



Options for District Support – Carolina Hunger Initiative

SNAP-Ed, Policy, Systems, and Environmental Change (PSE)

Summer Meals

Our team supports sponsors in running effective, accessible Summer Meal Programs that provide vital nutrition to children when school is out. We aim to help you implement policy, systems, and environmental changes (PSE) to make healthy eating easier for families in your community. Our support includes:

Expanding Access & Reach:

- **Implementing Non-Congregate Meals (Eligible Rural Districts):** We guide rural districts through setting up non-congregate meal services (like multi-day pick-up or delivery) to overcome transportation barriers. Support includes technical assistance related to:
 - Navigating program requirements and options.
 - Identifying eligible and effective site locations.
 - Developing efficient distribution models.
 - Assisting with volunteer recruitment and management.
 - Creating communication plans to reach families.
- **Establishing or Enhancing Congregate Meal Sites:** We provide technical assistance to help create or improve traditional summer meal sites to be welcoming and accessible nutrition hubs. Support includes:
 - Finding and setting up ideal site locations (schools, parks, libraries, etc.).
 - Designing engaging marketing and outreach materials.
 - Connecting you with resources for enrichment activities to boost attendance.
- **Strategic Program Growth:**
 - Developing plans to add new meal sites in underserved areas.
 - Analyzing feasibility to increase the length of service (more days or weeks) your program operates.



Enhancing Program Quality & Operations:

- **Menu Improvement & Variety:**
 - Strategies to increase menu variety and appeal.
 - Guidance and networking to add supplementary fresh produce bags to meal distributions.
 - Providing technical assistance around incorporating local foods into menus.
- **Family & Community Input:**
 - Assisting with developing and implementing surveys for families to gather feedback on meal preferences and accessibility.
 - Working with sponsors to incorporate culturally relevant foods based on community input.
- **Food Safety Technical Assistance:**
 - Providing guidance and resources on food safety best practices.
 - Assisting with developing or refining food safety policies and systems for safe handling and distribution.
- **Nutrition Education**
 - Offering training and technical assistance around offering nutrition education through your program
 - Providing nutrition education resources