

# 2021 Summer Food Service Program Newsletter

March 2021

Welcome to the Summer Food Service Program 2021



Food That's In When School is Out!

**Welcome to Summer 2021!**

**Summer 2020 was a summer full of challenges and successes. The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) staff wish to thank you all for your hard work and ability to adapt to an ever changing situation! Thank you to all sponsors who have dedicated their time and energy to helping ensure that children continue to receive nutritious meals during the COVID-19 emergency situation.**

**THANK YOU!!**

The SFSP state team is privileged to witness in this newsletter the outstanding achievements and hard work of the following sponsors that chose to share their stories: Blue Springs School District, Douglass Community Services, Elevate Branson, Stanberry R-II, Burns Recovered/Midwest Children's Burn Camp, Nutrition and Child Services Agency, and Heart of America ReDistribution Solutions & Support.

Please check out our website for sponsor and site supervisor resources and guidance!  
<https://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/nutrition/foodprograms/sfsp/resources.php>

Information regarding 2021 SFSP training can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

If your organization would like to be featured next year, see your 2021 SFSP Orientation Manual for details.

**See last page of this newsletter for training information.**

## SFSP Success Stories

### Blue Springs R-IV School District

The Blue Springs School District served meals in 2020 beginning with the unanticipated school closure in March due to the COVID-19 virus through to the present. Their tireless efforts were met with appreciation from the children and families they served and can be seen in a small part in the thank you note received from one of the students.

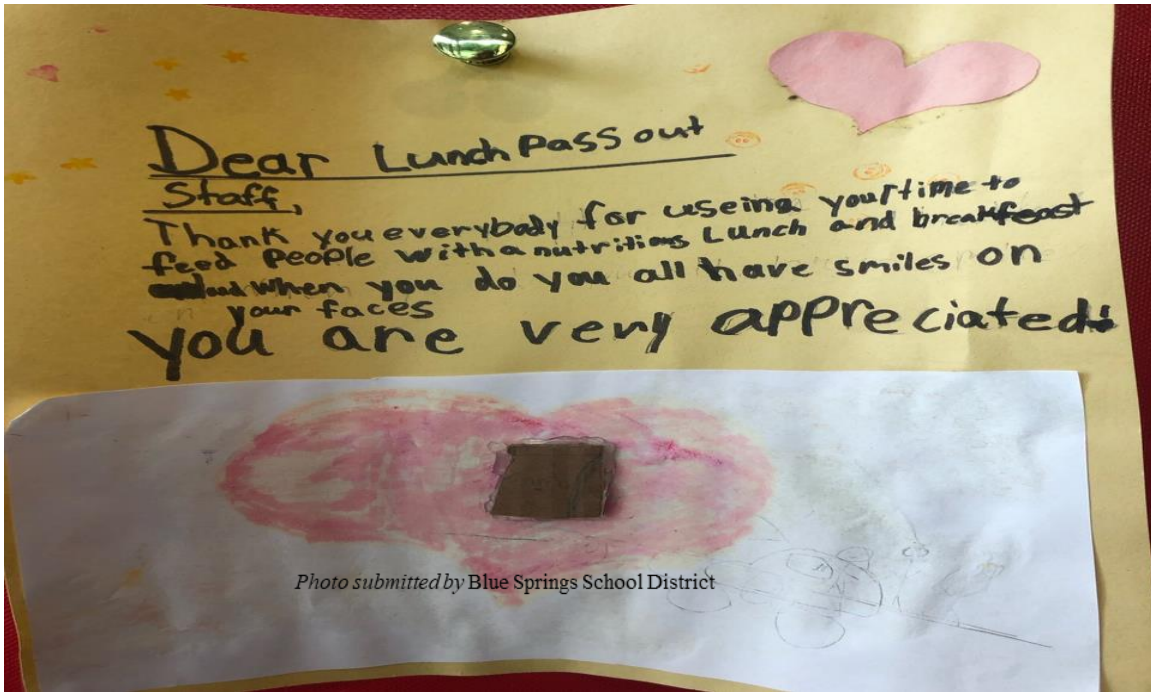


Photo submitted by Blue Springs School District

Photo submitted by Blue Springs School District

### Douglass Community Services



Douglass Community Services has been sponsoring the USDA Summer Meals program for six years. The 2020 summer was no exception. In the photo, Youth Services Director Jared Moore is distributing USDA summer meals at Spooner Creek Park. Each day Lila Largent picked up lunch for herself and her three siblings. Summer meals support children and families of all shapes and sizes and helped ensure meals during the COVID-19 emergency.

