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Hello Church Leader,

As the school year is winding down for students throughout Georgia, there is a real fear growing as one in 4 - or 700,780 - children in our state are at risk of being hungry during the summer months. When these children are not in school, they do not have access to free or reduced-price lunches or meals. To fill the void, the Georgia Food Bank Association (GFBA) "Feeding for a Promising Future: No Kid Hungry Campaign" is joining together with Bright From the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, Georgia Department of Education – Nutrition, and The Arby's Foundation by offering free summer meals to kids across the state. The free summer meals will be available at more than 2,500 locations statewide.

We are asking you and the members of your congregation to help us spread the word throughout your community to feed our state's hungry children this summer by announcing the FREE Summer Meal Program in your weekly homily, bulletins, monthly newsletter, websites, etc., as well as including the message in your additional communications channels.

Beginning in June, parents looking for free summer lunch for their children will have an easy way to find a location near them. They can text "FoodGA" to 877-877 and enter their address when prompted. The automated system will send information on the three closest open summer feeding site locations. Parents who need help feeding their children can make a free call to 2-1-1, United Way's helpline, for information and site locations.

Summer Meals Program Details:

- Meals are FREE to children and teens between the ages of 2 and 18
- FREE Summer Meals follows USDA nutrition guidelines
- There are more than 2,500 summer meals sites statewide
- The FREE summer meal sites include schools, faith institutions, community centers and other places that are safe for kids and teens
- Many sites also offer educational and recreational activities
- Registration is not required. Parents are encouraged to simply bring their child to a summer meals site in their community and their kids can enjoy their meal.