

Welcome!

We'll get started soon. While we wait for other attendees to join, please answer this question in the chat box:

What organization are you representing? What types of partnerships are you hoping to build this summer?



Together We Serve: How Schools and Community Organizations are Boosting Summer Meals

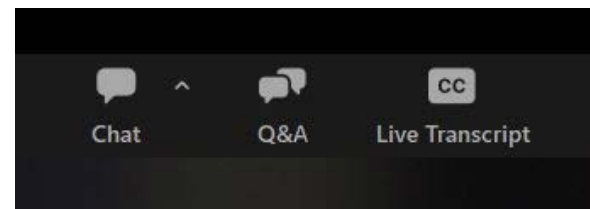
March 27, 2025





Things to Know as We Begin

- The slide deck will be shared via email after the webinar along with the recording.
- To engage with other attendees, please use the chat box.
- If you have questions for the speakers, please enter those into the Q&A box.
- Closed captioning is available.



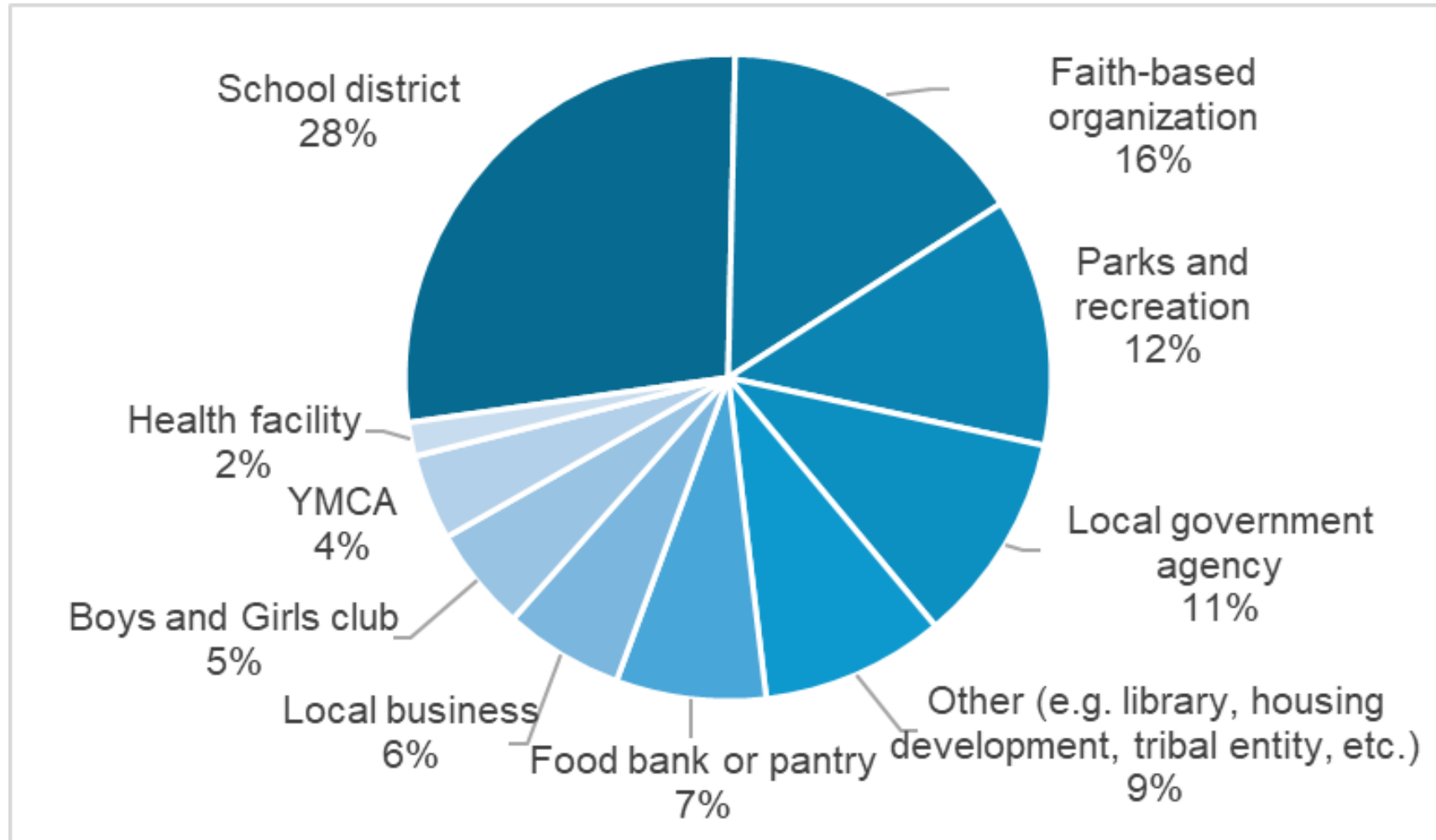


Agenda

- Welcome
- Housekeeping Items
- Data Sharing
- Speaker Discussions
- Q&A
- Resources & Updates
- Closing & Survey

