



FRAC: Summer Nutrition Programs

Model Program

Creative Community Partnerships Expand Summer Feeding **Yuma Union High School, AZ**

Overview

- The Yuma Union High School District started a Summer Food Program in 2002.
- To reach the different sectors of the Yuma County community, the school worked to expand the Summer Food Program from two sites to 18 sites over 3 years.
- These 18 sites vary in size, location, and activities.

Process for Meal Service

- One group of sites includes Yuma County's high schools.
- Other sites are located at local community organizations, including public libraries, community centers, and family shelters.
- The Yuma Public Library runs a Children's Summer Reading program, making it a logical partner.
- The children check out a book from the library and go outside, where they pick up a packaged lunch and have a picnic in the adjacent park.
- In the first year of the partnership 1,072 students participated in the Summer Reading Program and the Summer Food Service Program.
- Last year, participation increased to 1,910 students, with part of this increase attributable to the Summer Food Program.
- The school recently began working with a family shelter in an economically depressed area.

Creative Practices

- In addition to these unique partnerships, the school has used the Summer Food Program to provide a positive outlet to local teens.
- Yuma County has one of the highest rates of drug use and teenage pregnancy in the state.
- Through the local Job Training and Partnership Act (JTPA) - a work training program for teenagers – the school has recruited local teenagers to work at SFSP sites, preparing and serving meals to children.
- In addition to reducing labor costs for the SFSP sites, this program has taught these teenagers about food safety, baking, preparing meals, and the responsibility of holding a job, and by extension, helped them stay out of trouble and become better prepared for school.

For more information, contact: Charlene Story, (928) 344-4656