

The No Kid Hungry School Nutrition Grant Opportunity will provide funding to school districts and community organizations to maximize the child nutrition programs and other emergency food programs to ensure children and families have access to healthy meals at school and at home during the school year and/or summer months. No Kid Hungry will prioritize school districts and organizations who are expanding access to meals during the summer months, when schools are closed.

No Kid Hungry Michigan knows that school districts and community organizations play an essential role in ensuring students receive nutritious meals to learn, grow and thrive to reach their full potential. These flexible grants will allow school districts and community organizations across Michigan to respond to the growing needs and emerging opportunities to provide meals and resources to kids and families.

## ELIGIBILITY PRIORITIES

### **Equity Priority:**

The coronavirus pandemic has exacerbated long-standing systemic health, social and economic inequities, disproportionately impacting communities of color. To ensure we are supporting individuals and communities most impacted, we will prioritize grant funds to school districts serving communities where at least 51% of the individuals identify as Black, Latino, Native American, or Asian, including immigrant populations. We will also prioritize funds to rural communities where schools face unique challenges in addressing hunger.

### **Economic and COVID-19 Impact:**

Grant funds will also be provided to communities experiencing economic hardship and having existing or increasingly high COVID-19 infection rates. In determining economic impact, No Kid Hungry will review data points to include: free and reduced eligible students, unemployment rates, child food insecurity rates, and the social vulnerability index score<sup>[1]</sup>.

### **Ability to Serve Kids Today and in the Future:**

Taking into consideration equity, economic hardship and COVID-19 impact factors, funds will be prioritized to support school districts with a strong and sustainable plan for maximizing participation in the child nutrition programs and/or leveraging other programs to combat food insecurity such as emergency food programs and student and family outreach and enrollment. Applications should address both the immediate need for supporting students and alleviating hunger as well address long-term sustainability of programming.

[1] <https://svi.cdc.gov/>

## APPLICATION DUE DATE

May 21st, 2021

Please note: There may be a different date listed on the grants portal. Please ignore that and use the date listed above.

## GRANT AMOUNT

Grant amounts will vary, depending on the size and need of each organization. Average grant amounts typically range from \$5,000 - \$10,000.

## USE OF FUNDS

As school districts and community organizations face significant challenges maintaining and expanding meal programs in this uncertain environment, funds are intended to support school districts and organizations in having the adaptability to meet the changing needs of students and families. Grant funding is available for school districts and organizations to leverage a variety of strategies to increase meals served and support kids and families in this new operating environment, including:

- Ensuring maximum student participation in the Summer Food Service Program or Seamless Summer Option during Summer 2021
- Promoting awareness of meal availability to students and families, especially for free and reduced-price eligible students
- Providing meals during weekends and out-of-school time through backpack programs and school pantries
- Promoting SNAP, WIC and Pandemic-EBT programs and supporting enrollment

**Examples of how funding may be used include:**

- Meal service supplies and equipment needed to serve meals, including: grab and go carts, insulated coolers/warmers, packaging equipment and supplies, refrigerators, and retrofitting existing equipment to meet new needs
- Costs of hiring additional staff positions or increasing hours for existing staff to meet increased demand as a result of COVID-19 or provide additional services like meal delivery
- Transportation costs associated with meal delivery such as refrigerated trucks or fuel
- Non-reimbursable food costs for school food pantries or backpack programs
- Program outreach, enrollment assistance and marketing costs
- Additional expenses as needed

**Other considerations for your plan that will be prioritized for funding include:**

- Providing meals for children throughout the summer and when students are in school
- Increasing days of operation and providing 2 meals daily during the summer months
- Creating partnerships between school districts and community meals sponsors to fill gaps in service

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

School District applicants will be required to provide the following information:

- District Food Service Director and Superintendent contact information
- Historic district-wide enrollment and school meals participation for breakfast, lunch, and afterschool meals and snacks from October 2020
- Information about your current and planned food and nutrition programs for SY20-21 and summer 2021
- Detailed description of grant funding program objectives
- Detailed budget of anticipated use of funding

Community Organization applicants will be required to provide the following information:

- Reporting and authorized signature contact information
- Demographic information such as estimated free and reduced eligibility and service locale
- Information about your current and planned food and nutrition programs during the grant year
- Detailed description of grant funding program objectives
- Detailed budget of anticipated use of funding

## TO NOTE

Grants may be funded through corporate partners working with Share Our Strength. You will be notified upon receipt of the grant award if a corporate partner is sponsoring the grant award.

Additionally, we understand that meal service plans in SY20-21 and summer 2021 may vary and change throughout the school year. Please submit your application with your current thinking for how your school district or community organization plans to operate meal service throughout the year and any potential emergency service plans. If you are awarded funds, you will be required to submit quarterly progress reports that accurately describe your school meals implementation and other meal programs, as well as changes in participation and meal service delivery as programming adjusts to the evolving operating environment.

## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Log into or create an account for the No Kid Hungry Grants Portal at <https://nokidhungrygrants.force.com/>. Please do not use Internet Explorer or Microsoft Edge when registering or working within the portal.
2. To create a new account, click “New User”.
3. To begin your application after you have logged into the No Kid Hungry Grants Portal, click “Start a New Application” on your Grantee Dashboard located on the top left corner of your home page, below the No Kid Hungry logo.
4. If you are applying on behalf of a **School District**, please input the following access code to gain access to the application: **SchoolNutrition2021**. Click “Start Application” to begin.
5. If you are applying on behalf of a **Community Organization**, please input the following access code to gain access to the application: **ChildNutrition2021**. Click “Start Application” to begin.
6. Be sure to input all required answers and save frequently as you are inputting information. Complete the application when all information is entered by clicking on “Review Your Answers” and then “Submit Your Answer.”

## QUESTIONS?

Program related: Mindy Grant, No Kid Hungry Michigan Program Manager: GrantM9@michigan.gov  
Technical or portal-related: GrantsHelpDesk@strength.org