

Teen Engagement Discussion:

Group 1: Menu Planning -Teen friendly items, what do pre teens and teens want to eat at summer meal sites?

Things to consider:

- Many SFSP food items are competing with fast food restaurants, such as McDonald's and Dunkin' Donuts. How can you offer competitive, yet financially feasible menu options for teens?
- Develop a list of items that teens are interested in seeing on the menu. What are the "favorites" at home or when they eat out?
- Identify if there are culturally appropriate menu items to consider and would attract more teens in your area. Many communities are diverse and identify with traditional recipes within their respective cultures.
- Highlight the fact the the SFSP is open to all children and teens and encourage participant feedback throughout the summer. Incentivize items and ask teens what they think of the menu options in an inclusive way in order for them to feel valued in helping solve childhood hunger.

Group 2: Teen Specific Programming/Engaging Local Leaders/Role Models - How can a sponsor or sites gain access to this type of programming and attract more children?

Things to consider:

- How can the SFSP sites partner with local teen programming, consider local YMCA, boys and girls clubs, youth programs(city run or other), regular sports events/games.
- Partner with city officials and mayors/town administrator's office for support of youth programming.
- Groups can brainstorm different programs in their area, ways that they can reach out (letter, call, flyer) and then create a sample of each to present to the whole group.
- Involving local Police and Fire departments, sports leaders/coaches, etc. These leaders could be involved in hosting cooking competitions or teen friendly activities.
- What do you want these leaders and role models to offer for the SFSP program regarding youth involvement?
- Create a list of local leaders then brainstorm and create a desired role for that person and present to the group.

Group 3: Youth Councils/Leaders/Ambassadors: Identify local role models and youth leaders to champion your SFSP program

Things to consider:

- Utilize youth leaders that already exist within the community to empower and promote the meal sites. Consider youth councils already in existence, chances are there is one in your community. Perhaps there is a youth leader that can become involved in childhood hunger as an agenda item for their council.
- Create a bio for a sample youth leader and create a job description and desired position for that person. What would you like them to accomplish for the SFSP.
- Discuss ideas to establish youth ambassadors and what their roles for the SFSP would entail. This could be in conjunction with a youth council.
- Encourage schools to form youth councils(or maybe they already exist?) in order to start working on the SFSP promotion/outreach before school is out.
- Identify teens interested in becoming a champion of childhood hunger with a “we need your help” approach”. How can they access children in a way adult cannot?

Resources:

Share Our Strength has a Youth Ambassador Program for the SFSP in conjunction with a grant:

<https://www.nokidhungry.org/blog/youth-advocates>

No Kid Hungry and the Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation Youth Engagement Toolkit:

<http://nkh-toolkit.squarespace.com/>

SFSP Teen Engagement Workshop Notes

Workshop Topics	Notes/Comments
<p style="text-align: center;">Menu Planning</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Top 3 things I learned:</p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Teen Specific Programming & Public Leaders</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Top 3 things I learned:</p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Youth Councils/Leaders</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Top 3 things I learned:</p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p>	

My Group: _____

Notes: _____
