

Summer Nutrition Summit

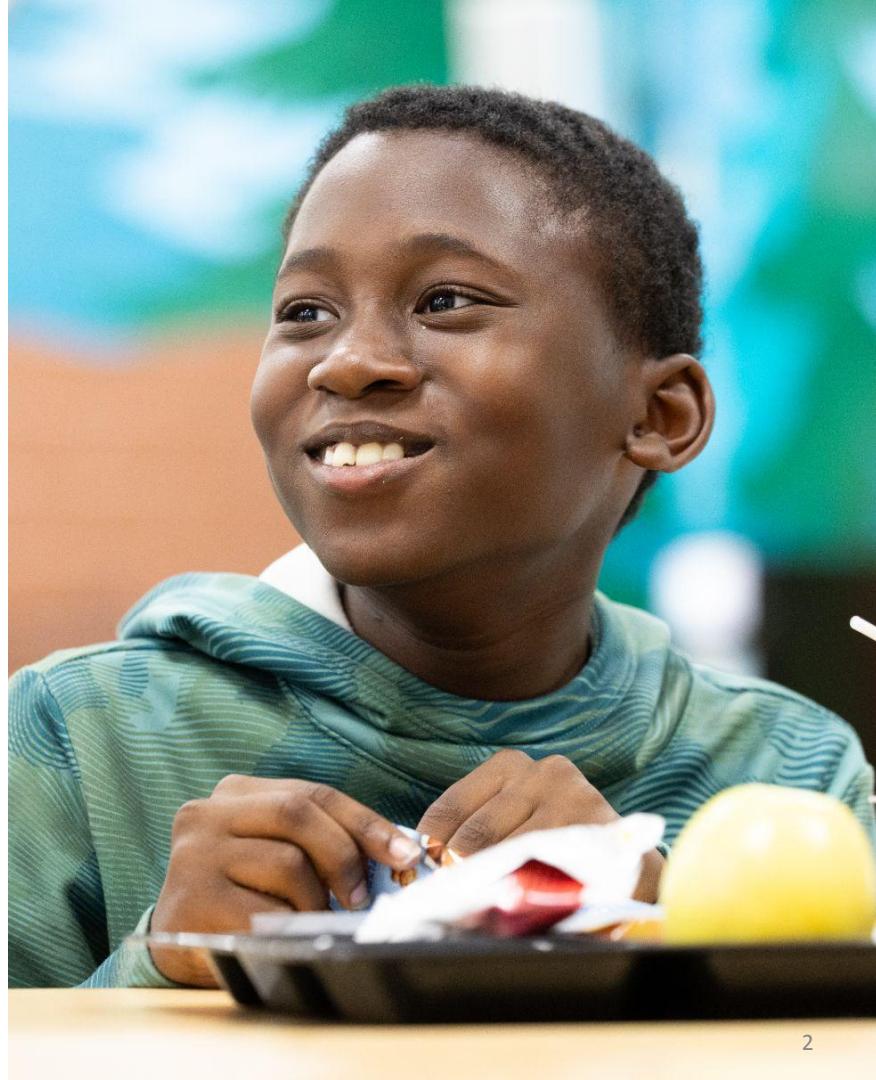
January 12-13, 2026



Harvesting Hope

Expanding Access for
Immigrant, Migrant and
Indigenous
Communities

Summer Nutrition Summit 2026



Session Leads



Andrea Cuellar
No Kid Hungry CA
Senior Manager



Brianna Guerrero
No Kid Hungry
Campaign Manager

Speakers



Carlos Murta
Coachella Valley, CA



Beth Brewster
Caroline County, MD

Disclaimer

Our speakers represent their own experience with non-congregate summer meal programs in their states and localities. Certain program models and implementation methods may be restricted in some states. Check with your local state agency before implementing any new meal service models or implementation methods.

