## News Release



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## Summer Food Service Program ready to kickoff

Program provides 2.6 million nutritious meals to children, teens in low-income areas during summer months

MADISON — The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction announced today it has started working with eligible organizations interested in providing meals and snacks during the summer months to children through the Summer Food Service Program.

Each summer, as part of the SFSP, food service staff at over 900 locations across Wisconsin serve 2.6 million nutritious meals to children. A current, updated list of all participating SFSP sponsors and sites can be found on the Wisconsin DPI's SFSP website.

The SFSP is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and serves as the summer extension of the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. The SFSP provides free meals for children and teens in low-income areas during the summer months at sponsor locations when children do not have access to school meals. Local SFSP sponsors include public and private school food authorities, residential public and private nonprofit summer camps, colleges and universities, and private nonprofit organizations, such as Boys & Girls Clubs and YMCAs. Eligible communities or neighborhoods are those where the income level of 50 percent or more of households with children are at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. SFSP sponsors are reimbursed according to predetermined USDA rates, and meals must comply with federal nutrition standards. Individuals over 18 years of age who are determined by a state or local public educational agencies to be mentally or physically disabled and who also participate in a public or private nonprofit school program during the regular school year are also eligible to receive free meals.

Those seeking access to summer meals at a SFSP sponsor location can search sponsor locations by contacting 2-1-1 of Wisconsin, or by visiting the Summer Meals Site Finder on the USDA's website.

For more information, contact Wisconsin DPI Nutrition Program Consultant Amy Kolano via email at Amy.Kolano@dpi.wi.gov, or by phone at 608-266-7124.

## (more)

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