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## **Alabama Food Bank Association Summer Meals Program**

ALABAMA, June 2, 2021 – The <u>Alabama Food Bank Association</u> today announced the kick-off of it's annual <u>Summer Meals Program</u>. During the summer months, hundreds of thousands of children in Alabama lose access to free and reduced-price school meals. The Summer Meals Program offers meals at no cost to-children under the age of 18. The Alabama Food Bank Association partners with more than 30 community organizations, such as churches, YMCA's and Boys and Girls Clubs to provide meals throughout the summer months. No Kid Hungry by Share our Strength, an organization working to end childhood hunger in the United States, recently awarded the Alabama Food Bank Association \$40,000, specifically for the Summer Meals Program. Through this partnership, and the Share our Strength 'No Kid Hungry' initiative, children and their families can find meals available for children at a nearby location by texting 'FOOD' to 877-877.

The Summer Meals Program has never been more critical for children in Alabama as families were confronted with the COVID-19 pandemic. The program kicked off in March 2020 when food banks in Alabama responded to a greater need during the unprecedented crisis. Children lost school meals earlier than anticipated, and families struggled with lost wages. The Summer Meals Program will operate through August 14, 2021.

## **About Alabama Food Bank Association**

The Alabama Food Bank Association works to end hunger by assisting the food bank network in obtaining more food and funds, fostering public awareness of the food banks' mission, and creating partnerships to help alleviate hunger in Alabama. Every day, our eight members in Alabama (Community Food Bank of Central Alabama, Feeding the Gulf Coast, Food Bank of East Alabama, Food Bank of North Alabama, Montgomery Area Food Bank, Selma Food Bank, West Alabama Food Bank, Wiregrass Area Food Bank) partner with a statewide network of food donors, emergency food pantries, and soup kitchens to provide food to hungry people. Fighting hunger requires significant funding for every step of the process—from acquiring food, to storing the food, to transporting the food to people in need. Learn more at alfba.org.

## **About Alabama Food Bank Association Summer Meals Program**

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