

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FREE SUMMER MEALS FOR NEW ORLEANS KIDS New Orleans No Kid Hungry Summer Meals Program Provides Free Food, Friends and Fun

New Orleans, La. – Summer should be a fun and carefree time of year for kids and teens, but for those families who count on school meals, summer is the hungriest time of year. Studies show that kids are at a higher risk for both hunger and obesity during the summer months. To connect more kids with the fuel they need to start the summer right, New Orleans No Kid Hungry is kicking off the summer meals program on Tuesday, June 2, 2015. Celebrating the theme, "Food, Friends & Fun," the program offers free nutritional breakfast and lunch to all children ages 18 and under at 25 sites throughout the city.

This year, our press event and kick off will be held on Tuesday, June 2nd at The Estates (formerly Desire) of the Housing Authority of New Orleans, 3101 Desire Parkway at 11am. We will be holding a summer camp which will also be an open site location where kids not enrolled in summer camps or summer programming can come on site and receive a nutritious meal. Following the press event, we will have organized games and prizes for kids to celebrate "Food, Friends & Fun."

"Today, far too many kids are not able to access the summer meals program. We have committed to breaking through barriers to connect kids and teens with free, healthy meals so that they can continue to learn and grow during the summer" said Rhonda Jackson, Director of New Orleans No Kid Hungry.

The New Orleans Summer Food Service Program is a part of a nationwide effort administered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the National School Lunch Program. This summer, New Orleans No Kid Hungry is partnering with the City of New Orleans, Fit NOLA, Housing Authority of New Orleans, NORD, Volunteers of America, Second Harvest Food Bank, Sodexo, Pigeon Caterers and Revolution.

Meals will be served Monday-Friday, with time varying at the different locations. Information on where meals will be served is available by texting "NOLAFood" to 877-877 or by visiting <u>www.NewOrleans.NoKidHungry.org</u>

ABOUT NO KID HUNGRY

No child should grow up hungry in America, but 1 in 5 kids will face hunger this year. Using practical solutions, No Kid Hungry is ending childhood hunger today by ensuring that kids start the day with a nutritious breakfast and families learn the skills they need to shop and cook on a budget.

When we all work together, we can make sure kids get the healthy food they need. No Kid Hungry is a campaign of national anti-hunger organization Share Our Strength. Join us at NoKidHungry.org.

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