Special Report: Summer Initiatives

An overview of programs and partnerships that the Ohio Association of Foodbanks engaged in to prevent childhood hunger during summer 2016

Thank you to our partners
In Ohio, about 1 in 4 kids live in food insecure households. Those children rely on access to free or reduced price school meals to get the nutrition they need to grow, learn, and thrive.

But when summer break comes, those children can't get school meals. Their families struggle to afford to put three nutritious meals on the table for their kids, day in and day out, with limited resources.

The federal Summer Food Service Program, funded by the United States Department of Agriculture and administered in Ohio by the Ohio Department of Education, works to ensure that low-income children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsors, including local government agencies, schools, and faith-based and nonprofit organizations, provide meals at locations in their communities.

But right now, only about 1 in 10 kids in Ohio who rely on free and reduced price school meals during the school year are accessing SFSP sites for meals during summer break.

The Ohio Association of Foodbanks recognizes that childhood hunger in the summer months is a serious problem, and we work to address the barriers that keep kids from getting the nutritious meals they need and deserve. We partner with the Ohio Department of Education and Share Our Strength to host a Summer Food Service Program Summit each year to help promote best practices among SFSP providers. We advocate for better policies that feed more Ohio children more effectively. We leverage resources to expand the reach of the Summer Food Service Program in Ohio. And we work to fill the gaps that currently exist in the SFSP to reach more vulnerable kids.
In summer 2016, we partnered with the Corporation for National and Community Service to place 60 AmeriCorps VISTA Summer Associates at Summer Food Service Program sites and other summer meal programs. These VISTA Summer Associates spent 10 weeks serving their communities full-time, helping to serve more hungry kids by: recruiting volunteers to help with meal preparation and site supervision; conducting grassroots outreach in local neighborhoods to let more families know about summer meals for kids; planning, organizing, and executing educational and recreational activities to encourage more kids to attend their summer meals program; preparing and serving meals; conducting nutrition education; and so much more!

In total, the Summer Food Service Program sites that hosted AmeriCorps VISTA members served 337,937 meals to hungry kids in summer 2016.

SFSP sites continued to report that their AmeriCorps VISTA Summer Associates are critical to their ability to serve children in need and keep their doors open, with limited federal funding that doesn’t always cover the costs involved in operating their programs.

“Without AmeriCorps VISTAs, we would be unable to operate a summer feeding program.” Washington-Morgan Community Action

“As a small nonprofit, without the VISTAs our impact and reach would have been much more limited. We love our VISTAs!” SON Ministries

Our VISTA members also gain valuable, meaningful experience during their service. “I got to teach nutrition classes. It was awesome to get to talk to kids about fruits and vegetables. It was encouraging to me to get to practice and to learn what different techniques work with the kids. I loved getting them thinking about fruits and vegetables and why they are important to eat.” Nakia Angeliique, VISTA member at the Dayton YMCA, pictured bottom right.
The Summer Food Service Program is a critical piece to solving the challenge of childhood hunger during the summer months. But because of the way SFSP is legislated currently, children have to be able to travel to SFSP locations and consume meals on-site. **This presents an enormous challenge for many children.** Kids that live in rural, isolated areas often don’t have transportation to get to their nearest SFSP site, if there is even an SFSP site in their county. Parents that live in unsafe neighborhoods often may not feel comfortable allowing their child to cross busy streets or walk on dangerous roads. Adverse weather keeps all kids from getting to nearby meal sites, and no meals can be sent home to eat over the weekend.

In addition to advocating for changes to the way SFSP is operated, the Ohio Association of Foodbanks is proud to partner with Governor John R. Kasich, the Governor’s Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, and the Ohio Department of Education to operate three innovative, state-funded programs to fill some of the gaps left by SFSP.

**Summer Weekend Meals Program**
This program provided kid-friendly, shelf-stable meals for children attending SFSP sites to take home to eat over the weekend. About 10,000 children received meals to take home each weekend for 10 weeks, for a total of about 600,000 weekend meals.

