#### How Can You Solve Your Summer Food Transportation Challenges?

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For audio please dial: **1-888-391-6804** Passcode: **5870095**#







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Webinar Moderator

#### Transportation and Participation

- O 21 Million children received free or reduced priced meals during the school year during 2013
  - During Summer 2013, we only reached a fraction of eligible children with summer meals
- Transportation is arguably the most important aspect of the program because the food <u>must</u> reach the children



#### Summer Food Service Program Basics

oFunds provided by USDA

oEach State Agency administers program

oChildren 18 years and younger receive free, nutritious meals

Organizations, schools, local government agencies, etc.
 serve the free, nutritious meals at safe and convenient sites in communities

oOperates during summer months when school is out

#### Benefits to Families & Communities

 Gives children the food they need when they are out of school to keep learning, playing, and growing

• Helps families with tight food budgets



 Sites that serve summer meals provide activities to keep kids mentally and physically active





#### Targeted States – FY2014



### What Is a "Sponsor"?

Any organization that can handle the financial, administrative, and food service responsibilities of running the Summer Food Service Program. It's usually a school, non-profit, faith-based organization, government entity, etc.



Sponsors come in all shapes and sizes!

#### What Does a "Sponsor" Do?

- Signs agreement with State Agency setting forth responsibilities of each party
- State Agency provides training on how to run the program
- Sponsor has the following responsibilities:
  - Financial and administrative record-keeping
  - Manages food service (prepares food themselves or contracts with food service company)
  - Train sites (sponsor may have from 1-200 sites sponsors can be sites themselves!)
  - Receives reimbursement from States for meals and administrative costs



### What Is a "Site"?

- The place where meals are served and kids eat
- Sites can be anywhere, but ideally it's where the kids usually are during summer



#### Open Sites vs. Enrolled Sites

 <u>Open sites</u> – all children eat free without the need of additional paperwork because the site is *area* eligible



http://216.55.182.132/FairData/Sum merFood/map.asp?command=scop e&map=0

 <u>Enrolled Sites</u> – all children eat free because 50% or more of the children enrolled at the site are income eligible

### **Transportation Solutions**

#### Bringing Children to the Sites

- School buses
- Partners can provide for funding, volunteers, and/or vehicles
- Car pooling
- Human Walking Trains

#### **Delivering Food to the Children/Sites**

- Mobile Canteen
- Partner with community organizations to deliver food to remote sites
- Retrofitting a School Bus/Van  $\longrightarrow$
- Vendors specialized in Mobile Feeding at cost



#### **Innovative Partnerships**



Food for People and UPS have been key partners in food delivery in California. What partners do you know that can do the same??





# Addressing Summer Food Transportation

Cheryl Le Food Bank of Northern Nevada Child Nutrition Programs Manager <u>cle@fbnn.org</u> 775 331 3663 ext. 132

# OUR SUMMER PROGRAM 2014



- 26 SFSP Meal Sites, at:
  - 5 schools
  - 3 public housing community center
  - 1 Non-Profit Museum
  - 2 Boys & Girls Club programs
  - 15 parks/playgrounds

### Summer Meals We Serve

- Cold sack meals at all sites
- Menu created by the Washoe County
   School District Nutrition Services
- Uses a wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables





### Partners

- Washoe County School District
- •City of Reno Parks and Recreation
- Boys and Girls Club of Truckee Meadows







# Notification

- Police Departments
- •Washoe County Health District
- •All Parks and Recreations in area
- Media
- •Signage at sites when possible
- Flyers sent home through schools near SFSP sites- list partner agency sites as well as our own



Almuerzo gratís para los niños de 1-18 Años Deben ser consumidos aquí mismo

FREE Lunch for Kids 1-18 years Must be eaten on site



#### LUNCH MUST BE EATEN IN THE PARK

ALMUERZO DEBE SER CONSUMIDO EN EL PARQUE

### Mobile Distribution (6 Vehicles)

- Purchased through grants over the years
  - ConAgra, Smith's, Reynolds Foundation
- Park vehicles at Nutrition Services
- Each truck has 3-5 stops
- 10-30 minutes each stop depending on previous attendance
- Swing signs set up on streets by each stop
- 2 staff on each vehicle
- Hand wipes given out as children line up
- Health dept. approved HACCP





# Volunteers

- Local businesses love to volunteer at our sites
- •Duties-
  - Help with line control
  - Remind children about picking up trash
  - Remind children to eat in the SFSP location

# Training

Critical

On time every day
Problems with vehicles
Who to call

### **Summer Food Success**

# Keep your focus on feeding kids

Know no barriers

•Keep your sense of humor

•Have fun and enjoy the kids!



