





Patrice Chamberlain Executive Director, California Summer Meal Coalition

California Library Association & California Summer Meal Coalition

February 6th, 2018

Summer Landscape

□ Who has summer covered in your community?

- Summer school?
- Community center?
- Home...

Need to address whole child when school is out
 Urban & rural both experience summer challenges
 Starting with meeting basic need to build upon

The Need

Food Access

- 53% of parents have a hard time making ends meet in summer, \$300 average additional food costs
- Additional Food costs compete with rent, utilities, meds

Obesity

- Weight gain may occur 2-3x faster in summer
- Obesity risk increases without access to healthy food or safe places to be active

Learning Loss

 Potential loss of 2-3 months in reading skills, cumulative impact on achievement gap

Sources: Share Our Strength, 2013; National Summer Learning Association, 2012

Summer Meal Programs

Summer Food Service Program:

- Local government agencies, schools, tribal government, nonprofit CBOS reimbursed to offer free, healthy meals (breakfast, lunch, snack, or supper) for kids 18 and under in low income neighborhoods
- Low income area = At least 50% of children eligible for free or reduced price meals
- □ Meals available to all children No paperwork for families

□ USDA > State Agency > Sponsors > Sites

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Summer Food Insecurity

Nationally, only summer lunches reach 1 in 7 children

Meals served on average school day in CA:

2.4 million+

Meals served on average summer day in CA: 456,000

Your state?

Frac.org/Resources/Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation

Is Your Library Eligible to Serve?

- □ Is your library in an eligible area?
 - Census or school data
- School District Nutrition Director
- USDA Capacity Builder



fns.usda.gov/capacitybuilder

Working with a Provider

- School districts may be a good start
- □ Food banks are great resources!
 - They may be providers
 - □ They may be able to connect you with one
 - □ They may be able to offer supplementary support
- LunchAtTheLibrary.org / Getting Started
 - □ Introductory meeting with provider
 - Expectations, timelines, needs

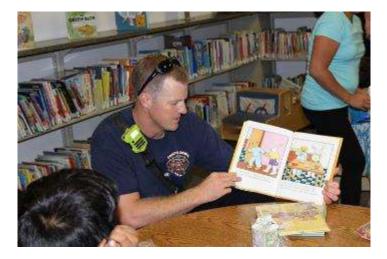
Possibilities through Partnership

- Schools, offices of education
- Community clinics, hospitals
- Elected leaders
- Food banks
- Park & Rec., other city/county agencies
- Faith-based organizations
- Local business
- Water , recycling agencies
- CBOs, social service agencies
- YMCA's, Boys & Girls Clubs
- Universities, community colleges
- Local agriculture, farmers
- Intergenerational connections
- Youth volunteer opps/jobs



Building Community & Partnerships

- Staff engagement: raised morale and engaged staff
- Strong support from organization, and city/county leadership
- New partnerships with meal providers and collaboration with other city, county, school, special district agencies, CBOs and local business









Trish Garone Programs Manager, California Library Association

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WHY AT THE LIBRARY?

 Trusted community spaces
 Highly valued by residents, particularly among low-income,
 lower-education households
 (Source: Pew Research)



Summer reading program, activities, and resources to complement the meal service.

RAPID GROWTH IN CALIFORNIA

SUMMER 2017 228,500+ meals served at 164 public library sites.

SUMMER 2013
21,870 meals served in over
17 public library sites.



IMPACT

 Popular summer meal sites
 Increase in summer reading sign-ups and library card issues

New families at the library

Shift in library behavior

New partnerships & support



ALL SHAPES & SIZES



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Creating an Inviting Space















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Storytelling

Writing & art workshops

PROGRAMMING

Summer reading

STEAM programs

Nutrition classes

Container gardening

App Academy

□Zumba!



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YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- Teen volunteers developed workforce-readiness skills Served meals
- Participated in program development
- Prepared the room
- Planned programs
- **Brought in friends**



CALIFORNIA RESULTS: OUTPUT DATA

Output Data

Participation survey for library staff: number of meals served, programming offered, etc.

Help to show the program's breadth and reach

Data that can be used to help others establish programs

- Outcomes Data
 - Surveys for Families
 - Demonstrate the program's value and impact

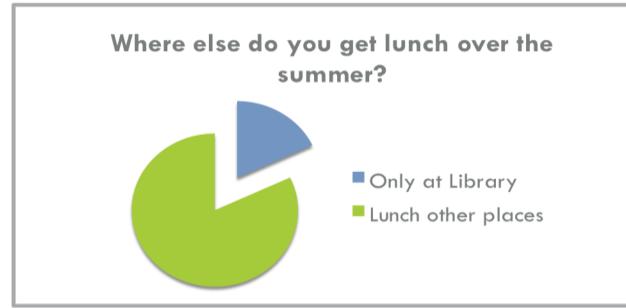
CALIFORNIA'S PROGRAM OUTCOMES

1. Families know they can get help and essential resources at the library.

- 2. Families feel healthy, happy, and safe.
 - Public library summer meal programs achieve their potential when they connect families with library resources and help them feel healthy, happy, and safe, in addition to providing meals.

