

# Nutrition News

Summer Food Service Program



July 2019 • Edition XLVI

## Commissioner Amy Jacobs Visits Boys and Girls Club of Bulloch County

DECAL Commissioner **Amy M. Jacobs** and Summer Transition and Outreach Manager **Meghan McNail** recently toured Southeast Georgia, visiting DECAL's Summer Transition Programs and Summer Food Service Programs.

During the tour, they visited the Boys and Girls Club of Bulloch County; a Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) meal site sponsored by America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia.

Commissioner **Jacobs** experienced first-hand the positive and nurturing environment offered by the staff at the Boys and Girls Club. She had the opportunity to help serve a hot lunch to the children and introduced DECAL's **CALi**, who had a fantastic time showing off her dance skills.

**Angie Johnson**, program sponsor at America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia oversaw the food bank's entry into the program. "We piloted the SFSP program with a few sites the first year and saw the need was there and the kids were showing up every day," **Johnson** said. Every year the organization takes on more meal sites and sets out to expand their reach to more rural areas across their 21 county coverage area. "All of the staff and volunteers here work hard to ensure these kids have access to a healthy, hot lunch, if nothing else," she said.

America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia has been a SFSP sponsor since 2009. They oversee 69 sites across Georgia, including the Bulloch County Boys and Girls Club who serves meals to more than 275 children daily.



Last Summer, 8,561 free meals were served to children and teens in Bulloch County through program sponsors.

**Photo at Top:** (Pictured L to R) Summer Transition and Outreach Manager **Meghan McNail** and Commissioner **Amy M. Jacobs** are pictured with Chief Executive Officer **Mike Jones** and SFSP Meal Site Supervisor **Leslie Jones** from the Boys and Girls Club of Bulloch County.

**Middle Photo:** Commissioner **Jacobs** and **Meghan McNail** served hot lunches to the children at the Boys and Girls Club.

**Bottom Photo:** The children at the Boys and Girls Club of Bulloch County had a great time with DECAL's **CALi**. She showed off her dance moves and participated in some of the enrichment activities offered at the Club.

## SFSP Kick-Offs Held in Chattooga, Fulton, and Gwinnett Counties

The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) and partners: the Atlanta Community Food Bank, The Dairy Alliance, and the Georgia Department of Education spent the beginning of the summer kicking off the Summer Meals season.

On June 19, the third Summer Food Kick-off event was held in Chattooga County. Children enjoyed free nutritious meals, visited with DECAL's **CALi** and played field games at Dowdy Park in Summerville, Ga. Last year, Chattooga County School's nutrition team served almost 25,000 free meals for children in their county.



On June 26, DECAL and partners participated in another Summer Meals kick-off event held in Fulton County. East Point Parks & Recreation, a SFSP sponsor, hosted the event that included free meals for children 18 and younger, and fun activities of hula hoops, sack races, and egg toss competitions. Last year, more than 1 million meals were served to children in Fulton County.

On July 12, a spike event was held in Gwinnett County to continue awareness about access to summer meals. The event was held at Rhodes Jordan Park Community Center and hosted by SFSP sponsor Georgia Nutritional Services. SFSP sponsors served 420,472 meals and snacks to children in Gwinnett County last summer.



**Pictured:** Children and teens at Rhodes Jordan Park enjoyed a hot meal in between



**Pictured:** Children at the Fulton County Kick-off participated in a bean bag toss

activities at the Gwinnett County Spike Event.

competition among other games and competitions throughout the day.

**Picture at Top:** DECAL's CALi served up summer meals and hung out with children at the Kick-off in Summerville.

## Tools to Promote Your SFSP Meal Sites

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The following materials are designed to help Summer Food Service Program sponsors and partner organizations communicate and inform families of nearby summer meal sites.

Click on the links below to download the materials. Contact your local printer or copy center to make multiple copies.

Need help? Contact [Cindy Kicklighter](#) or [Gabrielle Phillips](#) for assistance.

