

Summer Break Spots Offer Free Food to Hungry Students

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SUMMER BREAK SPOTS OFFER FREE FOOD TO HUNGRY STUDENTS

MARION COUNTY – *“Learning and good nutrition do not end when school lets out.”*

With this in mind, Marion County Public Schools reminds the community it offers nutritious meals so students are fueled to learn and grow in its summer meal program.

The Summer Food Service Program provides free, nutritionally-balanced meals to any student who wants to eat. Last year in Marion County, the program served 127,490 meals – 40,531 breakfasts, 72,260 lunches, 14,043 afternoon snacks and 656 supper meals.

This year, from June 3 – July 25, 47 locations will provide meals on various schedules from 29 central school kitchens and 18 satellite locations throughout Marion County. Participating schools include:

- *Anthony Elementary
- *Bellevue Elementary
- *Bellevue High
- *Bellevue Middle
- *Bellevue-Santos Elementary
- *Dunnellon Elementary
- *Dunnellon High
- *Emerald Shores Elementary
- *Howard Middle
- *Lake Weir High
- *Lake Weir Middle
- *Liberty Middle
- *Marion Oaks Elementary
- *North Marion High
- *Oakcrest Elementary
- *Ocala Springs Elementary

- *Evergreen Elementary
- *Forest High
- *Ft McCoy Elementary/Middle
- *Greenway Elementary
- *Horizon Academy at Marion Oaks

- *Saddlewood Elementary
- *South Ocala Elementary
- *Sunrise Elementary
- *Vanguard High
- *Ward-Highlands Elementary
- *West Port High
- *Wyomina Park Elementary

Satellite feeding locations are serviced by the schools mentioned above and include:

- *Boys & Girls Club, Ocala
- *Greater New Hope Church
- *Homeschool HUB
- *Howard Academy
- *Lillian Bryant Center
- *Mt. Zion United Methodist Church
- *North Oak Baptist Church
- *Ocala Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Academy
- *Omega Learning Center

- *Deer Run Apartments
- *Ed Croskey Recreation Center
- *Forest Community Center
- *Ocala Police Department / Blessed Trinity
- *Parkside Garden Apartments
- *Shiloh Church
- *Shores Baptist Worship Center
- *Silver River Museum
- *YMCA / St. Paul United Methodist Church

No application or income information is necessary to qualify; children simply show up to eat. Children 18 years and younger are eligible for meals without charge, including sandwiches, cereal, juice, fresh fruits and vegetables, milk, and cookies. Serving times vary by location.

The program is similar to the National School Lunch Program and offers nutritionally-balanced meals to needy children regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, or disability.

Marion County Public Schools operates the Summer Food Service Program through reimbursements from Florida's Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

For more information, contact the Food Service Office at 352.671.4190. Families may also call the Hunger Hotline at 1.866.3.HUNGRY. Additional resources include www.marionschools.net/Domain/14546 and www.summerfoodflorida.org, dialing 2-1-1, and downloading the free "Nutrislice" mobile app for Apple and Android operating systems.

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