



Summer Meals Newsletter

MARCH 2017 • SPONSORS

SPRING IS ALMOST HERE, WHICH MEANS SUMMER IS NEAR!

Upcoming USDA and Partner Events

March 2, 1:00 PM EST | Partnerships Conference Call (Summer Meals Matter Monthly Training Series) | Food Research and Action Center (FRAC)

March 9, 1:00 PM EST | Improving the Quality and Appeal of Summer and Afterschool Meals Webinar | Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), YMCA & USDA FNS

March To-Do List

- Review sites and ensure you are aware of their locations, operational hours, staff, and dates for monitoring.
- Think about how meals will be delivered to the sites and how many will be served.
- Complete preoperational site visits.
- Ensure administrative staff is trained.
- Finish application and renewal forms.
- Contract with a food service management company, if necessary.

Updated Summer Guides

Starting in March, FNS will release updated policy guides for the Summer Meal Programs. The first guide to be re-published is the *2017 Sponsor Monitor's Guide*, followed by the *2017 State Agency Monitor's Guide*, *2017 Site Supervisor Guide* (in English and Spanish), *2017 Administrative Guidance for Sponsors*, and *2017 Nutrition Guidance for Sponsors*. The guides are being revised to clarify current policy (based on frequently asked questions from the field) and to reflect recent policy changes. See the guides [here](#).



An Intergenerational Summer

Intergenerational learning is beneficial to both children and older adults. Explore ways that can encourage these connections at your Summer Meal sites!

Adult Meal Service Providers as Summer Sites

Your organization can partner with organizations that serve meals to older adults to provide Summer Meals to children. [Read](#) about how Horizons, an organization that was participating in Meals on Wheels, began serving meals to children through SFSP!

Recruiting Volunteers

Volunteers can help with outreach, supervision, meal preparation, and activities. Check out AARP's [Create the Good](#) and the Corporation for National and Community Service's [Senior Corps](#) to find older volunteers who will not only help make your program a success, but will let participating children learn more about the importance of elders in their lives.



Sign Up for E-Newsletters

Want to stay in the know? Here are some FNS e-newsletters you may want to receive in your inbox!

- [Team Nutrition](#) | Learn about nutrition education resources available from Team Nutrition.
- [The Dirt](#) | The Office of Community Food Systems details Farm to School and Farm to Summer happenings.