



## Police Departments

Summer meal sites are safe places for children to gather when school is out. Sponsors can capitalize on this idea through partnership with local police officers. Partnerships with community police departments can encourage positive relations between youth and officers, while providing kids with a healthy meal.

Go to [Resources](#).

### PoliceLocator

How can you locate your local police department? PoliceLocator is a resource for finding police departments, sheriff's offices, and other law enforcement agencies.

<http://www.policelocator.com/>

### Community Partnership Opportunities

Many police departments run community-oriented youth programs. The following local and national police programs exist across the country, and may be available to host a summer meal site or provide site activities:

- **Police Athletic League (PAL)**

PAL is a member-based organization working to prevent juvenile crime by building a bond between cops and kids. PAL activities – sports, arts and crafts, rock climbing and tutoring – make for great site activities!

<https://www.nationalpal.org/>

- **Cops 'N' Kids**

Cops 'N' Kids aims to build stronger relationships between youth and police officers through youth development programs. For example, the Southbridge Cops 'N' Kids program partners with the Project Bread program, which provides breakfast and lunch for local children at no cost, and the Worcester District Attorney's Office and the Juvenile Probation Office visit the program once a week to provide related classes and mentoring. The program also employs college students, who are themselves alumni of this program, to serve as mentors and role models.

<https://www.ci.southbridge.ma.us/police-department/pages/cops-kids>



10/01/20

### Summer Meals Toolkit

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- **Police Summer Camps**

Free or low-cost summer camps sponsored by police departments often focus on promoting physical fitness and healthy eating. Incorporating a healthy meal is a great way to ensure strong participation.

- **Juvenile Intervention and Support Programs**

Police departments often partner with public schools and other governmental and civic organizations to strengthen their impact on local youth.

## Funding Opportunities

Summer Meal partners working with local police departments to reduce delinquency, drug abuse, and other high-risk behaviors among youth may be eligible for funding from the Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), which supports community programs, such as the 4-H National Mentoring Program.

- The 4-H Mentoring Program aims to increase youth competency, improve relationships and increase academic success among at-risk youth by providing youth with positive role models.

<https://4-h.org/about/mentoring/>

- Sponsors interested in pursuing other OJJDP partnerships should contact their State OJJDP representatives.

<https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/states>

## Resources

### USDA

*Cops 'N' Kids and Summer Meals*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-TXQ1zIZ0k4>





## Department of Justice

- *Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Resource Center*  
<https://cops.usdoj.gov/RIC/ric.php>
- *Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Programs*  
<https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/>

## International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)

*Youth Focused Policing Resource Center*

<https://www.theiacp.org/topics/youth>

## National Crime Prevention Council

*Celebrate Safe Communities*

<https://www.ncpc.org/programs/celebrate-safe-communities/>

## For Additional Information

Review these ideas and adopt the strategies that seem reasonable to you and achievable for your Program. The Summer Meals Toolkit has even more creative ideas and resources at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-meals-toolkit>

Do you have more questions? Sponsors and the general public should contact their State agency for answers. State agencies should contact their Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Regional Office.

List of FNS Regional Offices: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fns-regional-offices>

List of State Agencies: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/sfsp-contacts>

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