

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE June 26, 2015

TO The Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT Dallas Public Library Summer Meal Service for Children

This summer eleven Dallas Public Library branches are providing free summer lunches and snacks to children and teens. These branches were selected based on community need and proximity to other summer meal programs. Meals are provided through a new partnership with the nonprofit hunger organization, Equal Heart, and are funded by the Texas Department of Agriculture's Summer Food Service Program. The boxed lunches are distributed by library staff with assistance from teen volunteers. The Texas Department of Agriculture has been visiting several libraries and will feature the Dallas Public Library's efforts on their summer meals website, www.squaremeals.org.

During the first two weeks of the program, the Library has served more than 5,600 lunches and snacks, with an average of 36 meals served a day at each branch. Free summer lunches and snacks are available at these branch libraries:

- Arcadia Park, Monday-Friday, 12:15 p.m.
- Bachman Lake, Monday-Friday, noon
- Dallas West, Monday-Friday, noon
- Hampton-Illinois, Monday-Friday, 12:30 p.m.
- Kleberg-Rylie, Tuesday-Friday, noon
- North Oak Cliff, Monday-Friday, 12:30 p.m.
- Paul Laurence Dunbar Lancaster-Kiest, Monday-Friday, noon
- Polk-Wisdom, Monday-Friday, noon
- Skyline, Tuesday-Friday, noon
- Timberglen, Tuesday-Friday, noon

In partnership with Equal Heart, the Library has been able to expand the number of branches this summer to provide communities with more options for free meals. Many families have been able to take advantage of the free lunch programs while also benefiting from the various daily summer activities and events offered at these locations. Branch managers have reported that attendance at their Mayor's Summer Reading Club programs has, in some cases, doubled from last year thanks to this summer's free lunch program.

No proof of need or pre-registration is required to receive the meals. The free lunch program will continue through Friday, August 21, 2015.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joey Zapata".

Joey Zapata
Assistant City Manager

c: A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager
Warren M.S. Ernst, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor

Eric D. Campbell, Assistant City Manager
Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer

Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager
Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager

Sana Syed, Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council
Jo Giudice, Director, Dallas Public Library