Photo submitted by Douglass Community Services

## SFSP Success Stories

### Elevate Branson's 2020 summer program – Light Your Spark

Elevate Branson's 2020 summer program was called *Light Your Spark* and was made possible by the wonderful Kids Director, Cathy Brown, as well as a phenomenal group of talented teachers, a school cafeteria manager, drivers and countless others that volunteered their time and services to the children in the Branson community.



Photos submitted by Meada Spencer, Elevate Branson



Ms. Cathy created a curriculum that included four different stations each day:

Classroom 1 - Science and Writing. The children learned about plants. They planted a flower and then went outside and used sidewalk chalk to work on writing letters of the alphabet.

# SFSP Success Stories

## Elevate Branson's 2020 summer program – Light Your Spark

Classroom 2 – Conscious Discipline. In this class, the children learned different breathing techniques and what it means to wish someone well. Another day the children were shown different sensory tools they could use to calm themselves, and they made hand puppets.

Classroom 3 – Fine Motor. This class included playing with cool whip, painting pictures with watercolors and playing games.

Classroom 4 – Interactive Reading. The children listened to a book and performed activities that related to the story. One day they listened to *Giraffes Can't Dance* and then made a giraffe out of marshmallows.

The skills and education the children learned are extremely important, but we strongly consider the food we were able to feed these children a significant part of their development, and thanks to the Summer Food Service Program we were able to do so! Each day we served the children both breakfast and lunch. An example of a typical breakfast was scrambled eggs and cheese, sausage, pancakes, watermelon and banana, with milk to drink. A lunch example was chicken strips, mashed potatoes, celery and peanut butter, carrots, apple slices, and milk. The children thoroughly enjoyed the food and it was a true blessing to be able to nourish them in both mind and body.



Photos submitted by Meada Spencer, Elevate Branson



## SFSP Success Stories

### Stanberry R-II and the Children's Library Services for the Gentry County Library



*Photos submitted by Toyka Rosier*

Stanberry R-II and The Children's Library Services for the Gentry County Library in Stanberry partnered to provide meals to their communities. First let me tell you how thankful our two communities are for all of the support in helping us, in helping our communities. It has been a great success, deeply appreciated and very rewarding! The Gentry County Library partnered with Stanberry R-II School and King City School district to provide free breakfast and lunch for anyone from birth to age 18. We delivered and provided pickup services on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. In addition to the meals, the Library provided exciting programming activities in "Imagine Your Story" through the Gentry County Library Summer Reading Program packets. There were online activities, special virtual events, with online story times, crafts, and much more.



*Photos submitted by Toyka Rosier*

## SFSP Success Stories

### Burns Recovered/Midwest Children's Burn Camp

Considering the severity of the COVID 19 pandemic and the potential for compromised immune systems that burn survivors face, the 2020 session of Midwest Children's Burn Camp (MCBC) was held online, as campers and counselors "zoomed" into the future from July 27 to August 1. "Our volunteer camp counselors took what makes MCBC special in-person and converted that "magic" into the virtual space. Each camper received a "camp-in-a-box" filled with everything they needed for camp, including an Amazon Fire tablet to connect online, a daily snack, and supplies for playing games and working on group activities. These ranged from paper airplane design and slime making to building a mock-up of a human lung and learning about the COVID-19 virus. Over 45 young burn survivors participated, mainly from MO and KS but also from all across the country! The most was made of Zoom technology, with 42.5 hours of live camp provided and additional activities pre-recorded and made available on YouTube. The camp was a "virtual" success and we thank all of our community sponsors and generous supporters of Burns Recovered and Midwest Children's Burn Camp!



