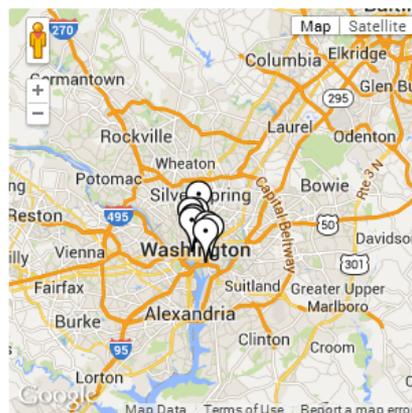
**ONLY 71%**

of children eating free or reduced-price school lunch are getting school breakfast.

**ONLY 58%**

of children eating free or reduced-price

### PARTNERS IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



### Bread for the World

**425 3rd Street SW, Suite 1200 Washington, DC**

"Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. By changing policies, programs and conditions that allow hunger and ...

### Bread for the World, Feeding America, FRAC, No Kid Hungry

**1730 M st NW Washington, DC**

The national action, brought to you through a coalition of Bread for the World, Feeding America, Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), and the No Kid Hungry Campaign, is a great way to make your ...

## No Kid Hungry Action Center

- Quick, easy way for people to find actions they can take against hunger in their area
- Opportunity for groups and organizations to post actions they need help with

# Activating your volunteers

## Social Media

*"This summer, families can find FREE #SummerMeals for kids and teens in their community by texting 'FOOD' to 877-877 <http://thndr.it/1qeGQT2>."*

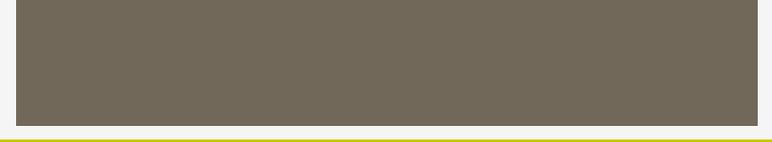


## Programming



## Outreach





# Christine Browder

No Kid Hungry Campaign Manager  
The Texas Hunger Initiative  
Baylor University

# Who We Are

## Texas Hunger Initiative



TEXAS HUNGER INITIATIVE  
*Baylor University School of Social Work*

- We are a collaborative, capacity-building project that develops and implements strategies to end hunger through:
  - Education
  - Research
  - Policy
  - Community Organizing
  - Community Development

**Our Goal is to End Hunger in Texas.**



# Resources

- SFSP Homepage:  
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp>
- SFSP Toolkit:  
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-meals-toolkit>
- Raise Awareness:  
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/raise-awareness>
- Innovative Strategies:  
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/sfsp-innovative-strategies>
- State Agency Contacts:  
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Contacts/StateDirectory.htm>

# Contact Information

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703-305-2295

# Questions

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## Today's Presenters:

- Kristin Caulley, USDA Food and Nutrition Service
- Tamiaka Muns, USDA Food and Nutrition Service
- Christine Browder, The Texas Hunger Initiative
- Sam Read, Share Our Strength
- Kim Caldwell, Share Our Strength
- Alyia Smith-Parker, Food Research and Action Center