<a href="#">Banner</a>	<a href="#">Bookmark</a>	<a href="#">Business Cards</a>	<a href="#">Poster Editable</a>	<a href="#">Door Hanger</a>
<a href="#">Instagram Graphic</a>	<a href="#">Instagram Graphic- No Text</a>	<a href="#">Facebook Graphic</a>	<a href="#">Facebook Graphic - No Text</a>	<a href="#">Yard Sign</a>
<a href="#">Pitching a story to the media</a>	<a href="#">SFSP Fact Sheet</a>	<a href="#">Social Media posts</a>	<a href="#">Flyer Editable</a>	<a href="#">Postcards</a>

## FNS Continues Summer Meals Non-Congregate Feeding Demonstration Project

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FNS is continuing the 2018 demonstration project allowing non-congregate feeding at certain outdoor summer meal sites experiencing excessive heat for summer 2019. Under this demonstration project, sponsors operating approved outdoor meal sites without temperature-controlled alternative sites may operate as non-congregate sites on days when the area is experiencing excessive heat.

For additional information relative to this continuation, please see DECAL SFSP Policy Memorandum, *Demonstration Project for Non-Congregate Feeding for Outdoor Summer Meal Sites Experiencing Excessive Heat, with Questions and Answers*, June 28, 2019, available [here](#).

For summer 2019, sponsors noted in their SFSP applications their intent to participate in the demonstration project. That information has been forwarded to USDA. Sponsors who have already applied or been approved to participate this summer may submit an addendum to DECAL.

## A Special Note on Reporting:

In addition to the existing practice of sponsors providing non-congregate feeding information in their monthly claims for reimbursement, sponsors with sites that serve non-congregate meals under this demonstration must submit the following information for each site to DECAL **within 10 days** of the non-congregate meal service:

- The specific dates on which participants were permitted to take meals offsite; and
- By meal type, the number of meals claimed that participants took offsite.

Please submit this information via e-mail to **Ms. Leslie Truman**. Sponsors must ensure the information provided is complete and includes the above-mentioned elements.

For all other questions regarding this information, please contact the **Nutrition Services' Policy Administrator** at (404) 651-8193.

## Seventh Georgia Summit Raises the Bar: *Incorporates Farm to Early Care and Education*

Thank you to everyone that attended last month's Georgia Farm to School & Farm to Early Care and Education (ECE) Summit in Macon, Georgia. Two hundred and seventy-nine people from sixty-three Georgia counties registered for the event and out of that number, 234 were in attendance. Close to half of the attendees identified themselves as early care administrators, teacher, and/or employees. Community non-profit organizations, K-12 staff/administrators, farmers, agricultural professionals, distributors, and students were also among the attendees.

All were engaged by experts in the area of farm to school/farm to ECE and received invaluable training/information to implement and/or improve farm to school/ECE activities in their communities. Based on the overall evaluations received, 97% of the attendees agreed or strongly agreed that as a result of the Summit, they:

- Had a better understanding of Georgia's farm to school and farm to ECE movement;
- Have one or more actionable steps they would take with them to support farm to school and/or farm to ECE; and
- Had connected with one or more new organizations, businesses, and/or resources that would help start or expand farm to school and/or farm to ECE activities their center, school, and/or community.

A special thank you to DECAL Commissioner **Amy Jacobs**, who provided the opening remarks via video message and to **Wande Okunoren-Meadows** of Little Ones Learning Center (CACFP Participant/Forest Park, GA) and **Dr. Linette Dodson**, Nutrition Director, Georgia Department of Education, who provided thought-provoking keynote addresses.

DECAL will continue to provide resources and information relating to farm to early care and education in the months ahead.





**Pictured:** Attendees learned how to integrate organic farms and farmers into Farm to School and Early Care & Education programs at Rag & Frass Farm with Farmer **Julia Asherman** and Warren County Public Schools School Nutrition Director **Scott Richardson**.

**Photo at top:**  
**Wande Okunoren-Meadows** (right) and mom **Mrs. Okunoren** support Farm to School and ECE because "it's the right thing to do!"



**Pictured: Kelli Cook** of Carrollton City Schools discussed how to integrate gardens into school meals and Farm to School programs. She also shared her experiences with tower gardens (shown in picture) in classrooms and the impact that the sound of flowing water has on children's classroom behavior and school work.

## Requested Application Effective Date Feature Added to ATLAS

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You will notice a new field in ATLAS that captures the date an application or revision to an application becomes effective. This feature is called: "Requested Application Effective Date."