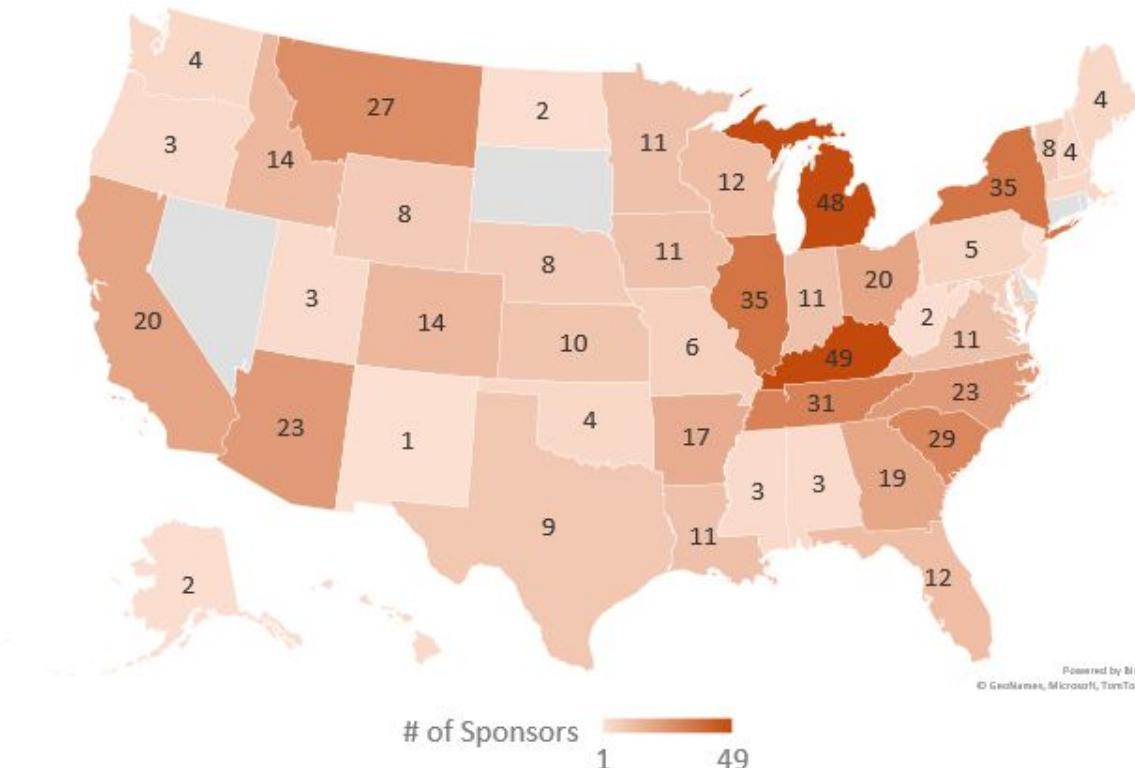
Survey Overview

Respondents: 589 sponsors
across 45 states and DC

Survey period: August 25 to
September 26, 2025

Completion rate: 51.5%

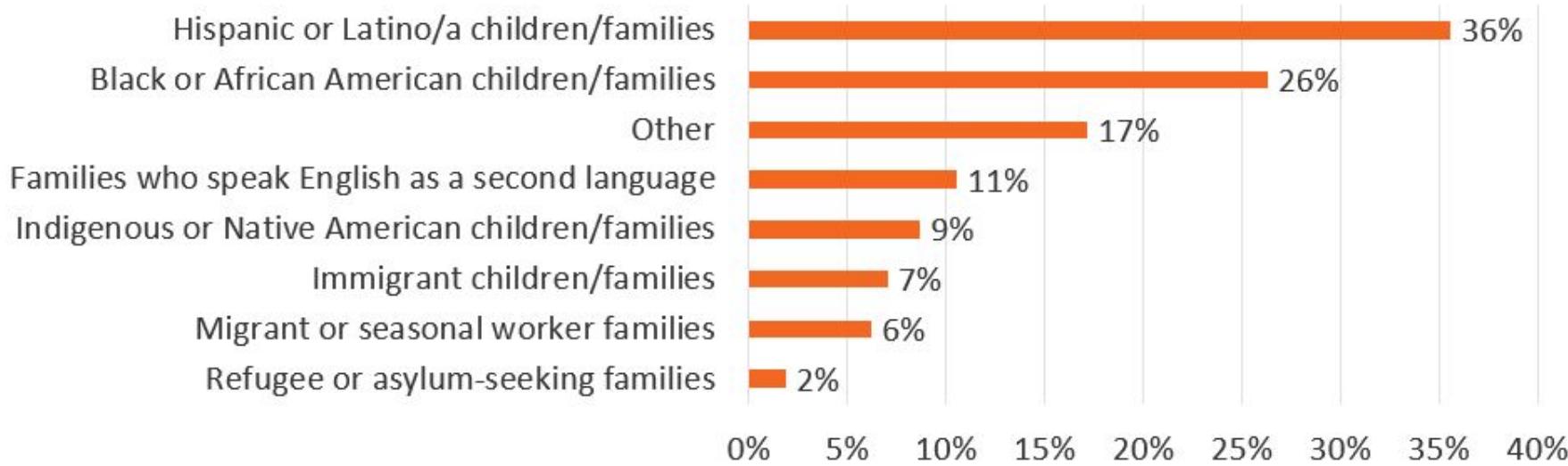
Number of Sponsors per Each State



Numbers not shown in map: CT (n=0), DE (n=0), HI (n=3), MA (n=4),
MD (n=7), NJ (n=1), RI (n=0); Puerto Rico (n=0)

