



## NEWS RELEASE

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### For Immediate Release

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### **MORE THAN 100,000 FREE MEALS DISHED UP AT INDY PARKS SUMMER SERVINGS SITES AT MID-SEASON**

*Program provides breakfast and lunch at no cost for Indianapolis children during school summer break*

INDIANAPOLIS – The City of Indianapolis announced today that 108 Summer Servings sites sponsored by Indy Parks have served 101,289 meals mid-way through the season. Summer Servings in Marion County is part of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), which provides nutritious meals and snacks to children at more than 200 sites in Marion County during summer months. At every Summer Servings site, nutritious meals are provided at no cost to all children 18 and under.

Indy Parks, one of the largest site sponsors, has counted 28,332 breakfasts and 72,957 lunches since the program launched during early 2012 summer months as the school year at local schools ended. Summer Servings programs will continue to run until Aug. 3, 2012, the final week day before many schools begin the 2012-2013 academic year.

“We have a lot of Indianapolis children whose nutritional needs are met in the educational setting,” Indy Parks Director John Williams said. “When school is out for the summer, nutritional needs persist for these kids. Summer Servings helps fill this gap, and I hope in the remaining weeks of summer, anyone who knows of a child in need will connect with a Summer Servings site.”

In 2011, 86 percent of the students enrolled in Indianapolis Public Schools received free or reduced-cost lunches. A recent Feeding America report revealed that 17.4 percent of Marion County residents are food insecure as are 22.5 percent of the county's children.

To learn more about Summer Servings and to find a complete list of locations, call 2-1-1, visit [www.summerservings.org](http://www.summerservings.org), or text “food” to 36729.

#### **Summer Servings**

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, Summer Servings is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call toll

free (866) 632-9992 (voice). TDD users can contact USDA through local relay or the Federal Relay at (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (relay voice users). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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