**Summer Rural Delivery Meals Program**
This program provided a week’s worth of kid-friendly, shelf-stable meals to about 2,800 children each week for 9-10 weeks. Participating children live in rural areas without access to traditional SFSPs. In total, this program provided 277,200 meals to kids in need.

**Mobile Farmers Market Program**
This program provided fresh fruits and vegetables and protein items to families with children participating in the summer weekend or rural delivery meals programs. It provided 860,211 pounds of nutritious food at an average cost of $0.0881 per 3-ounce serving.
Summer Weekend Meals Program
Total Meals Distributed: 600,000
Average Cost Per Meal: $1.3964
- Food Cost: $837,860.29
- Packing Materials Cost: $42,716.79
- Packaging Labor Cost: $111,292.20
- Delivery Cost: $56,201.58
- Administrative Cost: $80,314.71
Total Program Cost: $1,128,385.57

Summer Rural Delivery Meals Program
Total Meals Distributed: 277,200
Average Cost Per Meal: $1.1948
- Food Cost: $331,208.33
- Packing Materials Cost: $27,000.00
- Packaging Labor Cost: $26,516.36
- Delivery Cost: $16,603.50
- Administrative Cost: $29,200.00
  Direct Cost to Sites: $53,191.33
Total Program Cost: $485,243.28

Mobile Farmers Market Program
Total Pounds Distributed: 860,211
Total Servings Distributed: 4,587,792
Average Cost Per Pound: $0.4697
Average Cost Per Serving: $0.0881
- Food Cost: $404,017.07
- Packing Materials and Delivery Cost: $22,715.03
Total Program Cost: $426,732.10
**City of Cleveland**  
Central Rec Center  
Clark Recreation  
Collinwood  
Cory  
Cudell  
Earle B. Turner  
Estabrook Recreation  
Fairfax  
Glenville  
Gunning  
Halloran Skating Rink  
Hamilton  
Kenneth Johnson  
John F. Kennedy  
E.J. Kovacic  
Lonnie Burten  
Stella Walsh  
Sterling  
Thurgood Marshall  
Zelma W. George  
Michael Zone  

**COAD/RSVP of the Ohio Valley**  
Hickory Housing  
Grace Baptist Fellowship  
Jackson Hillcrest Park  
Hopewell Health Centers  
Nazarene Church  
Woodland Centers Gallia  
Stonecrest South  
Elizabeth Chapel  
Northview Elementary  
God’s Hands at Work Outreach Center  
Vinton Baptist Church  

**Dayton Public Schools**  
Edison PK  
DeSoto Bass  
Eagle Ridge Apartments  
McIntosh Park  
Dayton View Park  
Five Oaks Park  
McCabe Park  
Mt. Carmel  
Omega at Dayton Boys  
Lousie Troy PK-4 School  
Ruskins  
Meadowdale PK-8 School  
United Theological Seminary  
Westwood Elementary  
Whitney Estates  

**Elgin Local Schools**  
Elgin High School  
LaRue Modulars  
Green Camp Village  
Oakridge Estates  

**Freestore Foodbank**  
Fighting Chance Mt. Healthy  
Shepard’s Place  
Glad House  
Robinson Park  

**Fremont City Schools**  
Ross Park  
Stamm Intervention Program  
Atkinson Elementary  
Fremont Middle School Summer Intervention  
Delaware Acres Apartments  
Little Bark Apartments  

**Highland County Community Action Organization**  
Greenfields Schools  

**Kenton City Schools**  
Forest Court  
Dream Center  

**Lima City Schools**  
Unity Elementary  
Liberty Arts Magnet  
Independence Elementary  

**Marion City Schools**  
Fairview Apartments  
Cardington Lincoln High School  
First United Church of Christ  
Garfield Elementary School  
Harding High School  
Garfield Park  
George Washington Elementary School  
Hidden Lakes Campground  
Boys and Girls Club  
Edison Ball Fields  
Life Link Church  
Lincoln Park  
Marion Public Library  
Martin Luther King Park  
Mayes Community Temple  
McKinley Park  
Mt. Gilead Park Ave. Elementary  
Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
McKinley Elementary  
Nazarene Church  
Olney Park  
Patterson St. Park  
Professional Park Apartments  
Rotary Park  
Rutherford B. Hayes Elementary School  
Sawyer-Ludwig Park  
Ulysses S. Grant Middle School  
William H. Taft Elementary School  

