

Nutrition Hubs Grant Opportunity

Overview

- Purpose:** To support school districts and community organizations (out-of-school time and non-profit organizations) working together to serve as nutrition hubs for their communities
- 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; and
 4. To learn best practices that can be shared.
- Financial Support:** Participating school nutrition departments will receive a grant of \$25,000 to \$50,000.
- Eligibility:** School districts that are currently working with community organizations, or intend to work with community organizations, to provide children in their communities with access to the federal meals programs, backpack programs or food pantries during the coronavirus pandemic.
- Length of Grant** November 15, 2020 – November 15, 2021
- Proposals Due:** October 28, 2020 by 11:59 p.m. ET
- Contact:** Summer Kriegshauser
Senior Program Manager, No Kid Hungry
202-734-3570 or skriegshauser@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 partnering with the School Nutrition Foundation to support the efforts of school districts enriching their relationships with community organizations, i.e. non-profits and out-of-school time providers, to ensure kids in their communities get the food they need. This grant will also support school districts that are building new partnerships with community organizations to assist them in providing kids meals.

Grant Opportunity and Support

Each grantee, i.e. school nutrition department, will receive a grant of \$25,000 to \$50,000 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 school nutrition departments 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 and SNF 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 nutrition hubs best practices, and resources to support grantees.

Priority Criteria

Please address the following throughout the grant application:

- **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 community organizations or if you plan on cultivating new relationships with community organizations. List the community organizations and your plan for collaboration. Detail what you hope to accomplish by participating in this grant.

What to Expect if Accepted

- **Data**
Grantees will receive a data request letter along with their acceptance letter. Grantees will need to provide quarterly reports which include meal participation for all meals distributed, i.e. breakfast, lunch, snack, backpack, etc., as well as quarterly budget reports for their school nutrition department. For data pertaining to the final quarter of the grant, grantees will have until April 1, 2021 to submit their reports.
- **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 and SNF;
 - 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;
 - Share school nutrition budget reports

Submission Process

All proposals must be submitted by October 28, 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: NutritionHubs2021. 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.”

All applicants will be notified about their application status no later than November 12, 2020. For all program-related or technical questions, please reach out to the No Kid Hungry Grants Help Desk at GrantsHelpDesk@strength.org.