

Education Leaders Grant Opportunity

Overview

- Purpose:** To support district-level administrators, including school boards, superintendents, chief financial officers, school business officials, etc., in working to increase district-wide food access to their student body via collaboration with neighboring school districts, community organizations, non-profit partners, and local government agencies.
- Objectives:**
1. To support partnerships and collaborative efforts between school districts and community organizations working together to ensure kids have access to nutritious food via the federal meals programs, backpack programs and food pantries during the coronavirus pandemic;
 2. To understand the role of each stakeholder in the partnership;
 3. To understand how school districts and community organizations work together and support each other's efforts to ensure the nutritional needs of children in their communities are being met;
 4. To learn best practices that can be shared; and
 5. To support nutrition champions within the education leaders space.
- Financial Support:** Participating school districts will receive a grant of up to \$75,000.
- Eligibility:** Applicants must be district-level leadership that are currently working with or plan to work with neighboring school districts, community organizations, non-profit partners, and local government agencies, to provide children in their communities with access to the federal meals programs, backpack programs, food pantries, or other programs during the coronavirus pandemic.
- Length of Grant:** December 1, 2020 – December 1, 2021
- Proposals Due:** November 20, 2020 by 11:59 p.m. ET
- Contact:** Jillien Meier
Director of Partnerships and NKH Strategy, No Kid Hungry
(202) 734-3533 or jmeier@strength.org

About No Kid Hungry

We know that [the coronavirus has had a devastating impact on the American economy and](#) the reality is that far more Americans - including children - are facing hunger and poverty today. One of the most effective ways to help families and children is through federal nutrition programs, as well as backpack programs and school pantries. These programs can be lifelines for families in need. NKH, a national campaign run by Share Our Strength dedicated to ending childhood hunger, supports these important programs via grants, advocacy, technical assistance, and by sharing best practices. Learn more at NoKidHungry.org.

Purpose of the Grant

According to the USDA, more than 11 million children in the United States live in "food insecure" homes. That means that those households don't have enough food for every family member to lead a healthy life. That number dates from before the coronavirus pandemic. Today, projections show that [18 million](#)

[children could face hunger this year](#). Childhood hunger can have a devastating and long-lasting effect on a child's physical, emotional and academic well-being.

Recognizing the benefits of providing children access the nutrition they need to learn and grow, No Kid Hungry is offering grant funds to support district-level administrators, including school boards, superintendents, chief financial officers, school business officials, etc., in working to increase district-wide food access to their student body via collaboration with neighboring school districts, community organizations, non-profit partners, and local government agencies.

Grant Opportunity and Support

Each grantee, i.e. school district, will receive a grant of up to \$75,000 to facilitate relationship building with community organizations to support their efforts in ensuring kids in their community have access to the federal meals programs, backpack programs and food pantries. This grant will also support the needs of district-level administrators, including school boards, superintendents, chief financial officers, school business officials, etc. to run these programs. Therefore, grant funding can go towards equipment or supplies, materials and resources, i.e. promotional materials, informative resources for district stakeholders, or other items the district deems necessarily to operate these nutrition programs in a manner that benefits all students.

In addition to the grant funding, NKH will provide technical assistance and best practice support, as well as facilitating peer-to-peer connections to share best practices and troubleshoot issues. This includes phone consultations with school nutrition experts to provide guidance on best practices, and resources to support grantees.

Priority Criteria

Please address the following throughout the grant application:

- **School District Support**
Provide a letter of support co-signed by District Administrative leadership and Food and Nutrition Services leadership demonstrating district buy-in.
- **School District**
Provide information about the school district and community, including the demographics of the community, whether the district qualifies for CEP or Title 1, and any other pertinent information to describe the district. Identify the district person of contact for this grant, including their contact information (title/position, mailing address, phone number and email address). Include any other personnel that will be working directly to support this grant.
- **Current Efforts**
Describe your current efforts to provide kids in your community access to meals. This includes marketing and promotion, adaptation of meal models or meal delivery methods, working with community partners or other school districts, etc. Specify any meal service gaps you have that you are trying to remedy. Detail any challenges or successes you are experiencing.
- **Vision**
Describe how your school district and community will benefit from participating in this grant, and how you plan to utilize the grant funding. Detail whether you are strengthening already existing relationships with external organizations or if you plan on cultivating new relationships. List the organizations and your plan for collaboration. Detail what you hope to accomplish by participating in this grant.

What to Expect if Accepted

- **Participation & Grant Agreement**

Grantees will receive a Participation and Grant Agreement for review and signature.

- **Required Activities for Grantees**

On a quarterly basis, all grantees are required to:

- Participate in quarterly check-in calls with NKH;
- Communicate how meals are being provided to families;
- Detail how grant funding is being utilized;
- Detail how stakeholders are coordinating efforts and working together;
- Provide the number of meals distributed and meal models used; and
- Share school district budget reports.

Submission Process

All proposals must be submitted by November 20, 2020 by 11:59 p.m. ET. To apply, please follow these instructions:

1. Log into or create an account for the No Kid Hungry Grants Portal at: <https://nokidhungrygrants.force.com>.
2. To create a new account click “New User” and follow instructions.
3. To begin your application after you have logged in to the No Kid Hungry Grants Portal, click “Start a New Application” on your Grantee Dashboard located on the top left corner of your home page, below the No Kid Hungry logo.
4. Input the following access code to gain access to the application: **EducationLeaders2021**. Click “Start Application” to begin.
5. Be sure to input all required answers and save frequently as you are inputting information. Complete the application when all information is entered by clicking on “Review Your Answers” and then “Submit Your Answers.”
6. Please send your letter of support, co-signed by District Administrative leadership and School Nutrition Services leadership, to Jillien Meier, Director of Partnerships and No Kid Hungry Strategy, at jmeier@strength.org, with the subject line: *Education Leaders Grant Opportunity, [Insert School District Name]*. Your application will not be considered submitted until this step is finalized.

All applicants will be notified about their application status no later than December 4, 2020. For all program-related or technical questions, please reach out to the No Kid Hungry Grants Help Desk at GrantsHelpDesk@strength.org.