**Neighborhood Ministries**  
Briar Hill  
EB Family Life Center  
Kirwan Homes Community Center  
New Bethel Baptist Church  
Rockford Village Community Center  
Roosevelt Park  
The Village of Arlington  
New Vision New Day  
Generations 4U2  
Victory Estates  
Martin Luther Lutheran Church  
West Site Community Center  

**New Lexington City Schools**  
New Lexington Middle School  
New Lexington Park  
Junction City Park/Elementary  
Crooksville Park  
Somerset Park  
Shawnee Park  
New Lexington Village Apartments  
Village Green Apartments  
Alexander Yard Apartments  

**Northern Ohio Community Action Commission**  
Hebron Ministries  
Paulding LaFountain Park  
Bryan Mattie Marsh Park  
Pioneer Crommer Park  
Wauseon Reighard Park  

**Pike County Community Action**  
Eastern Library  
Garnet Wilson Library  
Pike County YMCA  
Pikeston Library  
Western Library  

**Reynoldsburg City Schools**  
Livingston High School  

**Ross County Community Action**  
Carver Community Center  
Adena School  
Kenwood Village  
Bainbridge United Methodist Church  
Blair Mobile Home Park  
Huntington Head Start  
Lincoln Park  
Mary Lou Patton Park  
Mt. Logan School  
Salvation Army  
Sherman Park  
Tiffin Schools  
Westland Estates  
Yoctangee Park  

**The Salvation Army Middletown**  
Sonny Hill Community Center  
Damon Park  
First Avenue Salvation Army  
Smith Park  
Sherman Park  
Oakland Park  
Berachah Church  
Amanda School  
Townehomes West  
Creekview Elementary  

**The Salvation Army Willard**  
The Willard Park  

**Scioto County Community Action Organization**  
New Boston Manor  
Sciotoville Elementary Academy  
Bloom Verno Elementary School  
Center St. UMC  
Miller Manor  
McKinley Pool  
Wayne Hills  
Lett Terrace  
CAO-OOD  
The Potter’s House Ministries  
Outreach  
Porter Township Community Park  
Portsmouth Elementary School  
Scioto County Homeless Shelter  
Stepping Stones Outpatient Services  
Green High School  
Rockhaven  
New Boston Local Schools  
Northwest Elementary School  
Cedar St. Church  
Portsmouth STEM Academy  
Vern Riffe School  
Valley Elementary School  

**SE Ohio Foodbank & Kitchen**  
Coolville Library  
Kids on Campus  
Glouster Library  
Chauncey Library  

**TLC Ministries**  
Bundy Heights Apartments  
Community of Christ Church  
Fairview Terrace Apartments  
Warriors 4 Christ Hope Center  
Oak Hill Summer School  
JVS  
Coalton Park  
Bundy Elementary Summer School  
Little Blessings Day Care  
rJ Estates  
Wells Manor  
Wellston Manor - D  
WIS Summer School  
Woodland Centers Kids Summer Groups  

**Westerville Area Resource Ministry**  
Abbey Lane Apartments  
Strawberry Farms Park  
Huber Village Park  
Alum Creek South State Park  
Northtowne Park  
Thornapple Apartments  
Parkeridge Park  
Ridgewood Community Park  
Walnut Ridge Park  
WARM Bus  

