

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

PROVIDING HEALTHY FOOD WHERE CHILDREN LIVE, LEARN AND PLAY

Children need nutritious food to grow, learn and thrive. When children don't have to worry about food, they have the chance to grow, learn and achieve their dreams. Perhaps most important, they can just be kids.

HEALTHY STUDENT MARKETS

Healthy Student Markets are market-style food distributions in schools, which began as a partnership between the Food Depository and Chicago Public Schools in 2010. They provide nutritious food to students and families who may not be able to visit a traditional food pantry.

Since 2016, the Food Depository has also partnered with the City Colleges of Chicago to make Healthy Student Markets available on campus. These distributions reach the increasing number of students at risk of food insecurity. As of 2019, there are currently 35 Healthy Student Markets in operation.

AFTER-SCHOOL AND SUMMER PROGRAMS

Kids Cafe® is a national initiative of Feeding America administered locally by the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Since 1993, the Food Depository's Kids Cafes have partnered with after-school programs to provide healthy meals for children in a safe, nurturing environment. Kids Cafe meals are reimbursed by the Child and Adult Care Food Program of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

During the summer, children who receive free and reduced-price meals at school often lack access to nutritious food. Summer meal sites and our mobile Lunch Bus program aim to reach these children in convenient neighborhood locations. Summer meals are reimbursed by the Summer Food Service Program of the USDA.





SUMMER MEALS IN 2019

In partnership with 230 summer feeding sites, the Food Depository distributed more than 447,000 summer meals in 2019.

39%

of the households we serve include at least one person under the age of 18.