



Child & Community Well-Being Committee Report

June 2019

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Chair: Janet Ingraham Dwyer

The ad hoc Child & Community Well-Being Committee (CCWB) supports and facilitates public library involvement in the USDA Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and other well-being initiatives, in keeping with CSLP's mission to "empower libraries to foster community". The CCWB was established in 2018 by the CSLP Board, upon recommendation of an exploratory committee convened in 2017 to survey the landscape of SFSP participation and other child and community well-being activities in libraries.

The CCWB encourages public libraries to address hunger and health issues, and support child and community well-being, especially during the summer when children don't have access to the resources offered by their schools. Its accomplishments to date include:

- **Libraries and Summer Food** (www.csllpreads.org/libraries-and-summer-food), a compact, thorough how-to guide to help libraries connect kids and teens with healthy food when school is out.
- **Summer Meals factsheet** for libraries, featuring key statistics about child hunger and SFSP, brief talking points for library involvement, and a brief step-by-step guide to determining SFSP eligibility and getting started: www.csllpreads.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/csllp-summer-meals-factsheet-rev0519.pdf (PDF file)
- **Infographic** version of the factsheet: www.csllpreads.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/csllp-summer-meals-infographic-rev0519.png (PNG file)
- **Monthly article in the CSLP newsletter** through 2019 (projected). The articles spotlight libraries that serve as summer meal/snack sites or otherwise engage with child hunger and food security issues. These articles from January 2019 – current are collected at the bottom of this page: www.csllpreads.org/libraries-and-summer-food/#resource
- **CSLP - Feeding the Whole Child: Libraries and Food Facebook group** to facilitate networking, information-sharing, idea-sharing, and mutual support among librarians and library specialists across the states and territories.

The CCWB goals for 2018-2020 are:

1. Create a very basic "how-to" for libraries to learn about and explore their potential to become SFSP sites or support child/community well-being in other ways. **COMPLETED.**
2. Share narrative stories submitted by libraries that serve as SFSP sites or offer other well-being supports: successes, challenges, lessons learned, and data. **COMPLETED/ONGOING.**
3. Include one or more SFSP-supportive downloadables, with licensed theme artwork, in each year's manual. **IN PROCESS. The factsheet and infographic are being distributed separately from the manual. A paragraph has been added to the manual front matter.**

4. Facilitate a community of practice where librarians can connect with colleagues who are also invested in child/community well-being activities. **IN PROCESS.**

5. Research current level of library SFSP participation across all states/territories. **COMPLETED. This data was supplied by Dr. Noah Lenstra at UNC.**

6. Communicate availability of all of the above. **ONGOING.**

Over the next year, the CCWB will address the goal of including SFSP-related information in the manual and will consider two additional goals: outreach to LIS programs, and support for integrating food distribution with library programs/activities. In addition, the CCWB is considering a request to create a mini-manual of library-style program ideas for non-library SFSP sites.

The CCWB will also take on some maintenance work: managing the Facebook group and updating the how-to guide and other materials as appropriate. If the CSLP Board does not choose to make the CCWB a standing committee, we will also develop a recommendation for what CSLP body should oversee these ongoing projects in the future.

I am grateful to the CCWB committee members for their dedication, advocacy, and good work. Special thanks to Danielle Margarida for designing the factsheet/infographic, and to Shane Hoffman, with Kate McCartney and Barbara Scott, for taking the lead on the community of practice goal.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Ingraham Dwyer