### Cheryl Le Food Bank of Northern Nevada Child Nutrition Programs Manager <u>cle@fbnn.org</u> 775 331 3663 ext. 132

#### Transportation and Site Management Best Practices for Rural Communities

#### Byron W. Waters, Multi-Family Housing Program Director Rural Development byron.waters@va.usda.gov



### Housing Act of 1949, Section 515



- MFH Program designed to provide affordable rental housing in eligible rural areas.
- MFH Program targets low (80% AMI) and very low (50% AMI) income households.
- Section 523 provides for project based rental assistance for very low income residents.



#### Basic Facts: 515 Portfolio

- National Stats
  - 16,500 properties with 458,090 units
  - 30% of properties are in counties with declining income
  - Average size is 28 units
- Virginia has 256 properties with 10,212 units.



#### Where are the Properties?

**Multi Family Housing Property Locations** 





# **Rural Transportation Challenges**

- Finding the children
  - Typically children are disbursed to their homes during the summer school break.
- Scattered children need transportation to summer feeding sites
- Challenge is compounded in rural areas



# **USDA StrikeForce**

- Introduced as a pilot in 2010
- Promotes interagency cooperation within USDA to focus resources on persistent poverty counties.
- Now includes 700 parishes, boroughs, counties and tribal reservations in 20 states







# Take the Food to the Children

- StrikeForce meeting led to a new idea to serve children where they live
- FNS introduced RD to VDH who administers the Summer Food Service in Virginia.
- RD worked with VDH to identify MFH properties and sponsors that would be willing to serve as a pilots



# Tail of Two Sites

#### **Sandston Woods Apartments – Sandston, VA**



#### **Birch Island Apartments – Wakefield, VA**





# Sandston Woods Apartments



- Pilot Project, 40-unit family property
- Served breakfast and lunch for 3 days per week
- Sponsored by Central Virginia Food Bank (food delivery took 15 min.)
- Site Supervisor was the real estate property manager



# **Birch Island Apartments**

- Program developed organically by Manager
- Served lunch for 5 days per week
- Sponsor was located 2 counties away
- Local non-profit transported food (45 min. drive)
- Dependable residents as Site Supervisors



# Success Takeaways

- Finding sponsor was easy
- A dedicated Site Supervisor who is <u>not</u> the property Site Manager is critical
- Try to start off with serving lunch only, 5 days per week
- Properties with community rooms are ideal sites









# **VDH** Priorities





# Virginia Plans for 2014

- Targeting the Tier I priority counties for the Summer Food Service Program that are also StrikeForce counties
- In those counties there are 46 family properties to evaluate for possible Summer Food Service sites



### **RD MFH Property Locator**

#### RD Multi-Family Housing Rental locator:

#### http://rdmfhrentals.sc.egov.usda.gov/RDMFHRentals/select\_state.jsp





### Let's work together to expand Summer Food Service to the children who call RD MFH home!







#### How Community Facilities Grants Can Solve Your Transportation Challenges

Susan L. Woolard Loan Specialist Rural Development

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- <u>Community Facilities</u> loans, guarantees and grants are available to organizations, public entities, and tribal governments in rural areas and towns of up to **20,000** in population
  - Used to assist the development of essential community facilities. Funds can be used to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities for health care, public safety, and community and public services.
- Community Facility is defined as any object that assists in providing a service (e.g. vehicle, kitchen, food service equipment)
- Administered through local offices. To locate your local office visit: <u>http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=us&agency=rd</u>

- Grants are need-based with the smallest, poorest communities eligible for the largest grant percentages
- Grant assistance is based on:
  - Median household income of the service area,
  - The population of the community where the project is located
  - The availability of grant funds
- The maximum grant available is for up to 75% of project costs. Rural Development loans may be used as part of the funding package as well as other grants. Certain restrictions may apply if the other funding is from another Federal grant.
- Grant funding limitations are based on population and income, economic feasibility, and availability of funds
- The average grant in 2013 was approximately \$24,500

Examples of food related projects:

- Renovations to school kitchens for food preparation
- Purchase of a refrigerated truck for food delivery
- Purchase and modifications to a vehicle for use as a mobile kitchen
- Food pantries
- Construction of a kitchen for Meals on Wheels food preparation.

If you have a project in mind, contact the Area Office to discuss early in the process.



Additional USDA resources:

- Contact your state agency: <u>www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Contacts/StateDirectory.htm</u>
- SFSP Outreach Page: <u>www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Summer/Outreach.htm</u>
- Main USDA Summer Food page: <u>www.summerfood.usda.gov</u>

# Question & Answer Session!

Type your question in the text field in the lower left hand corner of your webinar window

#### OR

Dial \*1 on your telephones to ask a question by phone

#### **Today's Presenters:**

- Tony Craddock, Jr., USDA Food & Nutrition Service
- Cheryl Le, Food Bank of Northern Nevada
- Byron Waters, USDA Rural Development (Virginia)
- Susan Woolard, USDA Rural Development (Headquarters)

#### Subject Matter Expert:

• Mandana Yousefi, USDA Food & Nutrition Service