

School Nutrition Update

November 22, 2019



Sixteen N.C. Summer Nutrition Program Sponsors and Sites Recognized Statewide

Summer Nutrition Programs fulfill a critical need in providing nourishment and educational enrichment to children when school is out. Last summer, the N.C. Summer Nutrition Programs served more than 4.6 million meals to children and teens at nearly 3,000 locations across the state. Sixteen sponsors and sixteen sites for Summer Nutrition Programs in North Carolina were recently recognized with one of five state-level awards for going above and beyond to serve children through implementing innovative and creative changes to expand their Summer Nutrition Programs:

Rising Star Award

The ***Rising Star Award*** recognizes superior first-year N.C. Summer Nutrition Program sponsors that include a menu that promotes a healthy lifestyle and sustainable participation or partnerships. They provide fresh, locally produced menu items, at least one hot meal per week, whole fruit three times per week, water at no cost, and only low-fat or fat-free dairy products. They do not offer any sweet grain treats, such as desserts, but instead focus on and promote healthy choices.

Rising Star Award recipients for 2019 include Duke Raleigh Hospital (Wake County) and Beaufort County Schools.

Going the Distance in Innovation Award

The ***Going the Distance in Innovation Award*** recognizes returning sponsors that implement innovative concepts and marketing strategies in their summer programs to increase participation.

Going the Distance in Innovation Award recipients for 2019 include Avery County Schools, Baptist Grove Church (Wake County), Bertie County Schools, Cumberland County Schools, Stokes County Schools and Winston-Salem Forsyth County Schools.

Superior Site Award

The **Superior Site Award** recognizes a N.C. Summer Nutrition Program sponsor or site for going above and beyond to gain and maintain participation from the local children and community.

Superior Site Award recipients for 2019 include Baptist Grove Church (Wake County), Caught Before Fallen in partnership with Wilson County Schools, Granite Road Center in partnership with Mount Airy Schools (Surry County), Herb Watts Park in partnership with YMCA of Western North Carolina and Asheville City Schools (Buncombe County), Liberty Drive Elementary in partnership with Thomasville City Schools (Davidson County), Mustard Seed Project in partnership with Durham Public Schools, Oakdale Elementary in partnership with Charlotte-Mecklenburg County Schools, Rocky Mount K&W in partnership with Cape Fear Tutoring (Nash County), Roxboro Housing Authority in partnership with the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina (Wayne County), Thomasville Middle School in partnership with Thomasville City Schools, Three in One Family in partnership with the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina (Wayne County), Village at Greenfield in partnership with New Hanover County Schools, and Washington Christian Academy in partnership with Washington Outreach Ministry (Cleveland County). Lincoln Heights Recreation Corporation in partnership with Wilkes County Schools, Northeast Elementary in partnership with Lenoir County Public Schools, and Thomasville High in partnership with Thomasville City Schools received Notable Mentions.

Farm-to-Summer Award

The **Farm-to-Summer Award** recognizes N.C. Summer Nutrition Program sponsors for going above and beyond to procure and incorporate local foods into meals and snacks and to offer educational enrichment activities centered on local food and agriculture.

Farm-to-Summer Award recipients for 2019 include the Brigade Boys and Girls Club (New Hanover County) and the YMCA of Western N.C. (Buncombe County).

Turnip the Beet Award

The **Turnip the Beet Award** recognizes N.C. Summer Nutrition Program sponsors who work hard to provide nutrition education, conduct taste tests with children (incorporating feedback into menus), and offer high quality meals that are appealing, culturally-appropriate, nutritious, and include local foods, a

variety of vegetables and fruits, whole grains, and low-fat or fat-free dairy products. Three *Turnip the Beet Award* levels are available: bronze, silver, and gold.

Turnip the Beet Award recipients for 2019 include the Brigade Boys and Girls Club (New Hanover County), Duke Raleigh Hospital (Wake County), N.C. A&T Upward Bound Program (Guilford), The Campus Kitchen at Wake Forest University (Forsyth County), Washington Outreach Ministry (Cleveland County), Wilson County Schools, YMCA of Western N.C. (Buncombe County), Baptist Grove Church (Wake County), Beaufort County Schools, Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina (Beaufort County), New Hanover County Schools.

All Summer Nutrition Program sponsors are encouraged to consider applying to the North Carolina awards as applicable. Sponsors may be self-nominated or nominated by a third party such as a community partner.

Additional information regarding the state-level awards and N.C. Summer Nutrition Programs can be found on the NCDPI, School Nutrition Services [website](#). Agencies or organizations interested in providing nutritious meals for children during the summer by becoming a 2020 Summer Nutrition Program sponsor should complete the [SFSP Pre-Screening Tool](#). Upon completion of the pre-screening tool, a Summer Nutrition Program consultant will be in contact.

The NCDPI, School Nutrition Services Section administers Summer Nutrition Programs with federal funding assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. For questions regarding N.C. Summer Nutrition Programs, contact NCDPI Summer Nutrition Programs Manager [Cynthia Ervin](#).