**Washington-Morgan Community Action**  
John Dodge Park  
Old New Matamoras Elementary  
Morgan Metropolitan Housing  

**YWCA of Van Wert County**
### Summer Rural Delivery Meals Program Sponsors and Sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adams Brown Counties Economic Opportunities</th>
<th>Glenmont Food Pantry</th>
<th>Pike County Community Action</th>
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<tr>
<td>COAD/RSVP of the Ohio Valley</td>
<td>Millersburg United Methodist Church</td>
<td>St. Francis Evangelization Center</td>
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<td>Mercerville Baptist</td>
<td>Glenmont School House</td>
<td>Ratcliffeburgh Volunteer Fire Department</td>
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<td>Mt. Carmel Baptist</td>
<td>Killbuck United Methodist Church</td>
<td>Brown Township Building</td>
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<td>Vinton Baptist Church</td>
<td>Nashville United Methodist Church</td>
<td>St. Francis Center</td>
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<td>God’s Hands Outreach Center</td>
<td>Meigs Local School District</td>
<td>Wilkesville Community Building</td>
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<td>Corinth Missionary Baptist Church</td>
<td>Meigs High School</td>
<td>St. Sylvester Church Hall</td>
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<td>Freestore Foodbank</td>
<td>Meigs Elementary School</td>
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<td>Valley Elementary</td>
<td>Hope Baptist Church</td>
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<td>South Webster Pinkerman Community Church</td>
<td>Salem Center Pick and Shovel</td>
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<td>Minford Elementary</td>
<td>Harrisonville Fire Department</td>
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<td>Green Elementary School</td>
<td>Emi’s Place Park</td>
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<td>RE-Up and Stuff</td>
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### Mobile Farmers Market Program Sponsors

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<tr>
<th>COAD/RSVP of the Ohio Valley</th>
<th>Marion City Schools</th>
<th>St. Francis Evangelization Center</th>
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<td>Pike County Community Action</td>
<td>TLC Ministries</td>
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<td>Freestore Foodbank</td>
<td>Scioto County Community Action Organization</td>
<td>Westerville Area Resource Ministry</td>
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<td>SE Ohio Foodbank &amp; Kitchen</td>
<td>YWCA of Van Wert County</td>
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### AmeriCorps VISTA Summer Associate Sites and Members

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ashtabula County Community Action Agency</th>
<th>Jordan Crum</th>
<th>Allison White</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emily Miller</td>
<td>Karen LaPresta</td>
<td>Brittany White</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Bedford Heights Department of Community Life</td>
<td>Kyle Thorpe</td>
<td>Makenzie Yutzy</td>
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<tr>
<td>JaDaza Bryant</td>
<td>Northern Ohio Community Action Council</td>
<td>TLC Ministries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reina Houston</td>
<td>Stephanie Esquibel</td>
<td>Joyce Jenkins</td>
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<td>Daijahnae Jones</td>
<td>Jaide Reiman</td>
<td>Aarian McCain</td>
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<td>Sheila Penn</td>
<td>Ohio Association of Foodbanks</td>
<td>Jenifer Witt</td>
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<td>Christin Range</td>
<td>Japera Benson</td>
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<td>Sheree Talley</td>
<td>Ohio University Kids on Campus</td>
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<td>Community Action Council of Belmont County</td>
<td>Nigel Cambridge</td>
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<td>Lakyn Craig</td>
<td>Ellen Conrath</td>
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<td>Hannah Stephens</td>
<td>Tyler Sayre</td>
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<td>Dayton YMCA</td>
<td>Suleyman Shriver</td>
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<td>Nakia Angelique</td>
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<td>Aaron Shields</td>
<td>Courtney Davis</td>
<td>Sierra Hernandez</td>
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<td>Rashad Williams</td>
<td>Christina Lenegar</td>
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<td>Brittany Milton</td>
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<td>Sativa Banks</td>
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<td>Homeport</td>
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<td>Mid-Ohio Foodbank</td>
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<td>Xavier Barrett</td>
<td>Ariel Aton</td>
<td>Ryan Meder</td>
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<td>Pam Science</td>
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Help us fight childhood hunger in the summer and year-round! Visit us at www.ohiofoodbanks.org to learn how you can donate, volunteer, advocate, and get involved.