



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM TO NOURISH NEW JERSEY CHILDREN IN NEED
Community FoodBank of New Jersey Aims to Close Summer Meal Gap

HILLSIDE, NJ—April 5, 2021

Food insecure children and their families are most vulnerable during the summer months, when they lose access to the free school meals that they rely on. This year, as schools remain closed due to COVID-19, putting food on the table has been an even more urgent challenge for households struggling to make ends meet.

During 2020, child food insecurity in New Jersey increased by 75% because of the pandemic – from 1 in 7 kids lacking sufficient access to nutritious food up to 1 in 5. With more children in need than ever before, the Community FoodBank of New Jersey (CFBNJ) will work with sites across the state this summer, including Boys & Girls Clubs, recreation centers, and libraries, to serve free breakfasts and lunches through the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). CFBNJ will serve nutritious meals to thousands of children **from June 28, 2021 to August 31, 2021** to help them grow up healthy and reach their full potential.

For more information on how your child can receive free breakfasts and lunches this summer, contact:

Amanda Cusumano, Nutrition Programs Coordinator in Hillside, at acusumano@cfbnj.org, if you’re in Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, or Union County.

Amanda Gill, Child Nutrition Programs Coordinator in South Jersey, at agill@cfbnj.org, if you’re in Atlantic, Cape May, or Cumberland County.

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The Summer Food Service Program is a federal program of the Food and Nutrition Services, United States Department of Agriculture. This program provides all children 18 years of age and under with the same free meal in accordance with a menu approved by the state agency.

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(1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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[The Community FoodBank of New Jersey \(CFBNJ\)](#), a member of Feeding America®, has been delivering food, help and hope across the state for 45 years. Last year, CFBNJ provided nutritious food for over 66 million meals through its network of more than 1,000 community partners including pantries, soup kitchens, emergency shelters, mobile pantries, and child and senior feeding programs throughout the 15 New Jersey counties it serves. For our hungry neighbors, the Community FoodBank of New Jersey is the powerful agent of change that fills the emptiness caused by hunger and provides resources that are essential to earning a sustainable living.