



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Virginia Department of Education, Office of School Nutrition Programs June/July 2016

VA 365 PARTNERS

First Lady of Virginia, Dorothy McAuliffe
Feeding America Southwest Virginia
FeedMore
Share Our Strength
Southeast United Dairy Industry Association
Virginia Department of Education
Virginia Department of Health
Virginia Department of Social Services
Virginia foundation for Healthy Youth
Virginia Tech – Cooperative Extension

Recipe of the Month

Mighty Milk:

- 8 ice cubes
- 2 cups 1% low-fat milk
- 2 bananas, mashed
- 4 TBSP orange juice, from concentrate

Put all ingredients in a blender and blend for 20 seconds or shake well in a jar until well mixed.

Serve in a frosty glass.

For more quick, nutritious recipes, visit the Virginia Cooperative Extension Recipe page at:

<http://www.ext.vt.edu/topics/food-health/family-nutrition-program/recipes/index.html>.

Summer EBT Benefits: Fighting Hunger When School is Out

Summer is here and, along with warmer weather, it brings the enhanced summer benefits of the Virginia 365 Project to End Childhood Hunger! Families participating in the project received their first month's benefits, \$60 per eligible child, on June 8th when the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) mailed letters and the VA 365 EBT cards to families. While the benefits are not SNAP benefits, the card may be used to purchase healthy food at any retailer authorized to accept SNAP, such as grocery stores and local Farmer's Markets. Additional \$60 monthly benefits will be issued on July 8th and August 8th. The benefits are loaded directly to the EBT card each month and must be used before September 30th, 2016. Eligibility for the enhanced summer benefit card is based on a student's enrollment in a VA 365 Project to End Childhood Hunger treatment school and the student's prior eligibility for free or reduced price school meals.

Summer benefits have been met with **great** enthusiasm. The number of calls received by VDSS has been terrific – more than 1,000 in the first two weeks. Participants are very happy to receive these benefits to help end summer hunger for their children.

Backpack Meals for School Breaks

As the summer break comes to a close in Southwest Virginia, Feeding America Southwest Virginia (FASWVA) will begin their delivery of backpack meals to participating schools toward the end of July. In Richmond, FeedMore will begin supplying backpack meals to participating schools in early September. Approximately 7,500 students will be offered backpack meals at the end of **each week and before extended school breaks** in the VA 365 Project treatment schools.

VCE Family Nutrition Program

Want to learn more about how to prepare tasty, healthy foods? Virginia Cooperative Extension staff will be offering Nutrition Education sessions to families in VA 365 treatment schools. VCE Project Assistants will be coordinating with schools to set dates and times for these fun, food sessions this fall.



Today, there are 300,000 children in Virginia who are food insecure. In a state as rich in resources as ours, this

is simply unacceptable. For the first time, the Virginia 365 Project to End Childhood Hunger offers us the opportunity to ensure access to proper nutrition for our children every day throughout the year. Once the success of this model is proven, it could be expanded throughout the Commonwealth and across the United States. I am honored to be a part of such a promising, innovative initiative, and I am so grateful to all the partner organizations, schools, and families involved in this project. The 365 Project would not be possible without your participation and support. Together, we can not only end childhood hunger in Virginia, but we can secure healthier lives and better educational opportunities for our youngest generation. With your help, Virginia will lead the way to a hunger-free future.

Virginia Cooperative Extension

Want to learn to prepare nutritious meals for your family? Want to know more about purchasing healthy food on a tight budget? Plan to attend the Nutrition Education sessions that will be offered at all VA 365 Project treatment schools beginning this fall. Dates, times, and locations will be announced soon! Until then, try one of our monthly VCE recipes with your child.



Virginia Department of Education
Office of School Nutrition Programs

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For more information about the
Virginia 365 Project to End Childhood

Hunger, visit:

www.doe.virginia.gov



The Southeast United Dairy Industry Association (SUDIA) is pleased to provide treatment schools in the VA 365 Project to End Childhood Hunger with equipment grants through the Fuel Up to Play 60 in-school student health and wellness program. Each school is receiving equipment – such as insulated bags, carts, and mobile kiosks – to help implement alternative breakfast programs like

Breakfast in the Classroom and Grab 'n Go Breakfast. These programs ensure that students have a nutritious breakfast at the start of the day. Equipment is also being used in some locations to provide the supper meal to students and to also store and transport backpack meals provided in the project. In addition to the equipment grants, SUDIA has supplied 250 Fuel Up to Play 60 cinch bags that for the backpack meal program.

About the Southeast United Dairy Industry Association:

On behalf of the dairy farm families, the non-profit Southeast United Dairy Industry Association, Inc. (SUDIA) works with schools, health professionals, retailers, dairy processors and the public to promote dairy foods. For more information, visit www.southeastdairy.org.

Fuel Up to Play 60 is a partnership with the National Football League that promotes the importance of healthy nutrition and daily physical activities. For more information about the Fuel Up to Play 60 program, visit www.FueluptoPlay60.com.

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