

**Making Connections through Summer Meals**



Patrice Chamberlain  
Director,  
California  
Summer Meal  
Coalition

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**California Summer Meal Coalition**

- Statewide network brought together to combat childhood obesity and food insecurity by increasing access to USDA summer meal programs
- Partners representing broad group of stakeholders: schools, afterschool programs, CBOs, food banks, food policy & anti-hunger, nutrition/physical activity, state agencies

[www.summermealcoalition.org](http://www.summermealcoalition.org)

- Alliance for a Healthier Generation
- Alameda County Community Food Bank
- California Afterschool Network
- California Dept. of Education
- California Dept. of Public Health Network for a Healthy California
- California Assoc. of Food Banks
- California Food Policy Advocates
- California School Boards Association
- CANFIT
- Center for Collaborative Solutions
- Food Fight Back
- Food Research & Action Center
- Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission
- City of Oakland Dept. of Human Services
- Partners for Children & Youth
- Redwood Empire Food Bank
- Sacramento Hunger Coalition
- San Francisco Dept. of Children & Youth
- School Districts: Alameda, Bakersfield, Long Beach, Riverside, San Francisco, Salinas, San Diego
- San Diego Summer Lunch Task Force
- YMCA Silicon Valley

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**The State of Summer Meals**

- Participation in summer meal programs has been on decline between 2002-2011 (CFPA, 2012)
- In 2012, modest increase in meals served, sponsors, sites\* (CDE, 2012)
- \*FRAC/CFPA reports may differ
- California is one of five USDA priority states -- 10% increase goal




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 **The landscape**

- 43% of families find it harder to make ends meet in summer; 32% report not enough food in summer
- 80% of low-income children at home during summer
- 40% of families aware of local summer meal sites
- Summer learning loss an added consequence
- Parents want safety, activities, healthy food

Source: Share Our Strength / National Summer Learning Association



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 **The opportunity**

- Creative partnerships
- Natural partnership with nutrition education
- Connect families with other community resources like SNAP, WIC, healthcare
- Opportunity to leverage CNAPs
- Opportunity for connection with California agriculture



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 **Creative partnerships**



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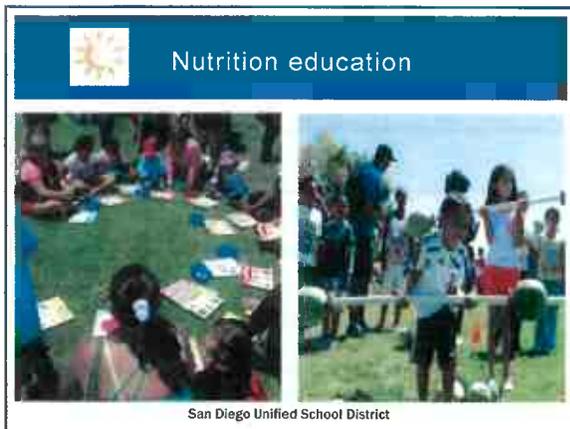
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 **Springboard for Schools**



West Contra Costa Unified School District

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 **Collaboration opportunities**



**CNAP:**

- Connect the dots locally
- Tackle as a community

Link to CA agriculture:

- Continued market for farmers
- Have you seen what CA produces in summer?



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**Contact Information:**

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 [CA\\_SummerMeals](#)

 facebook

  
It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.  
-Fredrick Douglass

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