

**Multnomah County Library**



**Klamath County Library**

# Hungry Kids in Oregon Public Libraries



*Partners for a  
Hunger-Free Oregon  
Ending hunger before it begins.*

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Cami Nielsen, Klamath County Public Library

# Hungry Kids in Oregon Public Libraries

## Presentation Overview

- Hunger in Oregon
- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- Libraries and Hunger Prevention
- Models of Success
- Ideas for Your Community



# The Need for Supplemental Food Programs in Oregon

## Food Insecurity

- “...limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods or limited or uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways.”

-USDA ERS

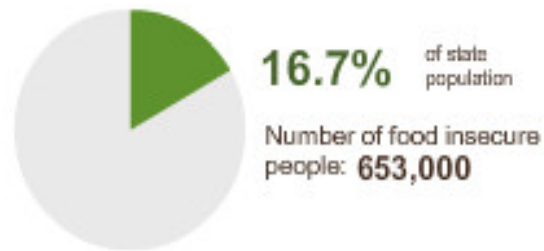


- Spectrum: hunger, coping behavior, and other impacts.
- Coping behaviors: range in social acceptability
  - Taking food home work or gatherings
  - Sending kids to relatives or friends to be fed
  - Buying low-quality or low-variety foods
  - Skipping bills to buy groceries
  - Accessing emergency food assistance

# The Need for Supplemental Food Programs in Oregon

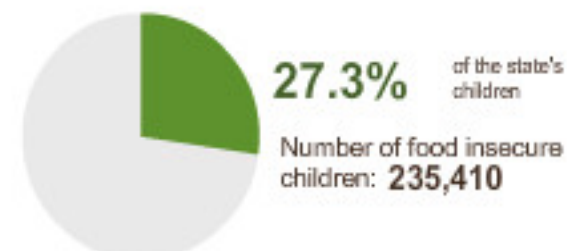
## Oregon

### FOOD INSECURITY RATE



National average food insecurity rate: 15.9%

### CHILD FOOD INSECURITY RATE



National child food insecurity rate: 21.8%

-Map the Meal Gap, Feeding America

## Nutrition Safety Net

- 1 in 5 people access the SNAP program
- Over half of all children born in Oregon use WIC
- 53% of students eligible for free/reduced price meals

# The Summer Food Service Program

## Hunger in the Summer

- 1 in 6 kids that utilizes F&R meals accesses summer meals.
- 80% of kids are home during summer, without access to enrichment programs
- 85% eat lunch at home
- Increases family food budget by ^ \$300 per month
- Achievement gap and the summer slump.



# Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

## SFSP 101



	Who	Responsibilities
State Agency	Oregon Department of Ed. Child Nutrition Programs	Administer the program and communicate with USDA.
Sponsor	Schools, local government agencies, camps, faith-based & other non-profit community orgs	Run the program and communicate with the State agency
[ Vendor ]	School or district, senior centers, food banks, hospitals	Prepare (and often deliver) meals
Site	Parks, schools, community centers, churches, libraries	Provide safe and supervised environment; work directly with sponsors.
Kids	1-18, open or enrolled	Eat meals on-site

# Libraries and SFSP: National Context

## National Examples

- Lunch at the Library: California Summer Meal Coalition & California Library Association
- New York
- Lunch at the Library: Virginia



## Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon

- Outreach and convening
- Technical assistance, training, and support
- Resources: materials, funding, data, and connections