Initially, the Requested Application Date will default to 10/1/2018, because it is the beginning of the new fiscal year. However, it's important to note that if you revise your site application, **you must change this field to reflect the month the change takes effect.**

For example, if a site was initially approved to serve breakfast, but beginning in July the site will instead start serving lunch, you will need to change the Requested Application Effective Date to 7/1/2019 as shown below.

Version: Original

**Effective Date**

1. Requested Application Effective Date:  ←

**Street Address**

2. Address Line 1:   
 Address Line 2:   
 3. City:   
 4. State:  Zip:   
 5. County:

**Site Contact**

Person in charge of this site on a daily basis.

6. Name: Salutation:  First Name:  Last Name:   
 7. Date of Birth:  (mm/dd/yyyy)  
 8. Email Address:   
 9. Facility Phone:  Ext:  Fax:   
 10. Cell/Alt Phone:   
 11. Title:

**General Site Information**

12. Operation Dates: Start:  End:   
 13. Enter the number of days the Site will operate each month:  

OCT 2018	NOV 2018	DEC 2018	JAN 2019	FEB 2019	MAR 2019	APR 2019	MAY 2019	JUN 2019	JUL 2019	AUG 2019	SEP 2019
<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="20"/>	<input type="text" value="10"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>

 14. Check meal type(s) to be served at this site:  
 Breakfast    AM Snack    Lunch    PM Snack    Supper

If you have any questions about revising site applications, please contact your Application Specialist.

## Local Sourcing Spotlight: National Blueberry Month

It's National Blueberry Month! The [North American Blueberry Council](#) has partnered with the USDA (beginning in 2003) in declaring July as [National Blueberry Month](#).

With blueberries in peak season, now is the time to take advantage of opportunities to locally source blueberries in Georgia. U-pick farms across Georgia serve as a great way to purchase blueberries for meals such as snack time. [Georgia Grown](#) has a beneficial search tool to assist with locating u-pick farms in your area. Visit the Georgia Grown website to find locally grown and harvested blueberries!



## Nutrition ED Nook

### Georgia: The Peach State

Peaches, peaches, get your fresh peaches! Peaches are juicy, delicious and at the peak of their harvest season which lasts from mid-May through August. As Georgia's state fruit, peaches are packed with nutrition including vitamins A & C, potassium, and fiber. Not only are they packed with nutrition, peaches also come with a rich history. According to the [Georgia Peach Council](#), Franciscan monks

introduced peaches to St. Simons and Cumberland Islands along Georgia's coast in 1571 after originating in China.

Consider supporting our state fruit and procuring peaches from your local farmer's orchard or **farmers market**. Check out the **Georgia Peach Council** for our peach-growing Georgia farmers. Use these peaches in a multitude of ways – mix into warm oatmeal, add to smoothies, top on salads, blend in salsa, or bake with cinnamon for a fruit sweet treat.

Get creative! Diversify your breakfast menu with the **Peach Cooler** recipe below during the hot summer months and share your stories with [diana.myers@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:diana.myers@dec.al.ga.gov).

## **Peach Cooler**

### **Ingredients**

- 2 cups low-fat milk
- 1 cup fresh peaches, sliced (or 1 cup canned peaches, drained)
- ½ teaspoon lemon juice
- Dash of nutmeg, to taste



### **Instructions**

1. Put the ingredients in a blender. Blend well.
2. Sprinkle with nutmeg if using.
3. Serve at or below 41 F for food safety.

SFSP Meal Component: Fruit

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## **Dates to Remember:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>July 24</b>	<b>Information Session: SFSP to CACFP Transition</b>	<b>Webinar</b>

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## **Have you listened to DECAL Download?**

On this week's episode of DECAL Download **Phyllis Oliver**, Chattooga County School Nutrition Director and **Cindy Kicklighter**, DECAL Nutrition Marketing and Outreach Manager speak about the Summer Food Service Program in Georgia.



DECAL administers the USDA's Summer Food Service Program to ensure that children can continue to receive nutritious meals during long school vacations. Listen to this week's episode of DECAL Download to learn more about the program.

# DECAL Download

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Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

**Nutrition Division Marketing  
& Outreach Team**

**Cindy Kicklighter  
Gabrielle Phillips**

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