

Summer Feeding Sponsors Serving Rural Communities

Resources

No Kid Hungry

- No Kid Hungry partnered with Prairie Family Center in Burlington, Colorado, to pilot a free summer meals delivery service
- Deliver nutritious meals directly to these families
- Discover research, strategies and lessons learned rooted in the experience of rural people and places.
 - [No Kid Hungry - RURAL COMMUNITIES](#)

Summer Meals Toolkits

- [Transportation Challenges](#)
 - UPS to deliver meals in rural areas
- [USDA Rural Development \(RD\)](#)
 - Community Facilities Grants
RD grants are available for applicants who are assisting in the development of essential community facilities in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 in population. These funds may be used to assist in the development of essential community facilities, including capital expenditures for vehicles, and are available on a rolling basis. Check the website for specific deadlines and grant periods as they are subject to change annually.
<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loangrant-program>
 - Grant Funds Usage
Local food systems such as community gardens, food pantries, community kitchens, food banks, food hubs or greenhouses
- [Reaching Unserved and Underserved Areas](#)
 - Oregon
The Centennial School District won a USDA award for Service in Distinctive or Rural/Underserved Communities through housing and community development organization partnerships in the Portland metro area. These partnerships enabled children who were previously unable to leave their apartment complexes due to busy roads, unsafe conditions, and other reasons to participate in Summer Meals.

FRAC

- [Summer Meals in Rural Communities Fact Sheet](#)
 - Identify community resources.
Work with the community and families to maximize existing resources in rural areas to expand the reach of summer meals. Libraries, faith-based groups, 4-H, universities and community colleges are just some examples of groups that may be able to provide space, programming, transportation and other support to Summer Nutrition Programs. USDA Rural Development, for example, has grant resources through its Community Facilities Programs initiative to construct, expand or improve facilities that provide health care, education, public safety, and public services.
 - Increase rural school districts serving summer meals.
Rural school districts should provide summer meals at schools or in areas with 50 percent or more of the students certified for free or reduced-price school meals. If rural

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schools are unable to meet the eligibility threshold for summer meals, schools can use census data. While school districts often operate summer school and other informal enrichment activities, this is not always the case in rural areas due to budget cuts and longer travel distances that may make it harder for students to get to school-based summer programs. In areas without structured programming, schools and other community partners should work together to reduce barriers facing rural children. For example, schools can keep some of their buses in service during the summer.