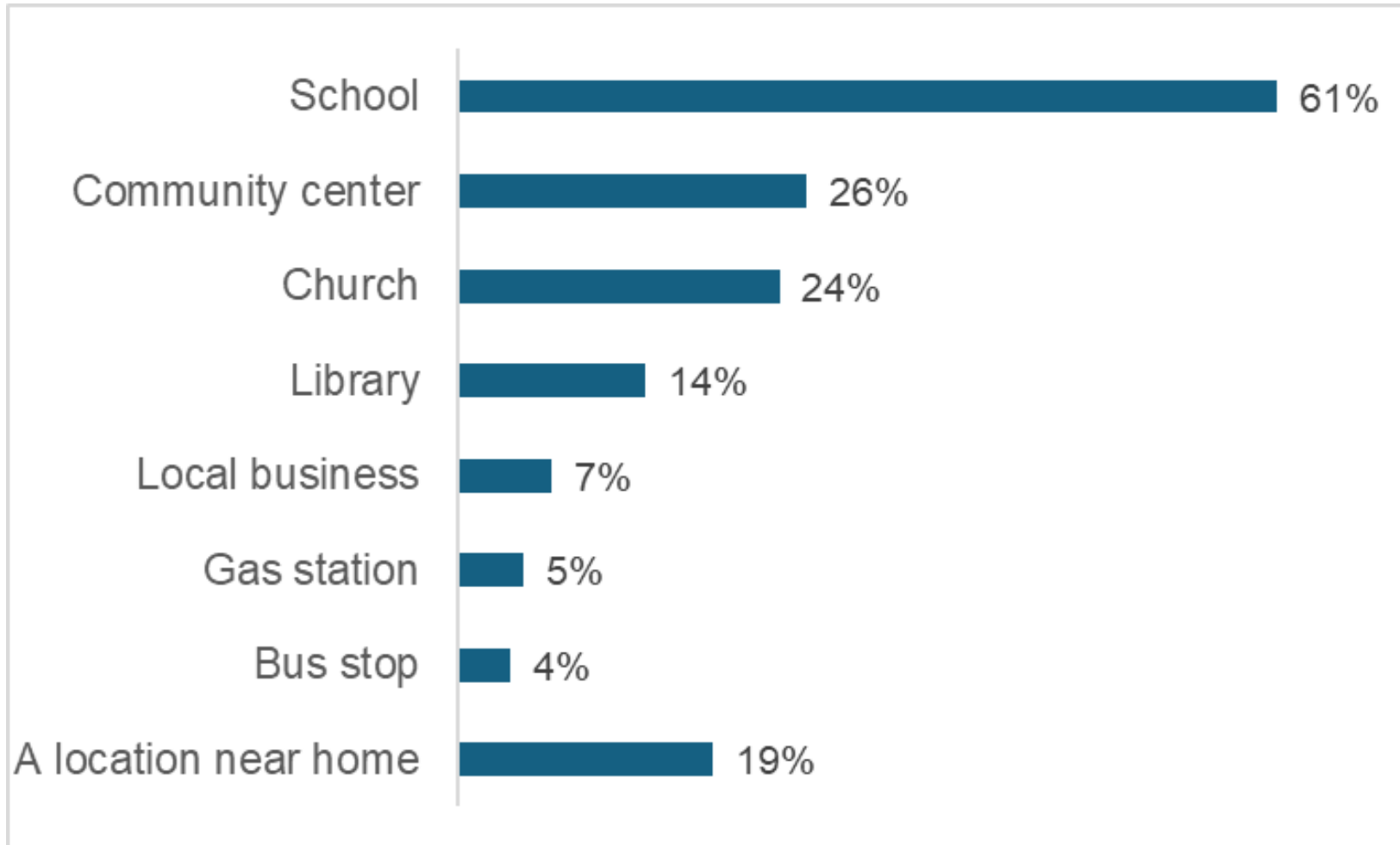
No Kid Hungry Survey 2024 Results: School and Community Partnerships

Partnerships Made Rural Non-Congregate Possible



Source: Preliminary data from NKH 2024 Sponsor Survey

Schools, Community Centers, and Churches were the Most Common Pickup Sites



Source: Preliminary data from NKH 2024 Family Survey

Identifying Partners for Summer Meals Programs:

In Schools:

School Nutrition Departments

McKinney Vento Advocates

Public Information Officers (PIO)