Results: Output Data (2017)

18% of families surveyed reported that they don't get lunch anywhere else but the library during the summer.



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The Importance of Outcome-Based Programs

- We encourage all libraries to plan their summer meal programs with outcomes in mind
 - Easier than it might sound
 - Greater impact than programs designed with no outcomes in mind
 - Improve future programs
 - Demonstrate the impact of your work
 - Contribute to statewide data
 - Set your own outcomes!

Achieving Program Outcomes

- Outcome evaluation is most effective when it is part of a systematic planning process:
 - Review program outcomes with colleagues.
 - Design your program with the outcomes in mind.
 - If you want to connect families with library resources and ensure they feel healthy, happy, and safe, offer programs that are intentionally designed to achieve those outcomes.
 - Collect and report your data.
 - Use data to improve your program and demonstrate its impact.

LUNCHATTHELIBRARY.ORG



About First Steps Toolkit Impact Map of Sites Additional Resources News & Events

Lunch at the Library provides library staff with the tools and support they need to develop successful public library summer meal programs that provide children and teens in low-income communities with free and nutritious lunches through the USDA Summer Food Service Program. In addition to summer meals, Lunch at the Library sites provide participants with a safe and welcoming space, learning and enrichment opportunities, and an introduction to the library's diverse services and resources.

Learn more

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kern county LIBRARY



History of Lunch at the Library in Kern

- Began in 2014 at Beale
- Free for 2-18, adults \$3
- 3 week lead time
- Only 3 staff members
- Split locations
- Total Attendance: 5,007
- Only 14 scheduled programming events



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History of Lunch at the Library in Kern

- 2015 was our second year
- Attendee increase:6,714



- Dedicated branch staff
- Volunteer involvement
- Programming planned for nearly every day

Expansion in Kern

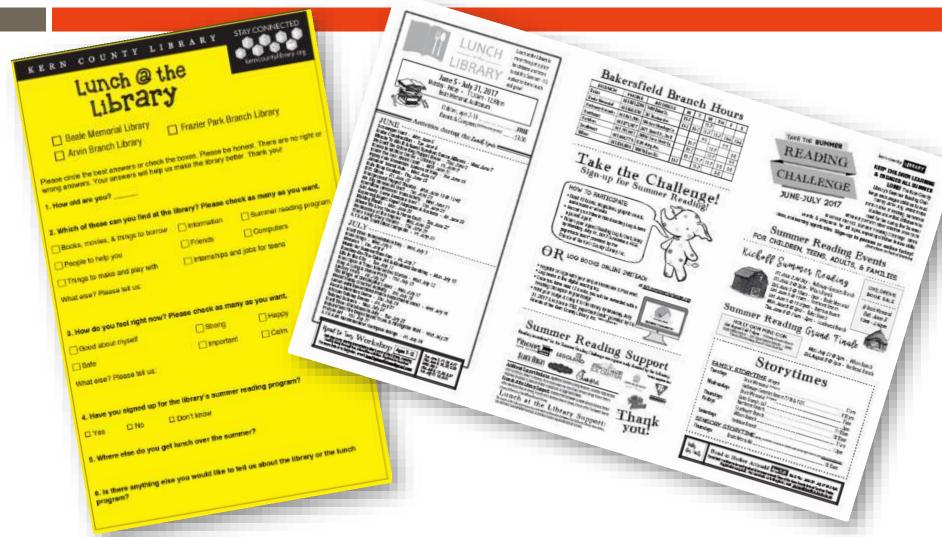
- 2016: added Arvin & Frazier Park
 - Arvin end date
 - FP began late
 - Food Bank at Beale
 - Attendance: 9,763
- 2017: added McFarland
 - Only 2 days
 - Second location across the street
 - Attendance: 10,856

Highlights

- Guest Reader Series
- Head to Toes Workshop (day camp)
- Doodles-on-the-Table Art
- Passive crafts that can be prepped ahead of time
- Partnerships "make the dream work"
- □ The New York Times



Learning Experiences



Surveys – passive is easiest Cross-Promoted Publicity

Learning Experiences

- Creating the vision for food vendors
- Rules & regulations / food police
- The importance of teen volunteers / interns
- Greeters, trash bags, napkins, water jug
- Craigslist, Put back table

Most IMPORTANT: Don't let fears overpower the effort!



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