



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

Summer Food Service Program Nutrition News

March 2019 • Edition XLII

Sponsor Spotlight:

Second Harvest of South Georgia serves hundreds of meals to Children affected by Hurricane Michael through Emergency Feeding Site



Natural disasters such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and floods are devastating to communities and require a quick response.

USDA ensures that children affected by a disaster are provided continuous meal service through organizations like the **Second Harvest of South Georgia** (SHSG) that operate federal child nutrition programs such as the Summer Food Service Program.

Last October, Hurricane Michael made



Second Harvest of South Georgia responded by opening an emergency feeding site at one of the local schools that were closed but not damaged by the storm.



In addition to providing thousands of hot meals for the Red Cross to distribute throughout Southwest Georgia, SHSG delivered hundreds of meals over a two-week period to

landfall causing widespread damage in Donalsonville, a community located in Seminole County. Hours of high winds and torrential rain destroyed homes, downed trees, and disrupted utilities. This created a secondary crisis in an area with the state's highest child food insecurity rates.

There were many concerns following the hurricane, but the most immediate need was to ensure the children had access to nutritious meals.

children in Donalsonville.

The organization continued meal service until schools reopened, after being closed for nearly a month due to damages caused by the storm.

"The kids appreciated that we were there. The challenge was getting the message out about the meal site and how many meals to prepare," said Site Leader **Annabeth Sadler**. "They didn't have power or cell phone service." The teachers, staff, administrators, and coaches helped spread the word letting families know that the meal site was open.

Responding to a Disaster in Your Community

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) regulations allow for an expedited approval of feeding sites during an emergency. Sponsors with current agreements to operate a SFSP may be approved to open emergency feeding sites following a natural disaster such as hurricanes, tornadoes and floods. As a reminder, DECAL's disaster policy memorandum can be found on our website and may also be accessed [here](#).



Southern States are in peak tornado season from March to May.

Atlantic hurricane season begins June 1 through November 30.

Please prepare and plan before a disaster strikes so responses can be swift as possible.

Sponsor Poll

Select the most valuable way DECAL can help promote your meal site(s) this summer:

Provide editable flyers and posters

Select

Provide social media artwork and content

Select

Provide artwork for banners and signs

Select

Provide a public service announcement for radio/TV

Select

Other

Select

National Nutrition Month® is an annual nutrition education and information campaign created by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. The campaign, celebrated each year during the month of March, focuses attention on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits.

Celebrate **#NationalNutritionMonth** throughout March with this celebration toolkit, ways to get involved, frequently asked questions and healthful eating messaging! Learn more [here!](#)

SFSP Renewal Reminders

Please see the list of action items listed below to ensure your organization is prepared for the summer season:

- Register and attend 2019 SFSP training session
- Enroll in Program Year FY2019*
- Complete Annual Certification Statements*
- Review and update the FY2019 Application, which may include:
 - Review of entire application
 - Revision to Management Plan
 - Submission of annual budget
 - Review and revision of site applications
 - Submission of annual documents

**Note: Dual sponsors who have already enrolled in FY2019 CACFP are not required to re-enroll and do not need to complete annual certification statements.*

Growing the SFSP in Georgia

DECAL is hosting several webinars and in-person information sessions to recruit additional sponsors for the SFSP.

If you know an organization that would be interested in becoming a sponsor, please encourage them to contact [Cindy Kicklighter](#) or via email or at 404.656.3221.

Additionally, we encourage you to contact us if you are interested in expanding your program to include additional sites.

SFSP Info Sessions

March 21 Webinar at 10 a.m.

March 26 Lee County Library

April 8 Hall County Library

April 10 Charlton County Library

2019 Targeted Counties

- Charlton
- Dodge
- Dooly
- Harris
- Jenkins
- Lanier
- Lee
- Montgomery
- Pike
- Pulaski
- Stewart
- Telfair
- Treutlen
- Webster
- Wheeler
- Wilcox
- Worth

SFSP Program Training Dates

Have you registered for training? It's not too late! See below the list of training sessions for 2019. Self registration is available through ATLAS. Please contact [Sylvia Boykin](#) for more information.