Student Services

Student Workforce/ROP Programs

High School Students Volunteers

School Health Workers (RNs, Mental Health and Social Workers)

Transportation Department

In the Community:

Libraries

Parks & Recreation

Churches

Summer Camps

Local Anti-Hunger Organizations

Local Businesses (activities/kick off fairs)

County Dept. of Public Health

Local Farmers

University Students

**POLL QUESTION:
WHO IS JOINING US TODAY?**

Speakers



Veronica Stephens

East Tennessee
Human Resource
Agency, TN



**Christopher
Hutchinson**

Val Verde Unified
School District, CA



Ginko Lueder

Val Verde Unified
School District, CA



Gary Bye

FISH Community
Foodbank, WA

Disclaimer

Our speakers represent their own experience with non-congregate summer meal programs in their states and localities. Certain program models and implementation methods may be restricted in some states. Check with your local state agency before implementing any new meal service models or implementation methods.

**TELL US ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATION
AND THE UNIQUE COMMUNITY YOU
SERVE**



Veronica Stephens

Senior Program Director
East Tennessee Human Resource
Agency



About ETHRA:

- Since 1973, our mission is to help families and individuals remain independent with opportunities to succeed.
- Connecting children, seniors and families with meals, SNAP and other wrap-around services.
- ETHRA serves as summer meals sponsor.
- Partners with school districts, churches and other non-profit organizations.

Program Quick Stats



**2024 Summer Food
Program Meals
Served**

**571,037 Breakfasts
570,137 Lunches
3,739 Snacks
1,229 Suppers**

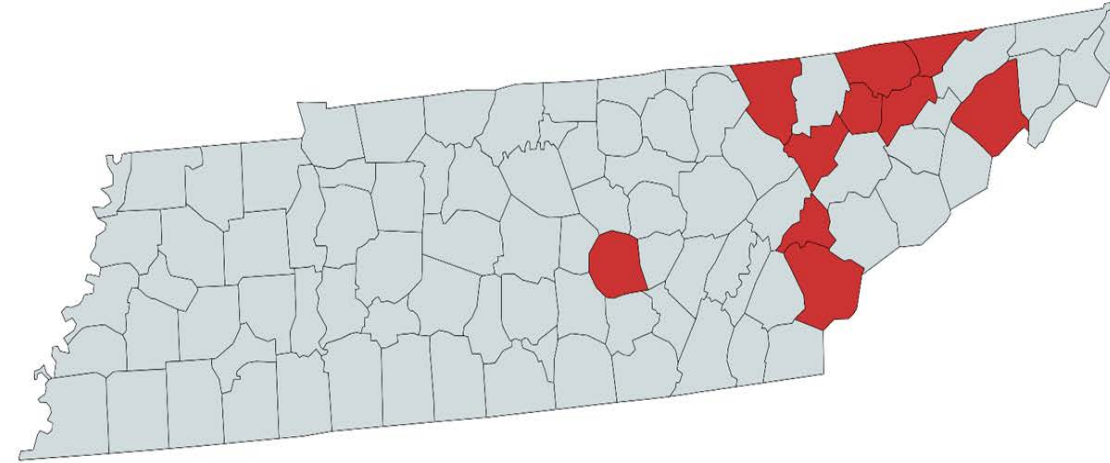
**2024 Summer Food
Program Budget**

\$4,681,692



Program Model

- Served Multi-County Area
 - Served 10 counties in 2024.
 - As many as 15 counties in the summer.
- Non-Congregate AND Congregate Sites
- 2024 Sponsored 109 Sites with 18 of those sites Non-Congregate drive-thru, Grab N'Go sites



Program Model

- No Commercial Kitchen
 - Contracts with school food services or private vendors to provide summer meals at approved sites.
 - Congregate sites order the number of meals they need each day morning.
- Volunteers for Site Supervisors- Training provided for each site.
- Served as Sponsor
- Partnered with Schools as sites





Christopher Hutchinson
Director of Food Services
Val Verde Unified School District

Ginko Lueder
Wellness & Marketing Coordinator
Val Verde Unified School District



About Val Verde Unified School District:

- We are a K-12 School District
- Multi-Program Sponsor
- Districtwide CEP Eligible
- Summer Goal > Expand Reach



Summer 2024 - Served 233,587 breakfast and lunch meals combined (63% increase from previous summer)

31 days at 11 school, and 4 community sites

About Val Verde Unified School District:

