

## Child Nutrition Programs in Action – Potential Site Visits

### **Summer Food Service Program Sites**

Members of Congress could visit Summer Food Service Program sites, especially sites that include enrichment programming and physical activity. Summer schools, camps, faith-based, as well as open sites would all provide Members with greater appreciation for the importance of the Summer Food Service Program.

- When to visit: Summer Food Service Programs operate during summer vacation. The best month to visit (June, July, or August) depends upon the school calendar. In states where the school year ends early, June is a great month to visit. In states that break later in the summer, July offers a good opportunity for members to visit Summer Food sites.

### **Universal Breakfast in the Classroom**

Members of Congress could visit schools that operate successful universal free breakfast in the classroom programs. Visiting breakfast in the classroom sites would allow Members to observe the benefits of the most successful breakfast expansion strategy.

- When to visit: Members can visit a school breakfast program anytime during the school year. Early fall is an excellent time to visit. Schools that operate year-round and also have universal classroom breakfast programs could be ideal site visits this summer.

### **Alternative Breakfast Models: “Grab and Go” and “Breakfast After First Period”**

Members of Congress interested in middle and high school education could visit schools that have expanded breakfast through alternative serving methods. Visiting a “Grab and Go” or “Breakfast After First Period” program would allow Members to see creative approaches to expanding school breakfast and the benefits of school breakfast for older children.

- When to visit: Members can visit a school breakfast program anytime during the school year. Early fall is an excellent time to visit. Schools that operate year-round and also have alternative breakfast serving methods could be ideal site visits this summer.

### **Afterschool Snack and Meal Program**

Members of Congress can visit an afterschool program (including a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center) to see how the food and activities combine to keep children engaged and learning after school. Members of Congress from the ten supper states have the additional opportunity to visit an afterschool supper program that serve nutritious suppers. This experience would help Members see firsthand the benefits of the afterschool nutrition programs.

- When to visit: Afterschool programs usually operate during the school year and many run distinct programs during the summer. Early fall may be an excellent time to visit a supper program.

### **WIC Clinic**

Members of Congress could visit WIC clinics. The new WIC food package will be introduced in all states this fall, providing Members the opportunity to learn about recent improvements in the WIC program.

- When to visit: This fall will be an exciting time to visit a WIC clinic and learn about the new WIC food package. WIC clinics operate all year, so visiting during the summer is also an option.

### **Child Care Center or Home Utilizing CACFP**

Members of Congress could visit child development centers or homes where CACFP is being utilized to serve preschoolers healthy meals. Members would learn more about the benefits of early childhood feeding programs.

- When to visit: Child care centers and homes operate all year long. Members could visit during the breakfast or lunch serving time.