



PRESS RELEASE

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No Kid Hungry Tennessee Grants Over \$215k to Combat Summer Hunger in Rural Communities Across the State

No Kid Hungry Nationwide Survey: 74% of Rural Families Ran Out of Food in the Past Year

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Nashville, TN: For kids who receive school meals, the summer months can be the hungriest time of year. No Kid Hungry Tennessee provided 15 organizations across the state with a total of \$215,095 to help reach more kids in rural communities with summer meals.

Traditional summer meal programs have only reached a fraction of kids in rural communities, but non-congregate summer meal flexibilities have been a game changer in recent years. No Kid Hungry's grant funding supports summer meal programs that make meals more accessible for rural families by delivering meals to children who need them or allowing parents to pick meals up at a central location to be taken home for their kids, oftentimes for multiple days at a time.

The following school districts and community organizations received summer meal grants from No Kid Hungry Tennessee:

- Athens-McMinn Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)
- Boys and Girls Club of the Smoky Mountains
- Bristol TN City Schools
- Dickson County Schools
- Fentress County Schools
- Giles County Schools
- Giving Youth A Chance Initiative
- Henry County School System
- Second Harvest Food Bank of Northeastern Tennessee
- Southwest Human Resource Agency
- Trudy's Kids Cafe

- Van Buren County Schools
- YMCA of East Tennessee
- YMCA of Memphis and the Mid-South
- YMCA of Metropolitan Chattanooga

For many children, during the school year, free and reduced price school meals ensure reliable access to nutrition. When schools close for the summer, however, these meals disappear and families struggle from the strain on already-tight budgets. This can be particularly true for rural families. A recent No Kid Hungry nationwide survey found that nearly three quarters (74%) of rural families living on low incomes with children ran out of food in the past year.

“Summer meals are a lifeline for kids and families who rely on school meals throughout the school year,” said Marissa Spady, No Kid Hungry Tennessee senior program manager. “We’re excited to support the programs that are making dependable nutrition accessible to families in all corners of the state, reaching many more kids with the food they need to stay healthy over the summer and start the next school year ready to learn.”

For help finding a Summer Meal site, visit NoKidHungry.org/Help or [/Ayuda](#). The program is available to all children 18 and under.

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About No Kid Hungry

No child should go hungry in America. But millions of kids in the United States live with hunger. No Kid Hungry is working to end childhood hunger by helping launch and improve programs that give all kids the healthy food they need to thrive. This is a problem we know how to solve. No Kid Hungry is a campaign of Share Our Strength, an organization committed to ending hunger and poverty. Join us at NoKidHungry.org.