

# Rides to Meals, Part 2: Strategies to Connect Youth with Summer Food Service Programs

**April 4, 2016** 

2:00-3:15 Eastern Time



- ➤ Launched in 2013
- ➤ A United We Ride initiative funded through the U.S. DOT, Federal Transit Administration
- Operated through 3-way partnership
- > www.nc4mm.org







## **Goal of the Center**

To promote customer-centered mobility strategies . . .

to advance good health, economic vitality, self-sufficiency, and community



#### By topic page:

http://
nationalcenterformobilityma
nagement.org/by-topic-foodnutrition/



#### Food/Nutrition Services and Transportation

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Each summer, when school is not in session, millions of children from low-income families receive nutritious meals through the <u>Summer Food Service Program</u> (SFSP), administered under the <u>Food & Nutrition</u>
<u>Service</u> of the USDA. For the summer of 2015, more



than 200 million free meals will be served to children 18 years and under. NCMM is available to provide technical assistance to SFSP grantees to ensure children have access to these summer meal sites. A lack of transportation can be a barrier for those children whose families do not have a private means of transportation and don't know what other transportation services are available to them.

The following NCMM resources are available to SFSP grantees to help improve access to summer meal programs:

- Newl Transportation Strategies to Connect Youth with Summer Food Programs
   (National Center for Mobility Management, 2016). Explores potential collaboration strategies mobility managers, transportation providers, and summer meal sites can pursue to reduce the number of children who go hungry each summer. Concludes with suggested strategies that mobility management professionals can use to support access to summer food programs programs within their communities.
- Contact your <u>NCMM regional liaison</u> to learn about transportation resources in local communities and opportunities to be part of grants to support transportation services.
- View a June 2015 NCMM webinar that highlighted connections between summer meal programs and transit providers, and offered suggestions regarding identifying transportation resources.

### Today's presenters

**Rik Opstelten**, Program Analyst, United We Ride, Federal Transit Administration

**Tony Craddock, Jr.**, Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Communications Officer | Food and Nutrition Service | USDA

Mike Barnhart, Vice President and COO, Horizons-A Family Service Alliance, Cedar Rapids, IA

Tommy Brown, Transportation Directory, City of Huntsville, AL

**Moderator: Amy Conrick, NCMM** 



# **Questions and Discussion:**

How can mobility managers and the USDA's Summer Food Service Program collaborate to ensure youth have access to summer meal sites?







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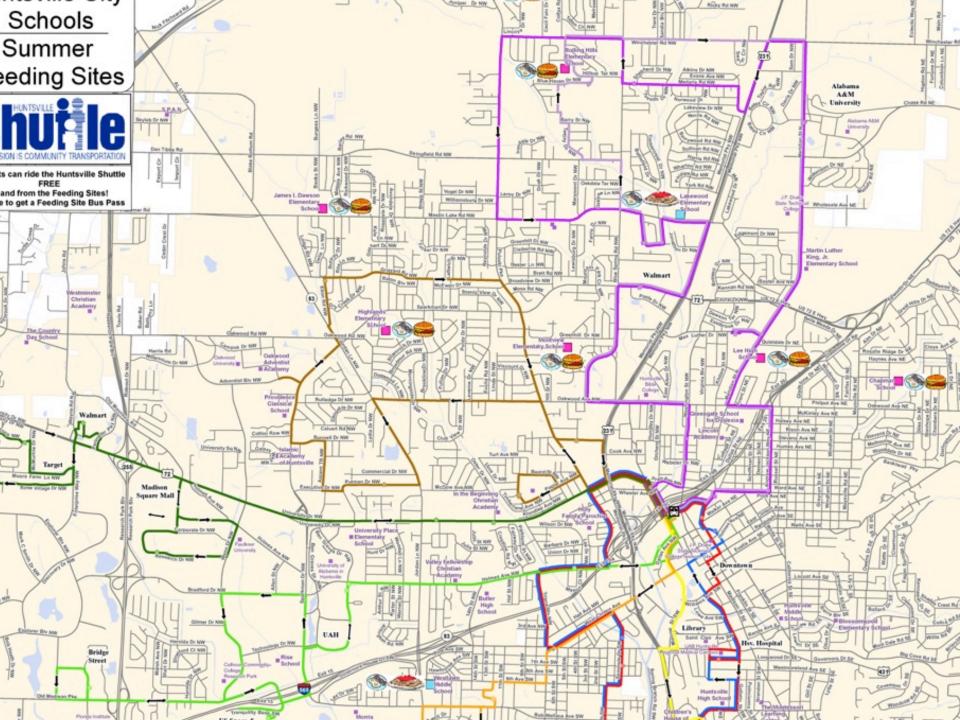




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- 1. What strategies have you engaged in to solve transportation barriers for youth getting to summer meal sites?
- 2. What thoughts do you have on strategies that could be tried?



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