

SAVE THE DATE

Summer Food Service Program

Virtual Summit | FEB. 16, 2021



Overview

COVID-19 has made a huge impact on child food insecurity throughout Georgia. Feeding America, a nationwide network of food banks, estimates that child food insecurity has increased from 16 percent in 2018 to 23 percent in 2020. With many parents out of work, more children may be facing hunger in the months ahead – especially when schools close for summer vacation and already tight family food budgets must be stretched even further.

The **Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)** fills the hunger gap by serving nutritious meals to children 18 years and younger while school is not in session. The program is funded by the USDA, administered by the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) and run by sponsoring organizations such as Boys & Girls Clubs, parks and recreation services, libraries, schools, camps, churches and local government. Approved sponsors receive a partial reimbursement for the number of meals served.

There is a critical need to recruit eligible organizations that are willing to serve healthy meals to GA's children this summer. Nonprofit organizations are encouraged to attend DECAL's free, **virtual Summer Food Service Program Summit** on Tuesday, **February 16, 2021**, at 10:00 a.m. to learn how the program works and about the responsibilities of being a sponsor.

Purpose of this toolkit

This tool kit has been created to assist partner organizations and advocates in helping to spread the word about the Summer Food Service Program Summit.

The objectives for this promotional activity are to:

- make eligible organizations aware of the SFSP

- encourage representatives from eligible organizations to register for the SFSP Summit

How You Can Help

While DECAL will lead the promotion of the virtual SFSP Summit, our partners are strongly encouraged to share content on their organization’s platforms now through February 15 --and on personal profiles if comfortable doing so. Sample posts have been provided below.

- 1 Download** by right-clicking an image below to save it onto your desktop. You can also simply drag it onto your desktop.
- 2 Log on** to your favorite social media site, such as Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.
- 3 Copy and paste** one of the sample messages below into your status update—or develop your own customized posts to share content that includes the #KidsEatFreeWithCALi #2021SFSPSummit
- 4 Upload** the SFSP image saved onto your desktop to accompany your status update.
- 5 Post** your status update and encourage others to register for the SFSP Summit

Social Media Posts


<p>Register for the Summer Food Service Program Virtual Summit</p> <p>Get reimbursed for feeding GA's children nutritious meals.</p> <p>Learn how your nonprofit can become a Sponsoring Organization.</p> <p>Hosted by the GA Department of Early Care and Learning <i>This Institution is an equal opportunity provider.</i></p> <p>#KidsEatFreeWithCALi #2021SFSPSummit</p>	<p>If your organization is a nonprofit, you may be eligible to participate as a SFSP Sponsor and get reimbursed for serving healthy meals to GA’s children. Find out how when you attend DECAL’s FREE Virtual SFSP Summit on Tuesday, February 16 at 10 am. Register here: https://bit.ly/3m6uw9p. Contact Gaby Garza at gaby.garza@dec.al.ga.gov for more information. #SFSP #DECALNutrition #KidsEatFreeWithCALi #2021SFSPSummit</p>
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Without assistance from community partners, thousands of GA's kids may go hungry this summer when school is out. If your organization is a nonprofit, you may be eligible to participate as a SFSP Sponsor and get reimbursed for serving healthy meals. Find out how when you attend DECAL's FREE Virtual SFSP Summit on Tuesday, February 16 at 10 am. Register here: <https://bit.ly/3m6uw9p>. Contact Gaby Garza at gaby.garza@dec.al.ga.gov for more information. #SFSP #DECALNutrition #KidsEatFreeWithCALi #2021SFSPSummit



The Summer Food Service Program serves a critical need in our state by ensuring children have access to free, nutritious meals & snacks. If your organization is a nonprofit, you may be eligible to participate as a SFSP Sponsor and get reimbursed for serving healthy meals. Find out how when you attend DECAL's FREE Virtual SFSP Summit on Tuesday, February 16 at 10 am. Register here: <https://bit.ly/3m6uw9p>. Contact Gaby Garza at gaby.garza@dec.al.ga.gov for more information. #SFSP #DECALNutrition #KidsEatFreeWithCALi #2021SFSPSummit

 <p>Register for the Summer Food Service Program Summit</p> <p>FIND OUT HOW NONPROFITS CAN GET REIMBURSED FOR FEEDING NUTRITIOUS MEALS TO GA'S CHILDREN</p> <p>February 16 @ 10 a.m. FREE Virtual Program</p> <p><small>This institution is an equal opportunity provider.</small></p> <p>#KidsEatFreeWithCALI #2021SFSPSummit</p>	<p>Many families struggled to feed their children during the pandemic. More children will be hungry when school is out this summer. If your organization is a nonprofit, you may be eligible to participate as a SFSP Sponsor and get reimbursed for serving healthy meals. Find out how when you attend DECAL's FREE Virtual SFSP Summit on Tuesday, February 16 at 10 am. Register here: https://bit.ly/3m6uw9p. Contact Gaby Garza at gaby.garza@decals.ga.gov for more information. #SFSP #DECALNutrition #KidsEatFreeWithCALi #2021SFSPSummit</p>
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Newsletter Sample

Georgia's kids became especially vulnerable to hunger last March when schools closed because of the pandemic. With many parents out of work, we expect that more kids—as many as one in four—will face hunger in the months ahead, especially when school is out for the summer.

The **Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)** serves a critical need in our state. It helps close the hunger gap by ensuring children 18 years old and younger receive free and nutritious meals while school is not in session. Nonprofit organizations that are approved as sponsors receive a partial reimbursement for the number of meals that are served.

DECAL is hosting a **virtual Summer Food Service Program Summit** on Tuesday, **February 16, 2021**, at 10:00 a.m. Nonprofit organizations are encouraged to attend this free, virtual event to find out how the program works. Register here: <https://bit.ly/3m6uw9p>. or contact Gaby Garza at gaby.garza@decals.ga.gov for more information.

Questions about the Summit or Toolkit?

Contact **Cindy Kicklighter, Nutrition Services Marketing & Outreach Manager**
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