



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR BECOMING INVOLVED IN THE YEAR-ROUND FOOD PROGRAM

One in five children in the United States doesn't know where his or her next meal is coming from. As a leading nonprofit for strengthening community by influencing the trajectory of kids' lives, the Y's job is, in part, to ensure millions of youth receive the meals they need to be healthy, active, and well-nourished.

Child hunger is a national crisis. Your YMCA can take part in this critical work through the Y's Year-Round Food Program, a partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that is underwritten by the Walmart Foundation. Last year alone, Ys across the country provided 13 million healthy meals to over 390,000 children and teens in their communities.

Taking action to combat child hunger in your community is a simple, three-step process:

STEP 1

Determine if your community is eligible for a USDA food program.

- Visit the [Food Research and Action Center \(FRAC\) Summer Food Mapper website](http://216.55.168.186/FairData/SummerFood/map.asp?command=scope&map=0) (<http://216.55.168.186/FairData/SummerFood/map.asp?command=scope&map=0>) to determine your eligibility.
- Decide if you would like to be a USDA sponsor or site:
 - If you choose sponsor, contact your [USDA State Agency](http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Contacts/StateDirectory.htm) (www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Contacts/StateDirectory.htm).
 - If you choose site, locate a [sponsor in your area](http://frac.org/state-news/state-anti-hunger-organizations/) (<http://frac.org/state-news/state-anti-hunger-organizations/>).

STEP 2

Establish community partnerships.

To provide food, space, and programming, Ys can partner with community-based organizations, including food banks, schools, housing authorities, faith-based institutions, and so on. Search for food bank partners at: <http://feedingamerica.org/food-bank-results.aspx>

STEP 3

Check Exchange in fall of 2015 to apply for up to \$65,000 in YMCA of the USA (Y-USA) grants.

Y-USA year-round grants create, enhance, or support USDA child nutrition programs for summer and afterschool meals (for children ages 18 and under).

Y-USA outreach grants allow Ys to offer meals outside of a YMCA facility.