

Oregon Business Hunger Initiative

Businesses Supporting Summer Food



Childhood
hunger
doesn't take
a summer
vacation



Let a kid be a kid.

*The sound of summer is children
playing outside,
not the rumbling of empty
stomachs.*

*The feeling of summer is the
freedom to run and play,
not the stress of looking for
something to eat.*

The Oregon Business Hunger Initiative is committed to working together to end hunger. This spring, we are asking the business community to join us in supporting **Project Summer: Everybody Eats**, a campaign to ensure low-income children can eat nutritious meals during the summer break.

Background Nearly half of Oregon's students qualify for free or reduced price school meals, based on their family's income. But how do these students get their nutritional needs met during the long summer break?

For over 40 years the **Summer Food Service Program** (SFSP) has provided Federal funds to organizations to serve nutritious, free meals to low-income children while school's out. In addition to a good lunch, many programs offer free activities and safe recreation.

Still, for every 100 kids who ate free or reduced price school meals in 2008, only 31 were served meals in the summer. Now, **looming budget cuts and increased costs** are threatening to further shrink that ratio, as summer schools are scaled back and organizations lack the funds to expand and meet the growing need.

In order to **ensure students are well fed this summer** it will take coordinated support from all sectors. The Oregon Hunger Task Force has a successful history of supporting SFSP and is partnering with us in this campaign. Community organizations and churches are stepping up to host feeding sites. **You** can make the necessary difference to reach the 163,591 students who may not be eating lunch in the summer.

**Won't you join us?
Partnering is a Solution.**





SFSP gives back to the community. Federal funding is available for every meal served. **However, in many cases the reimbursement is not sufficient** to cover the high cost of food, transportation and staffing. Private support will help leverage federal dollars to support agriculture, strengthen summer programming and return kids to school healthy and ready to learn.

How you can help:

1 **Make an investment** in summer feeding opportunities throughout Oregon.

- *Donate to the Child Nutrition Support Fund, which will meet immediate needs for programs struggling to reach children this summer and enable them to serve more meals. Funds will be used to offset the cost of equipment, supplies, staff time and/or transportation and may be specified for use statewide or regionally. Funds will be administered and distributed by the Oregon Hunger Task Force using its existing mini-grant process.*

2 **Directly connect** with a SFSP program in your community, matching your your resources with specific needs. Examples of support:

- *Help offset the cost of a feeding program, through donations, fundraisers or in-kind goods and services.*
- *Encourage employees to volunteer to serve meals or provide activities at a summer food site.*
- *Assist in direct marketing to families by including program information on your website, newsletter or store signage.*

Get Involved: Contact Robyn Johnson [503-595-5503 or robyn@oregonhunger.org] to get connected or learn more. If you are interested in #1, a response form is attached.

Learn more at www.Oregonhunger.org



YES! I want to make an investment in Project Summer

My donation of:

- \$5,000** will allow an organization to serve high quality food to a significant number of children this summer

For Example: the Elgin school district could replace their broken oven and expand their program to 3 months, feeding 100 kids a day and **leveraging \$19,000** in Federal meal reimbursement

- \$1,000** would greatly increase the capacity of a program, and ensure meal service this summer.

For Example: the Santiam Canyon School District could hire additional staff to transport food and supervise a new 9-week program in Gates, serving 40 kids a day, **leveraging \$5,724**

- \$500** would help create a dynamic, enriching summer program for at-risk youth and increase meal participation.

For Example: McCoy Village Apartments in NE Portland could fund field trips and a teen financial literacy program 3 days a week, serving 25 kids a day. This would **leverage \$2,385**

- Other** _____

Please contact me so that I can make a donation and learn more about how I can help feed Oregon's children this summer.

Name:

Organization:

Phone Number:

Email address:

PLEASE FAX THIS PAGE TO THE OREGON HUNGER TASK FORCE: (503) 595-5504

Contact Robyn Johnson with any questions: 503-595-5503, robyn@oregonhunger.org