SFSP Experienced Sponsor Training

March 26, 2019
Georgia State University
75 Piedmont Avenue, 6th
floor
Atlanta, GA 30303

Procurement Training

April 15, 2019
Oak Conference Room
Atlanta, GA

SFSP New Sponsor Training

March 21-22, 2019
Georgia State University
75 Piedmont Avenue,
6th floor
Atlanta, GA 30303

April 9-10, 2019

Columbus Technical
College
928 Manchester Exp.
(Library - Room 600)
Columbus, GA 31904

April 23-24, 2019

DeBose Porter Center
560 Pinehill Road
Dublin, GA 31021

May 6-7, 2019

Oak Conference Room
Atlanta, GA

SFSP Record Keeping Requirements

April 17, 2019
Webinar

Procurement Update

The [Vendor Database](#) has been updated. Please review the list if you need vendors for your meal service. As a reminder, the database is for informational purposes only and does not serve as an "approved" directory for Bright from the Start or the State of Georgia.

The next Procurement 101 Training will be held on **Monday, April 15**. Notification

will be sent via GA ATLAS when registration is open.

Please take advantage of the Procurement Masterclasses on the [DECAL Nutrition Services Procurement](#) Web Page. These are free resources to assist with procurement questions as it relates to your meal service.

Local Sourcing Spotlight:

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

What is a Community Supported Agriculture? CSA as it is more commonly referred, is a method of purchasing local, seasonally harvested produce directly from farmers and growers.

Farmers offer a designated amount or “shares” of produce to the community; typically in the form of boxed produce.

Those interested must sign up (subscription or membership based) to receive their weekly order which is either delivered or available for pick up.

(Source: [Local Harvest](#))

Local Sourcing Resources:

Georgia Organics Harvest Calendar:

See what’s fresh and ready for serving.

Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs):

List of Georgia CSAs provided by Local Harvest.

SFSP Reimbursement Rates for 2019

The reimbursement rates for the 2019 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) have been released by USDA. These rates are effective from January 1 through December 31, 2019. The rates can also be found on DECAL’s website [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact the Technical Assistance team at NutritionTA@decals.ga.gov.

All States except Alaska and Hawaii		
Per Meal Rates in whole or fractions of U. S. dollars	Self- preparation or Rural Sites	Other Types of Sites
Breakfast	2.2975	2.2550
Lunch or Supper	4.0325	3.9675
Supplement (Snack)	0.9525	0.9325

Nutrition ED Nook



The 7th Annual Georgia Farm to School and Early Care and Education Summit will be held **June 7-8**, at Helms College in Macon. The Summit features dynamic, hands on education sessions, workshops, and field trips for early care providers and k-12 staff on gardening, cooking with kids, local procurement, and more!

This event is co-hosted by the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning and Georgia Organics and presented by the Georgia Farm to School Alliance and the Georgia Farm to Early Care and Education Coalition. Registration is now open, click [here](#).

Crunch Into a New Vegetable!

Try something new in your weekly meal planning this month.

Have you ever heard of Green Garlic? Most people are familiar with the garlic bulbs readily available at most grocery stores. Green garlic is the plant that sprouts prior to the development of garlic bulbs.

Green garlic looks very similar to green onions or scallions and is usually picked by farmers to promote growth of garlic bulbs. With a milder, sweeter taste than traditional garlic, this may be a great way to incorporate new flavors into your menus or in taste test activities for your early eaters. ([Source: The Kitchen](#))



In celebration of Dr. Seuss Day, try serving **“Green Eggs and Ham”** as an ode to his infamous storybook. For a more natural method of creating “green” eggs, you can add Swiss Chard, Spinach or a few sprinkles of chopped Green Garlic to your morning breakfast egg recipe.

Also, try this recipe from [The Spruce Eats](#) adding Green Garlic to another locally grown, in season vegetable Swiss Chard as a healthy side dish.

Click [here](#) for tips on encouraging your young eaters to try new vegetables.

Dates to Remember:

Date	Event	Location
March 21	SFSP Information Webinar	
March 21-22	SFSP New Sponsor Training	Atlanta
March 26	SFSP Experienced Sponsor Training	Atlanta
March 26	SFSP Information Session	Lee County
April 8	SFSP Information Session	Hall County
April 9-10	SFSP New Sponsor Training	Atlanta
April 10	SFSP Information Session	Charlton County
April 15	Procurement 101 Training	Atlanta
April 17	SFSP Record Keeping Webinar	
April 18	Budget 101	Dublin
April 23-24	SFSP New Sponsor Training	Dublin
May 6-7	SFSP New Sponsor Training	Atlanta
May 8	Food Safety Webinar	
June 7-8	GA Farm to ECE Summit	

Have you listened to DECAL Download?



In this week's episode of DECAL Download, learn about Georgia's Summer Food Service Program. We speak with Sonja Adams, Nutritional Services Director of Provider Services, and Cindy Kicklighter, Nutrition Marketing and Outreach Manager.

DECAL
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New Episodes Every Wednesday!

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Marketing and Outreach Team

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