Serving 3 Distinct Communities

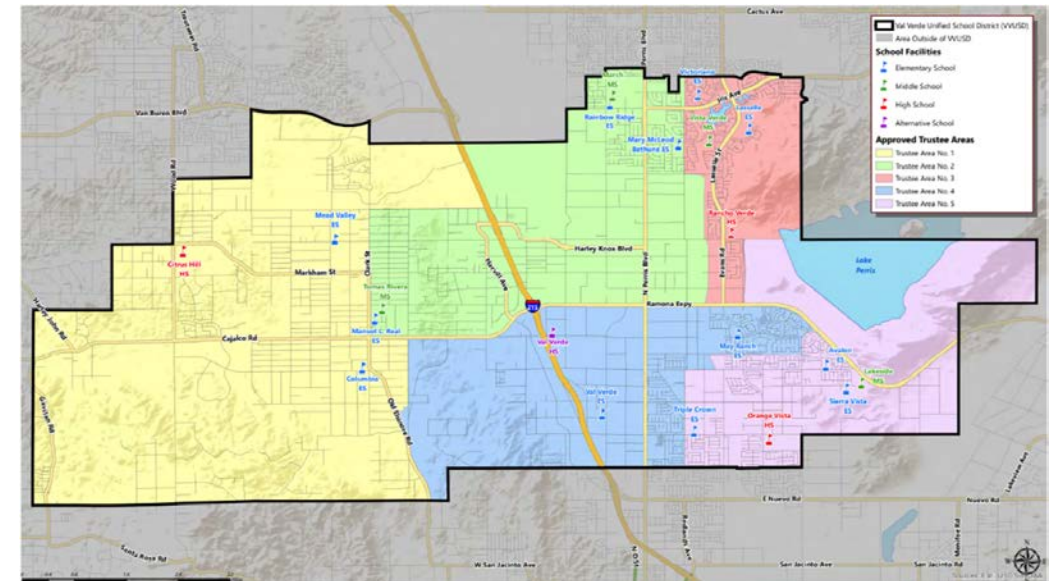
- Mead Valley, Perris, Moreno Valley

Summer District Meal Partnerships

- (11) ELOP (Education Enrichment)
- (1) Traditional Summer School
- (3) Special Ed. ESY
- (1) 5 Day Non-Congregate H.S.

Summer Community Meal Partnerships

- Library - Mead Valley
- Sports Park - Moreno Valley



Val Verde Unified District Boundary Map

About Val Verde Unified School District:



- Our Summer Meal Roles:
 - Application & Compliance
 - Staffing & Training
 - Procurement & Delivery
 - Collaboration & Promotion
- 2024 First Summer Kick-Off



Gary Bye

Director of Special Programs
FISH Community Foodbank



About FISH:

- For over 50 years FISH has striven to provide every person in Central Washington access to nutritious food, a supportive community, and resources to encourage healthy choices.
- We provide a Food Bank, Food Pantries, Meals on Wheels, Senior Nutrition, SNAP, Food is Medicine and other nutrition services.
- FISH has been a Summer Food Sponsor for 13 years.



**2024 Summer Food Service
Program Meals Served**

**26,234 - Non-Congregate
10,118 - Congregate**

SFSP Program Model

- We serve in a single rural county
 - Kittitas County, WA State
- Non-Congregate, Congregate, and Hybrid Sites
- Sponsored 21 Sites in 2024
 - 7 Congregate Sites
 - 9 Hybrid Sites
 - 5 Non-Congregate



**HOW DID YOUR ORGANIZATION WORK
WITH SCHOOLS OR CBOS TO SERVE
MORE SUMMER MEALS LAST YEAR?**

**WHAT STEPS DID YOU TAKE TO BUILD
THIS PARTNERSHIP? WHO DID YOU
ENGAGE, AND WHAT WAS NEEDED TO
ENSURE A SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP?**

**WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD
TO FOR YOUR SUMMER 2025
SERVICE?**

**WHAT ADVICE/LESSONS LEARNED DO
YOU HAVE FOR ORGANIZATIONS LIKE
YOURS?**



Q&A





Resources & More!

Visit our Center for Best Practices:

www.bestpractices.nokidhungry.org

Register for upcoming webinars:

www.bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/webinars

Summer Food Service Overview:

<https://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/resource/summer-food-service-program-overview>

[Summer Meals in Libraries](#) (webpage)

[Bridging the Gap: Building Authentic Partnerships Between Urban and Rural Organizations](#)

USDA Capacity Builder:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/capacitybuilder>





**SUBSCRIBE TO OUR
SUMMER MEALS NEWSLETTER!**





Register for our next **WEBINAR!**

**Serving Beyond Summer
School: Reaching More Kids
with Rural Summer Meals**

Thursday, May 1st | 3 pm EST





Your Feedback is Appreciated!

At the conclusion of this webinar, a 5-question survey will open in your browser window.

Please take a moment to complete it.





Thank You for Attending!

Robin Hernandez, R.D.

Senior Manager

No Kid Hungry Center for Best Practices

Share Our Strength

rhernandez@strength.org

