



Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Jim Gray
Mayor

Beth Mills
Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Jim Gray
Members of the Council

FROM: *Craig Bang*
Beth Mills, Commissioner of Social Services

DATE: April 23, 2014

SUBJECT: Justification for Sole Source Certification – Summer Feeding Food Box Distribution and Mobile Backpack distribution

This is a request for Council approval of a Sole Source Certification related to the Division of Youth Services' Summer Feeding Food Box Distribution and Mobile Backpack programs. These programs are a partnership between the Division of Youth Services, God's Pantry Food Bank, Fayette County Public Schools, and Fresh Approach (CTE) and will distribute food to hundreds of Fayette County youth this summer.

Background

In Fayette County nearly 21,000 children receive free or reduced-cost meals during the school year through Fayette County Public Schools. According to Feeding America's *Map the Meal Gap* data, Fayette County has 10,490 food insecure children. The highest number of children served through Summer Feeding programs offered by Fayette County Public Schools, Fresh Approach and God's Pantry Food Bank on one day in 2013 was only 3,478, or only 16% of eligible children. The subject programs will increase food accessibility to low income youth and families in Fayette County.

Proposed Programs

The **Summer Feeding Food Box Distribution** program will distribute 800 food boxes to youth through Fayette County Public Schools in late May or early June 2014; each school will have one distribution. The boxes will be a hybrid of a traditional food box and a backpack, and will include 17 child friendly, nutritious items, along with a Summer Feeding flyer that promotes all Fayette County Summer Food Service Program sites. The boxes will assist families by supplying additional nutrition as they transition to the Summer Break, and increase awareness of opportunities for their children to receive meals throughout the community.

The **Mobile Backpack Distribution** program will distribute 7,800 bags – to include fourteen kid friendly, nutritious, shelf-stable items – along with a Summer Feeding flyer over a three-week period in June following the close of school. Distributions will occur at City parks and in collaboration with other youth programs, with the goal of reaching about 500 children each program day.

Food boxes will contain: 4 Chef Boyardee meals, 2 juice boxes, 2 small & 1 large shelf stable milks, 1 pudding pack, 1 skillet meal, 1 jar of peanut butter, 1 can of chili, 1 bag of macaroni, 1 spaghetti sauce, 2 mac/cheese meals, 1 can green

beans, 1 can applesauce, 1 can corn, 1 pancake mix, 1 box Kashi cereal, 1 box of cereal bars. Will add fresh potatoes and frozen meat where possible.

BackPacks will contain: 2 single serving cereals, 2 sm milks, 2 cereal bars, 2 applesauce cups, 2 Chef Boyardee meals, 2 juice boxes, 2 pudding cups.

Fiscal Impact

The total cost of the food boxes and backpacks is \$52,600, which is fully funded in Account 1101-606101-6001-71299 pending the completion of a budget amendment being processed concurrent with this request. Specific project costs are as follows:

- Summer Feeding Food Box Distribution: 800 boxes at a cost of \$17/box = \$13,600
- Mobile Backpack Distribution: 7,800 bags at a cost of \$5/bag = \$39,000