

## **Lunch at the Library Networking Conversation 1**

**April 10, 2020**

### **What conversations are being had with the meal providers and/or pop-up library partner sites?**

- Contact with meal providers or library partner sites:
  - Working with partners (School Districts, other Sponsors) to see what comes next
  - Waiting to hear back from school districts and other partners (YMCA, Food banks, etc.)
  - Meal providers have decided not to provide meals this year or are unsure if they will be providing meals.
  - Some sites and providers are in limbo with no decisions having been made
- Groups will be doing grab n go meals. Some school sites already doing them.
- Already doing meals but do not need libraries as a site
- Some providers too busy right now to address lunch at the library because they are providing school site meals
- Library has notified the food provider that they are still willing to participate in the summer lunch program. Staying on radar without pestering to much
- What happens will depend on the public health department
- Using Charliecart.org to show how to cook on social media
- Providing mobile resources to sites providing grab n go meals.
- In discussions to provide pop up sites to school districts
- Have contacted their school districts to ask for flexibility if dates/times or service delivery must change
- Coordinating with providers who say they will not be providing lunch this summer to see if grab n go options would work.

### **What approach is your library considering taking for summer meal and or summer meal pop-up library programs in light of COVID-19 uncertainties?**

- Many libraries considering Grab & Go lunch options
- Offering a take away craft with lunch – having kits ready
- No large crowds – not sure what form that would take
- Fitness related programs
  - Providing games and fitness items (soccer ball, flag football kits) coupled with health and fitness books
  - Providing a sports library – loaning out sports/play equipment for kids who don't have access at home (soccer goal/ball, flag football kit, tennis racquet and balls). Could pair games with health/fitness books and information
- Staying virtual
- Online trainings to help everyone
- Partnering with grab N Go sites to pass out information, books, summer reading materials, STEM activities
- Drive-thru pick-up

- Asking the Friends group for money to provide snacks to other family members at lunches
- Providing books with inserts of literacy tips and library services to go with pick-up lunches
- Trying to coordinate three plans based on what could happen
- Virtual activities including performers
- Charlie Cart to show videos on cooking

**If you use Teen volunteers for Lunch at the Library what are you considering for Summer 2020?**

- No volunteers and only relying of staff for any programs
- Use teen volunteers just to help package craft kits, activities to go home or assembly to-go lunches
- One library had applied for a grant for youth to gain volunteer experience and would have received compensation through gift cards. Unsure how to proceed due to it being a hands-on program
- Not sure how to proceed because of concerned about protecting teen volunteers and parental fears preventing them from helping.
- Having teens co-create the teen virtual summer learning program or other book activities for teens and kids.
- Looking into tasks volunteers could perform at home

**What are the biggest concerns?**

- How to handle big crowds
- Concerned about getting updates
- Felt like they were planning blind with no real idea what would happen or when they would re-open
- How would programming be rolled-out
- How would cleanliness be maintained
- Concern about children and families not having a place to eat
- How grant money would be spent
- Spending flexibility and figuring out how to change the plans already made were the biggest concerns.
- Not being able to connect with partners
- Current MOUs don't have clauses in them regarding changing dates and program structure
- Would they be able to provide hot meals or just Grab N Go
- Would electronic delivery of performers at pop-up sites work