# MCL interest in the work...

## Why should libraries engage with hunger?

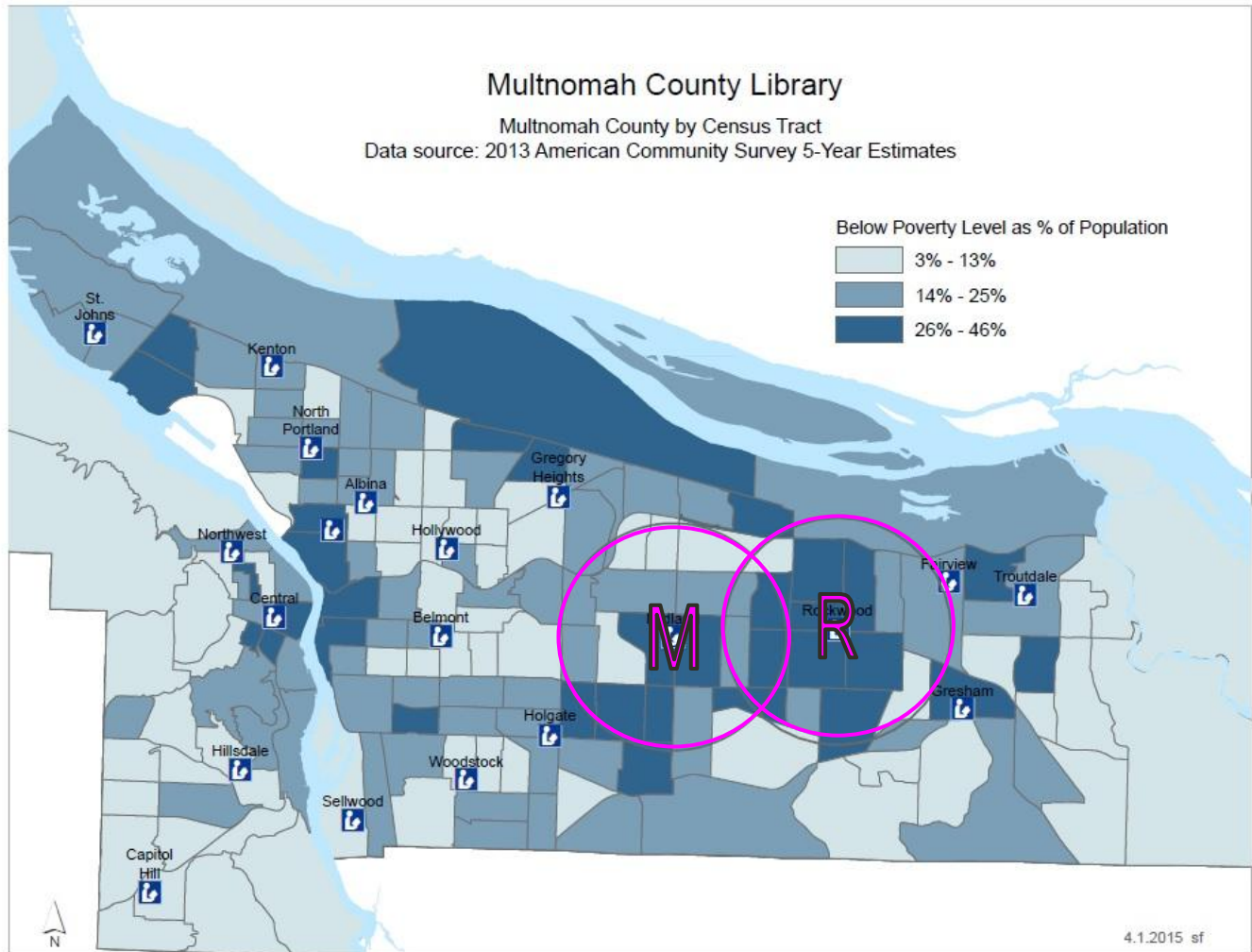
### Multnomah County Library Pillars



- Free access for all
- A trusted guide for learning
- The leading advocate for reading



# Determining Community Need





**Rockwood Library**



**Midland Regional Library**

FREE REDUCED LUNCH		
Percent	<input type="text"/> DISTNM	<input type="text"/> SCHLNM
90.36	David Douglas SD 40	Mill Park Elementary School
94.44	Reynolds SD 7	Alder Elementary School
94.39	Reynolds SD 7	Davis Elementary School
94.44	Reynolds SD 7	Glenfair Elementary School
94.37	Reynolds SD 7	Hartley Elementary School
93.6	Reynolds SD 7	Reynolds Learning Academy
90.27	Reynolds SD 7	Wilkes Elementary School

**Students eligible for  
free/reduced meals  
in our communities**

***An important consideration:***  
**Is a summer meal program right  
for your library *right now*?**



- To what extent is your library presently capable of meeting community needs outside the scope of traditional library services?
- Do you have the space and a funding source for needed equipment (tables/chairs/frig) to support a meal program?
- Do you have the staffing resources available during the busy summer months?
  - A pool of volunteers?
  - Availability of teen summer employment programs?

# Portland Metro Program Models

## Rockwood Library

- Pilot Program that developed out of a real need
- First year was a success!
- 45 service days & 2,125 meals served



# Finding or Becoming a Sponsor

- Communication with Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon
  - Evaluated our available resources & needs
  - Provided information on federal requirements
  - Connected us to potential partners



Partners for a  
Hunger-Free Oregon  
*Ending hunger before it begins.*





# Securing Leadership & Staff Support

- First Year Challenges
  - Current Volunteers
  - SummerWorks Interns
  - Staff involvement & Buy-in



# Portland Metro Program Models

## Midland Library

- Expansion: A logical next-step to a success pilot
- Neighboring regional branch with shared demographics displaying a high degree of food insecurity.