Preliminary findings: Special Populations

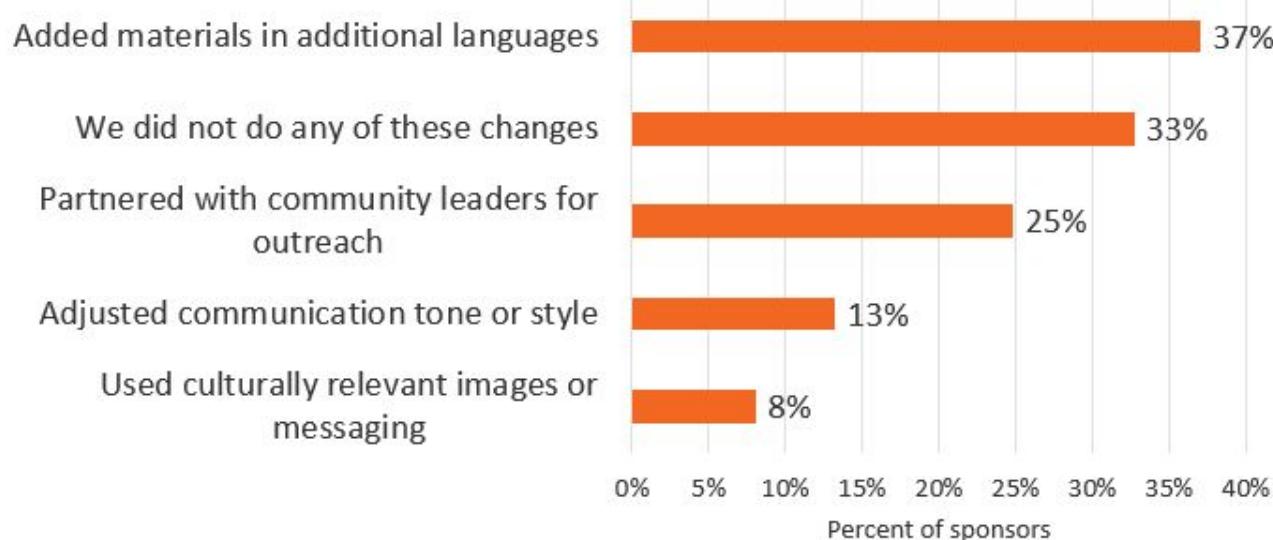
Which of the following communities make up a significant part of the people you serve? (n=483)



Hispanic/Latino/a and Black/African American children were most frequently identified as a significant part of the communities served, while smaller shares of sponsors reported having significant numbers of Indigenous, immigrant, or refugee families.

Preliminary findings: Tailored Communication Approaches

What changes did you make to outreach materials, languages used, or communication styles this summer in order to serve diverse communities? (n=483)



Over one-third of sponsors added materials in additional languages to better reach diverse communities and 25% of sponsors partnered with community leaders for outreach, while a third of sponsors made no outreach changes.

Preliminary Findings: Social or Political Impacts

Direct quotes about how “social or political” factors impacted the program participation:

- “There is still some confusion among families that they cannot access both Summer-EBT and summer meals (including non-congregate).”
- “Meal counts increased” (2 states said this)
- “Heard from one sponsor that the migrant site participation was down due to immigration status.”
- “Reduced site operations due to lack of operators, sponsors’ fear of hosting some sites”
- “Many community organizations were worried the funding for the SFSP would not be available and therefore did not apply.”
- “There were some media articles that went out during the legislation that were very misleading. Many sponsors thought the SFSP program was being cut when the legislature was voting on the SUN Bucks program. Many sponsors were tentative, thinking things weren’t going to happen. Both programs operated.”

Coachella Valley Unified School District



Coachella Valley Unified School District



Coachella Valley Unified School District



Caroline County School District



Caroline County School District



Caroline County School District



Chickasaw Nation Nutrition Services



St. Mary's Food Bank



Harvesting Hope

Closing Questions

1. Any new ideas you have for next summer in order to better reach diverse communities?

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Closing Questions

2. What hope do you have for your communities for the future?



Follow Up Resources



We want to hear from you!

Scan to take our survey:

