



Reboot Reconnect Redesign

APRIL 27-28, 2022

2022 RURAL CHILD HUNGER SUMMIT

CREATING EQUITABLE SOLUTIONS
FOR RURAL CHILDREN

The Rural Child Hunger Summit will highlight best practices to address rural child hunger and convene partners to collaborate on innovative solutions. Sessions will focus on unpacking the latest research, promising policy solutions, and the role schools, community-based organizations and local leaders as partners in the fight to end hunger in rural communities.

The event will be co-presented by **Save the Children** and **No Kid Hungry**. The Summit will be held in an all-virtual format due to the continuing uncertainty related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As A Result Of The Summit:

- Participants will have the opportunity to **reboot** through hearing success stories from school food directors and community-led organizations. These speakers share how their programs displayed resiliency and promoted vitality for their communities.
- Participants will have the opportunity to virtually **reconnect** with peers through the sharing of knowledge, and asking of questions.
- Bringing together the Summit learnings, research, and promising policy solutions, participants will have the opportunity to leave with the skills and resources needed to **redesign** food programs and services for children in rural communities.



AGENDA

Day 1 - April 27, 2022

Keynote Address 10:30 - 11:30 am ET

Education And Child Nutrition Partnerships And Future

The fourth annual Rural Child Hunger Summit will begin with a keynote address by Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. In this session we will hear how both departments work together to uplift rural communities and serve rural children.

Speakers:

Thomas Vilsack | Secretary of Agriculture
Miguel Cardona | Secretary of Education

Moderator:

S.E. Cupp | CNN host and political commentator

Join the conversation on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook throughout the Summit by tagging **#RuralHunger**, **@NoKidHungry** and **@SavetheChildren**! Share key takeaways - our social media team will be on the lookout to like, comment and share.

11:30 - 12:30 am ET

[You]th Make The Difference: How Youth Are Transforming The Food Justice Movement

During this session, you will hear the personal stories of some outstanding young leaders in the food justice movement who are transforming their rural communities. We will highlight their youth-powered projects and programs that have trained and empowered them to take on leadership roles in their communities. This session will conclude with an overview of Yes! for Equity's adult leader training and a discussion on how to harness the energy of youth to develop creative solutions to build equitable food systems.

Speakers:

Lupita Gomez | No Kid Hungry Youth Ambassador
Sam Schimmel | Youth Advisory Board Member, CNAY
Jabari Brooks | Yes! For Equity

Moderator:

Jabari Brooks | Yes! For Equity

1:00 - 2:00 pm ET

Technology & Innovation: Finding Digital Connections For Rural Communities

Digital resources are increasing access to food assistance programs in communities across the nation, but are rural communities left behind? No, in fact, rural communities find ways to make online SNAP services work for them. In this session, we will explore two case studies utilizing SNAP online services to register more families for SNAP benefits and deliver SNAP online orders directly to their doors.

Speakers:

Zareena Meyn | Executive Director, mRelief
Chanel Griffin | Food and Nutrition Coordinator, Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas
Gloria Dickerson | Executive Director, We2gether
Dr. Alison Gustafson | Buster Endowed Professor, Dietetics and Human Nutrition, University of Kentucky

Moderator:

Chloe Eberhardt | Senior Manager, Center for Best Practices, No Kid Hungry

3:00 - 4:00 pm ET

Raising Rural Voices: Discovering Permanent Solutions to Improve Access

School meals have proven to be one of the most successful interventions in providing nutritious food to children. Children living in rural communities are at an increased risk of food insecurity due to the unique challenges they face in their communities. While the pandemic forced school nutrition directors to overcome additional challenges such as school closings, supply chain issues and labor shortages, there was a silver lining. Creative, pandemic-related, innovative service models were discovered all across the country. This workshop will be presented by a panel of school nutrition professionals highlighting the learnings from the pandemic and informing more permanent solutions to improve the access rural children have to nutritious meals and snacks.

Speakers:

Stacy Dean | Deputy Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, USDA
Janet Barth | Morongo Unified School District, CA
Tina Byrd | Jasper School District, AR
Anna Lusk | Henry County Public Schools, KY

Moderator:

Cassidy Pont | Lead Advocate Domestic Policy, Save the Children

Day 2 – April 28th

Keynote Address 10:30 - 11:30 am ET

Equity In Child Nutrition And Rural Communities

Day Two of the fourth annual Rural Child Hunger Summit will begin with a keynote address by Dr. Sara Bleich of the USDA and Dr. Veronica Womack a Political Scientist and Black Farmers Advocate. In this session, they will discuss how health equity in the rural south impacts the lives of all children.

Speakers:

Dr. Veronica Womack | Political Scientist, Rural Researcher and Black Farmers Advocate

Dr. Sara Bleich | Director of Nutrition Security and Health Equity for the Food and Nutrition Service

Moderator:

Pamela Taylor | Chief Communications & Marketing Officer, No Kid Hungry



11:30 - 12:30 pm ET

Going The Extra Mile: Overcoming Transportation Challenges And Other Barriers To Nourishing Food In Rural Communities

Rural communities often enjoy beautiful landscapes and wide open spaces. A potential downside of these strengths are the transportation challenges and other obstacles to ensuring all children have the nourishing food they need to thrive and succeed. This session will feature a panel of experienced practitioners representing schools and community-based organizations discussing innovative solutions to common food access barriers in rural communities.

Speakers:

Peggy Hamby | Food & Nutrition Director, Morgan Co School District, TN

Alicia Linares | Director of Programs & Partnerships, Central CA Food Bank

Yolanda Minor | State Director for Mississippi Programs, Save the Children

Moderator:

Emma Shoaf | Lead Associate, Food Security, Save the Children

1:00 - 2:00 pm ET

Sustainable Program Design - Utilizing Community Strengths To Build Effective Programming

Each community has its strengths that, when elevated, can overcome common challenges. This workshop will explore how three different organizations built impactful programming through community collaboration, cross-sector partnerships, and continual client feedback.

Speakers:

Jennifer Weber | Perry County Food & Faith Coalition

Silke West | Food Service Director, Stinton ISD TX

Andrea Sockabasin | Community and Land Wellness Division
Director, Wabanaki Public Health and Wellness

Lisa Sockabasin | Co-CEO, Wabanaki Public Health

Moderator:

Chelsea MacCormack | Center for Best Practices Associate,
No Kid Hungry

2:30- 3:30 pm ET

Navigating Supply Chain Disruptions: Finding Innovative Solutions During Challenging Times

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are seeing nationwide disruptions to manufacturing, supply and distribution channels. For many school nutrition programs, it has led to trouble getting certain foods, equipment and supplies. This session will explore the current challenges (and often last-minute changes) and highlight innovative solutions and workarounds. Learn tips and tricks—both proactive and reactive— that you can apply to your own program to limit disruptions to meal service.

Speakers:

Gay Anderson | Child Nutrition Coordinator, Sioux Falls
School District, SD

Linda Martin | Child Nutrition Coordinator, Uinta County
School District #1, WY

Reginald Ross | Region 6 Operations Consultant,
Department of Public Instruction, NC

Moderator:

Kelley McDonough | Associate Director Education and Training,
Center for Best Practices, No Kid Hungry

Special thanks to our 2022 Rural Child Hunger Summit steering committee members:

Valeria Hawkins | Chelsea MacCormack | Briana Webster Campbell
Courtney Smith | Tamara Sandberg | Emma Shoaf | Luisyana Gamboa
Linda Hampton | April Trent | Margaret Read | Kelley McDonough
Monica Gonzales | Pamela Taylor

SPONSOR:



No child should go hungry in America. But 1 in 6 kids in the United States face hunger today. No Kid Hungry is working to end childhood hunger by helping launch and improve programs that give all kids the healthy food they need to thrive. This is a problem we know how to solve. No Kid Hungry is a campaign of Share Our Strength, an organization committed to ending hunger and poverty. Join us at NoKidHungry.org.



Save the Children

Hunger prevents children from reaching their full potential, and child hunger is worse in rural communities. Save the Children is working with school and community partners to ensure all children in rural America have access to the nourishing food they need to thrive as learners and in life. Visit SavetheChildren.org to learn more.