

# Nutrition Services Summer Food Service Program

August 28, 2023



## Background Information

- The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a federally-funded, state-administered program. SFSP reimburses approved program operators who serve free healthy meals and snacks to children and teens (18 years and younger) in low-income areas when school is not in session.
- In 2023, FWCS served 6,699 breakfasts, 35,504 lunches, and 17,842 snacks for a total of 60,045 meals at 28 sites.



## SFSP Supports Food Insecurity

Feeding America defines food insecurity as when a family, in the past 12 months, has worried that their food would run out before they had money to buy more.

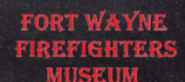
### St. Joseph Community Health Foundation

- In Allen County alone, approximately 14% of our population is food insecure, including children.
- Food-insecure individuals are more likely to have chronic diseases, such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease, resulting in higher healthcare costs.

## 2023 Summer Kick-Off Celebration

- Served
  - 350 children
  - 171 adults
- Adult lunches sponsored by ReMax Crossroads
- Ice cream donation from Prairie Farms
- Cow costume and corn hole games from Kuehnert Dairy Farm
- USDA "Turnip The Beet" Initiative in Action

### Partners





## Summer Highlights

### Successfully Launched a Pioneering Nutrition Ed Program in Collaboration with Local Libraries:

- Cultivated our own produce for Nutrition Ed classes.

### Introduced Breakfast Coffee Bar Pilot at High Schools:

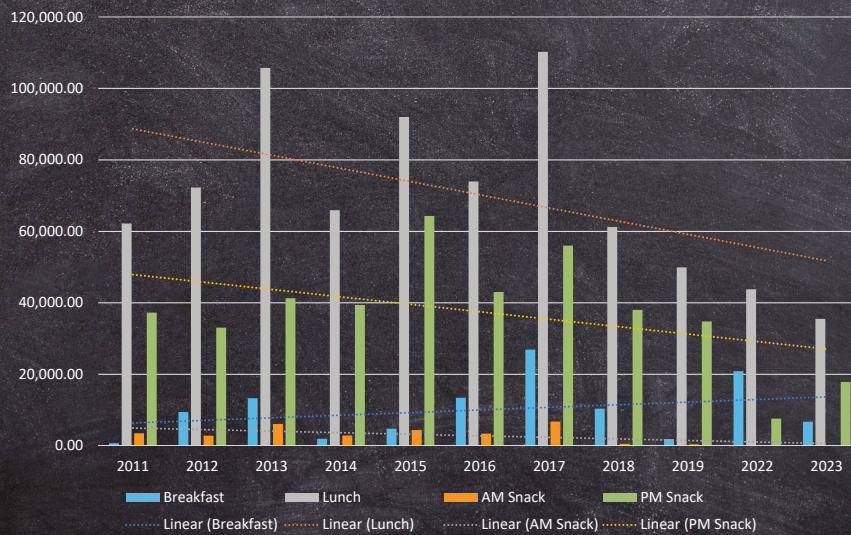
- We ventured into uncharted territory with the Breakfast Coffee Bar Pilot, providing new and enticing options.
- Our efforts yielded a 40.76% increase in breakfast participation rates at high schools.

## Challenges

- Difficulties Staffing Sites
- Menu Constraints
  - Limited to cold options
- Stringent Program Regulations
  - On-Site Meal Consumption
- Decline in Participation of Children
  - Steady participation drop since 2017
  - Evolving dynamics
- Hardships in finding successful sites



## SFSP Historical Data



## 2022 Comparison of National School Lunch Program (NSLP) to SFSP

### NSLP Annual Data

- 1,785,500 Breakfasts
- 3,417,339 Lunches
- 150,186 Snacks

### SFSP Annual Data

- 20,842 Breakfasts
- 43,768 Lunches
- 7,601 Snacks



## Turnip The Beet

- The Turnip the Beet Award, by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), recognizes outstanding Summer Meal Program sponsors who work hard to offer high quality meals that are appetizing, appealing and nutritious.
- Last year, among 98 eligible submissions across the country, Nutrition Services proudly achieved the bronze level of this award.





## Shaping the Future of SFSP

- Farm-to-School
- Menu Revitalization
  - Introducing hot food options at designated sites
  - Leveraging staff skills
- Nutrition Education Expansion
  - Incorporation of blender bike activities
- Exploring Opportunities with a Food Truck
- Strengthening Collaborative Partnerships
- Saturday Meal Service in Local Parks

## Blender Bike





## Shaping the Future of SFSP

- Farm-to-School
- Menu Revitalization
  - Introducing hot food options at designated sites
  - Leveraging staff skills
- Nutrition Education Expansion
  - Incorporation of blender bike activities
- Exploring Opportunities with a Food Truck
- Strengthening Collaborative Partnerships
- Saturday Meal Service in Local Parks

# Questions?