*Photos submitted by Madeleine Carson, Midwest Children's Burn Camp*



# SFSP Success Stories

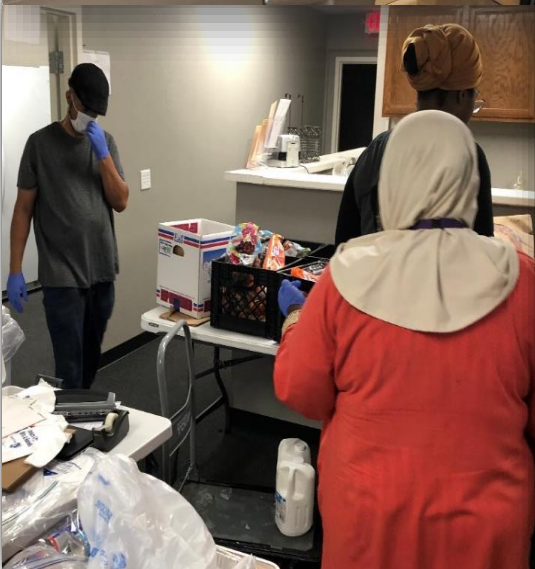
## Nutrition and Child Services Agency

Nutrition and Child Services Agency operated five “grab and go” meals service sites throughout the Kansas City area since April 2020. Through the hard work and dedication of the staff and volunteers, thousands of meals were safely provided during the COVID-19 emergency and the summer months.



### Daisy-Walnut Apartments

On behalf of the Daisy Walnut Apartments staff and the residents, we want to give a HUGE Shout-Out to Mohammed Abdulkareem and h...



# SFSP Success Stories

Nutrition and Child Services Agency continued



Photos submitted by Nutrition and Child Services: Aisha Washington



## And Now A Word From A Sponsor

### Heart of America ReDistribution Solutions & Support

I have a quick "this is why I subject myself to the rigors of this job" moment.

A teacher from a small school in Dresden Missouri called me. She wanted to volunteer herself and a group of teachers to serve meals at one of the feeding sites where the majority of her students live. She explained that she and the teachers missed their "dragons" (name of the school mascot) and were sorry that they were not able to tell their students goodbye before the school closed due to the pandemic. She sounded so sincere and so happy when I told her that she and the teachers would be able to volunteer there since the usual volunteer church was still closed making volunteers unavailable.

Sometimes I get so involved in the logistics of running the program that I don't always see why individuals volunteer and how what we do impact so many in a variety of ways. Speaking with the teacher really raised my spirits and I wanted to pass this on to you in hopes of letting you know that what you do is very valued and appreciated.

Sue Foster



# 2021 SFSP Sponsor Training Dates

SFSP 2021 offers two training options for returning sponsors. Sponsors can complete the four SFSP Training Modules online or complete a live SFSP WebEx training. The four SFSP Training Modules can be found on the SFSP website at: <http://www.health.mo.gov/sfsp>. All new SFSP sponsors should attend one of the SFSP WebEx trainings listed below. To sign up for the WebEx training, please email [SFSP@health.mo.gov](mailto:SFSP@health.mo.gov). You will need to include the name of the person who will attend, their email, their mailing address, the sponsor name, and which training they want to attend. Please indicate SFSP 2021 Training in the subject line of the email.

## WebEx SFSP Orientation Training Dates –2021

Date of Training	Time of Training	Training Sign Up Deadline
March 4, 2021	9:00 to 2:00	February 18, 2021
March 10, 2021	9:00 to 2:00	February 24, 2021
March 16, 2021	9:00 to 2:00	March 2, 2021
March 25, 2021	9:00 to 2:00	March 11, 2021
March 31, 2021	9:00 to 2:00	March 18, 2021
April 6, 2021	9:00 to 2:00	March 23, 2021
April 28, 2021	9:00 to 2:00	April 14, 2021
May 6, 2021	9:00 to 2:00	April 22, 2021
May 18, 2021	9:00 to 2:00	May 4, 2021

## WebEx SFSP Question and Answer Sessions Dates –2021

Date of Training	Time of WebEx	Training Sign Up Deadline
April 13, 2021	9:00 to 12:00	April 1, 2021
April 22, 2021	9:00 to 12:00	April 8, 2021

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.