



Additional Funding Sources

Having funding in addition to the USDA reimbursements can increase the success of a Summer Meal Program. Additional sources of funding can either cover Program costs, when USDA reimbursements are not sufficient, or they can cover costs that cannot be paid for with Summer Meal Program funds.

Through programs administered by USDA Rural Development and Housing and Urban Development (HUD), State programs that support housing and economic development, and foundations and other private funding sources, sponsors can develop a robust and financially stable operation. These funding sources will often have a specific focus. Some will fund only capital expenditures, while others may provide funding for operating costs.

Reminder: Additional sources of income that support Summer Meal Programs must be tracked and reported separately from Program funds!

Building Partnerships is KEY

Successful sponsors have utilized a variety of approaches to control costs when operating a summer meals food service. To reduce transportation costs, for example, some organizations park mobile meals buses in the communities, near meal sites. They use just one van to deliver meals, one or two times a week or operate from a central kitchen, where meals are stored in donated cold storage facilities near each bus. As sponsors work with community partners, identify additional approaches that will work best for your programs and keep costs low.

USDA Rural Development

The USDA Rural Development Officer in each State can help identify potential funders. When developing a proposal and seeking funding it is important to identify: the needs the sponsor intends to address; the sponsor's plan for implementing the program; the legal entity that will apply for, receive, and account for the funds; and community stakeholders who support the plan. Once a proposal is developed, sponsors should contact funders within their State and community. Stakeholders in support of the proposal may also be able to identify funding sources and about USDA Rural Development.

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.



11/30/16

Summer Meals Toolkit

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider,
Employer and Lender

Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HUD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) helps local governments develop viable urban communities. States determine how they will distribute CDBG funds to their small cities, usually through a competitive grant process. CDBG funds primarily benefit low and moderate income people and neighborhoods. Grantees may use a percentage of CDBG funding for new public services, such as day care or youth recreation programs. Four border States are required by law to set aside a percentage of funds for Colonias, areas with great needs in housing and infrastructure located along the border with Mexico.

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg/cdbg-ta-products/#all-products>

Share Our Strength No Kid Hungry Center for Best Practices

Share Our Strength understands that grants can help organizations increase capacity, invest in equipment, provide quality programming, and offer more nutritious meals. The *No Kid Hungry* campaign provides small amounts of funding to help Summer Meal sponsors address these challenges. In addition, Share Our Strength has ideas and resources for sponsors that are looking for supplemental sources of funding. The *Sponsor Center* includes a list of existing grants to help sponsors ensure that every child has the opportunity to receive a free, healthy meal.

- *Child Nutrition Program Grant Opportunities*
<https://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/child-nutrition-program-grant-opportunities>
- *Summer Meals Grants Webinar*
https://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/free-summer-meals-kids#dialog_1002

For Additional Information

Review these ideas and adopt the strategies that seem reasonable to you and achievable for your Program. 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>

USDA and its recipient institutions share responsibility for compliance and oversight to ensure good stewardship of Federal funds.

