

Illinois Commission to End Hunger: No Kid Hungry Working Group
Work Plan For November 2015-November 2016
 Updated 11.4.2015

No Kid Hungry Working Group Charge: Originally named the Children and Families At-Risk Working Group of the Illinois Commission to End Hunger, the No Kid Hungry Working Group supports strategies that address child hunger year-round through school- and community-based programs. The work group seeks to expand the number of Illinois children utilizing the National School Breakfast Program, the Summer Foodservice Program and the Child and Adult Care Feeding Program (CACFP). The work group advocates for policies that affect the nutritional needs of children while providing targeted communications outreach to families in need.

Activities:

- Foster no-wrong-door partnerships and policies that expand food access for children
- Engage all partners who address the well-being of children
- Seek sustainable funding streams for expansion of child nutrition programs
- Increase school breakfast, summer meals and at-risk, after-school participation
- Lead state efforts in advocating for child nutrition programs

Work Plan for No Kid Hungry Working Group

Goal: Increase school breakfast utilization in Illinois		
OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Increase average daily breakfast participation in targeted school districts	Coordinate applications for school grants quarterly, Rise and Shine Illinois campaign throughout 2016.	Quarterly breakfast grant deadlines
Release Breakfast Financial Sustainability Report	Prepare research and share results of financial sustainability for alternative breakfast models in high need schools	Nov. 2015
Release Statewide Breakfast Report	Coordinate with research partner, compile data and develop report. Release during Illinois School Breakfast Week.	Feb. 2016

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Goal: Increase summer meal distribution in Illinois		
OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Increase number of summer sponsors, targeting unserved communities	Participation in USDA state targeted assistance outreach plan; participation in Southern Illinois Summer Food Work Group	January -May 2016
Assist in transitioning more closed sites into open sites	Discuss with leading summer sponsors, including City of Chicago; disburse grants that foster open sites	January – July 2016
Expand number of meals served	Identify 2016 target based on 2015 figures (Dec. 2015); expand upon communications efforts to reach more families	May-August 2016
Align statewide summer campaign materials	Develop targeting concepts that appeal to both teens and parents and provide message aligned resources to all sponsors, partners, and advocates	December 2015- March 2016

Goal: Expand access to at-risk, after-school (CACFP) participation statewide		
OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Increase number of summer sponsors also serving after-school	Coordinate outreach and technical assistance for current summer sponsors to become year-round meal sites through the addition of at-risk after-school meals	ONGOING
Expand support of existing sponsors	Coordinate sponsor outreach and continue to provide technical assistance and grant opportunities	Quarterly throughout 2016
Prepare and distribute year-round meals brochure	Compile research and share with group. Highlight geographical targets. Demonstrate the financial and community benefits of year-round meal programs	January 2016

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Goal: Identify local, state and federal policy priorities that will expand access to child nutrition		
OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Advocate for robust Child Nutrition Reauthorization	Identify policy priorities and share with group in advance of next meeting; develop mobilization plan	Ongoing
Propose new legislation strengthening the Illinois school breakfast mandate for high need schools	Based on the results of the financial sustainability report, prepare legislation that increases participation in alternative models of breakfast at schools with more than 70% F&RP eligible students	January – May 2016
Explore policy options to ensure access to meals during school strikes	Identify opportunities to strengthen policies and action plans regarding school strikes and consistent access to meals through school breakfast, summer, and at-risk after-school meals	Ongoing
Expand access to CACFP especially in low income neighborhoods and advocate for the reversal of any policy that reduces the number of meal sites available to Illinois children through child care centers, after-school and summer programs.	Monitor federal and state policy, legislation and funding issues, research impacts on child meal providers, develop priorities and mobilize Working Group members.	Ongoing
Expand nutrition education access through Cooking Matters	Identify and secure funding and new partnership opportunities for Cooking Matters throughout Illinois	Ongoing
Invite all key child advocacy partners to No Kid Hungry Working Group	Review of all opportunities around CACFP, NSBP, NSLP, SFSP and WIC.	Ongoing