

## Summer Meals for Kids

Many families in need rely on the breakfast and lunch they receive during the school year. However, when school is out for the summer, families lose this critical resource.

Gleaners' Summer Meals for Kids Program distributes food to families in need through two different distribution models:

- Summer Family Bags
  - The Family Bags Program provides bags of approximately 12 pounds of shelf-stable food to families in need in nine of Gleaners' rural counties. Gleaners' also supplements these bags with fresh produce 2 times throughout the program. Each Family Bag provides on average 9 meals to supplement a family's weekly food resources. Gleaners believes that providing weekly Family Bags will help increase overall household food security and provide nutritious food for hungry children and their families. For Summer 2017, an estimated 56,610 meals will be distributed along with an additional 8,244 pounds.
- Summer Weekend Meals (Summer BackSacks)
  - Summer Weekend Meals provides a BackSack filled with nutritious shelf-stable and kid-friendly food and fresh fruit to students at community centers or summer programs across Indianapolis each Friday of the summer. Each BackSack has enough for 5 small meals and a snack for the child to eat throughout the weekend.

Families note that the Summer Meals for Kids Program helps bridge the gap they face when they lose access to school meals during the summer. Distributions often occur at sites with existing programs such as community centers, churches, schools and Boys and Girls Clubs. Sites often provide enrichment activities and supplemental resources for families.

**The Summer Meals for Kids Program's mixed distribution model helps reach families in many different communities across Gleaners' service area.**



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