# Portland Metro Program Models

## Midland Community Profile

- Surrounded by low-income housing
- Large number of young families
- Many families and unaccompanied children remaining in the library all day.
- Schools with over 90% of students eligible for meal programs
- School statistics showing approx. 25% ELL students





# Start-up Support



Start up grants from Partners for a Hunger-free Oregon to purchase needed refrigerator, additional tables and other basic supplies.

Second year addition:

Funding from Oregon Department of Human Services for two part-time program assistants at both Midland and Rockwood to coordinate daily meal services



# Working with our Sponsor



- Training for site coordinators
- Food Safety & Health Department Compliance Education
- Hot food delivery, ready-to-serve through Catering for a Cause
- All serving equipment and cleaning supplies
- Compostable forks, plates and napkins for serving



# Securing Staff Support 201



- Inviting Rockwood staff to share their success at a Midland staff meeting
- Lots of time for Q & A!
- Offering plenty of reassurance that the program will be low-impact for staff.

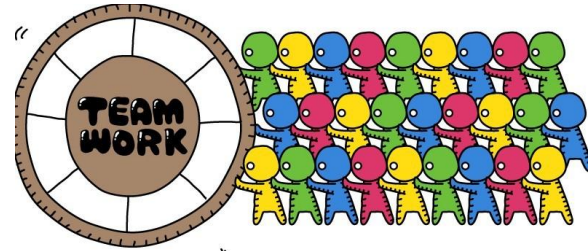


# Securing Staff Support 201



- Providing regular updates during the planning phase.
- Relying on our Volunteer Services Department to identify lunch volunteers while recruiting for summer reading.
- Getting interested staff involved.
- Keeping it all organized.

# Securing Staff Support 201



- Creating a guest spot on our lunch staffing schedules
- Sharing the success of the program *system-wide* and extending an open invitation to sign up to help with our programs.
- A surprising response and overwhelmingly positive, “feel good” reactions.



# Opportunities

- Taking an active role in supporting the physical, emotional and developmental health of low-income children in the community.



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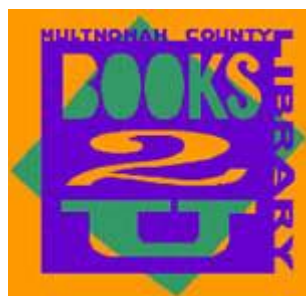
# Programming to Support MCL's Hungry Kids Summer Lunch



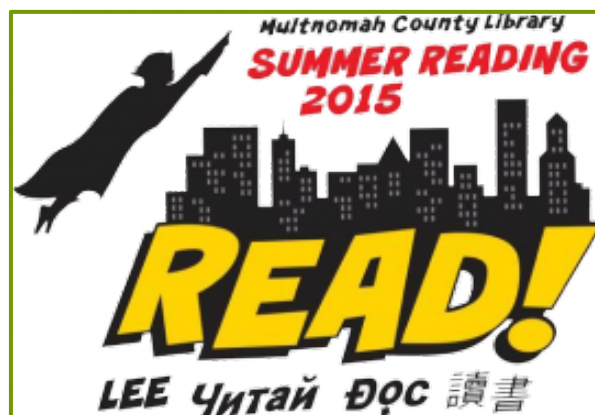
Storytimes  
throughout  
the week



Free  
Community  
Programming



Book talks  
and literacy-  
based  
activities



Cr'afternoons  
and other  
enrichment  
programs



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- Develop new community partnerships.

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- Develop new community partnerships.
- Providing additional community service volunteer opportunities for youth.

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- Develop new community partnerships.
- Providing additional community service volunteer opportunities for youth.
- Increasing visibility and community support for the library.

# MCL's Successful Outcomes



<b>2014</b>	
<b>Midland: Meals Served</b>	<b>4070</b>
<b>Rockwood Meals Served</b>	<b>2184</b>
<b>Days Served</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Daily Combined Average</b>	<b>116</b>
<b>Combined Total meals</b>	<b>6254</b>
<b>2013</b>	
<b>Rockwood Meals Served</b>	<b>2125</b>
<b>Days Served</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Daily Average</b>	<b>47</b>

# Klamath County Program Model

- Education
- Community Collaborations
- Contributions



# Education

## Edible Gardens



Seed



Seedling



Harvest



Kitchen





# Community Collaborations

- Summer Reading Program
- Stories in the Park





# Contributions

- Silent Arts and Crafts Auction
- Book Bag Raffle
- Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive



# Question & Answer time!



# Questions and Breakout

## Table Discussion Questions



- Question #1 - What are you currently doing, or would like to do, to address hunger in your community?
- Question #2 - How might a summer food program enhance your existing programming and services in your community?

# Questions and Contact Info

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