



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, for over half a century – beginning with the National School Lunch Program in 1946 – the nation has steadily built an array of nutrition assistance programs to build a healthier generation of Americans; and

Whereas, during the school year, more than 1.8 million New York students receive meals through the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs; however, when schools let out, many of these children will lose access to these healthy meals; and

Whereas, children need good nutrition all year long, and for 40 years, since 1975, the Summer Food Service Program has alleviated this burden by nourishing children and teens while school is out; and

Whereas, summer meals are free, nutritious meals and snacks that are provided to kids and teens, 18 years of age and younger, throughout the summer; and

Whereas, many summer meals sites offer educational programming in addition to healthy food, ensuring children do not fall behind their peers when school is out of session; and

Whereas, currently only 31 percent of children who eat free or reduced-price school lunch are participating in the summer meals program in New York; and

Whereas, this summer, children in New York can participate in the summer meals program at approximately 2,800 sites across the state; and

Whereas, New York State is committed to ensuring that every child has access to nutritious meals during the summer; the New York State Department of Health's Growing Up Healthy Hotline, 1-800-522-5006, can help New Yorkers locate summer meal sites in their community, and all are reminded to make use of this valuable resource that helps keeps our children healthy and nourished;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim July 2015 as

SUMMER MEALS MONTH

in the Empire State, and I encourage all New Yorkers to join me in recognizing the importance of this month.



G i v e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-third
day of June in the year two thousand fifteen.

Governor

Washam J. Melton
Secretary to the Governor