

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**ON OUR MENU OF SERVICES:**

**Alameda County Social Services Agency Serving Free Lunch to Kids & Teens,**

**June 22 – August 10, 2017**

Oakland, CA (June 16, 2017)—Food insecurity and hunger continue to affect one out of three children in Alameda County’s low-income households, who miss out on free and reduced-price lunches when school lets out for the summer. Alameda County has identified [15 neighborhoods](#) with child poverty rates above 50 percent and another 36 neighborhoods where the child poverty rate exceeds 32 percent. Lack of nutritious meals during the summer months can contribute to illness, poor academic retention, and other health issues, such as obesity. At a time when essential safety net services nationwide face uncertainty, the Alameda County Social Services Agency remains as committed as ever to providing critically needed resources.

For a fourth year, the Alameda County Social Services Agency is participating as a sponsor in the California Department of Education’s Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), offering free lunch to kids and teens as part of its menu of services. SFSP aims to alleviate the nutrition gap during the summer months for children living in geographic areas where at least 50 percent of the students are eligible to receive free or reduced-price school meals. SFSP sites include schools, camps, Indian tribal governments, private non-profit agencies, as well as municipal, state, county, or local government offices.

“The excitement on the children’s faces and the appreciation expressed by parents illustrate how much value the summer lunch program has within our community,” says Lori A. Cox, Social Services Agency Director. “I am proud that we are able to continue to meet the needs of families where they access services.”

Free lunch for children and youth ages 18 and under will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis at three Social Services Agency office locations and one community partner site:

**Thursday, June 22 through Thursday, August 10, 2017**

**Weekdays 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

(except for Tuesday, July 4 - offices are closed in observance of Independence Day)

**LOCATIONS**

Eastmont Self-Sufficiency Center  
6955 Foothill Blvd, Ste 100  
Oakland, 94605  
(1st floor - Patio area)

Eden Area Multi-Service Center  
24100 Amador St  
Hayward, 94544  
(1st floor - Room 118)

Thomas L. Berkley Self-Sufficiency Center  
2000 San Pablo Ave  
Oakland, 94612  
(2nd floor)

Youth Uprising (community partner)  
8711 MacArthur Blvd  
Oakland, 94605

Hot, nutritious lunches will be prepared by Revolution Foods, which was launched in 2006 in Oakland, CA and now serves more than 1 million healthy and kid-inspired meals weekly in schools across the nation. The menu will change daily and include hot offerings--like whole grain pizza, chicken teriyaki, and cheesy quesadillas--while meeting nutritional standards set by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

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For more information, visit <http://www.alamedasocialservices.org/public/services/community/summerLunch.cfm>

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