



Summer Feeding is a national program model created and standardized by **Feeding America**, the nation's food bank network that provides guidance and support to over 200 food banks nationwide, and is supported by the USDA. The Lowcountry Food Bank's **Summer Feeding** Program is reimbursed through the USDA's Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

In order to make a significant impact on childhood hunger in coastal South Carolina, the Lowcountry Food Bank launched the first ever **Kids Café** program in South Carolina in 1998. The mission of the Lowcountry Food Bank's **Summer Feeding** program is to meet the needs of food-insecure children in the summer by providing them with nutritious meals and snacks when they do not have access to free or reduced price school meals. Depending on a site's operating hours this may include breakfast, lunch, snack and/or supper meals. Partnering with local nonprofits, elementary schools, and faith-based organizations, over 580 hot meals are prepared daily and served to children at five **Summer Feeding** sites. The Lowcountry Food Bank's 1,600 square foot, full-scale Zucker Family Production Kitchen enables the Lowcountry Food Bank to prepare hot, nutritious meals on-site for numerous local **Summer Feeding** sites in Charleston County. Over 15,000 **Summer Feeding** meals were prepared in the Zucker Family Production Kitchen during the summer of 2013 for 5 local sites.

In 2013, the Lowcountry Food Bank partnered with Share Our Strength/No Kid Hungry for the first time to utilize a free texting service which allowed people to quickly and easily find the closest **Summer Feeding** sites to their home. The Lowcountry Food Bank collaborated with Charleston, Berkeley, and Dorchester County School Districts, the City of Charleston, and the City of North Charleston – together serving over 140 sites in the Tri-county area whose information was made available via the texting service.

To find out more about **Summer Feeding** and how you can make an important difference in the life of a child, contact Melanie Johnson, Child/Senior Hunger Programs Manager via email at mjohnson@lcfbank.org.