

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

VCE Recipe of the Month

Black Bean & Corn Salsa:

- 15 oz. black beans, canned
- 11 oz. corn, sweet
- 1 cup salsa
- 8 oz. low sodium whole wheat crackers

Drain and rinse beans. Drain corn. Mix beans, corn and salsa in medium size bowl. Serve with whole wheat crackers.

For 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's Over: 3 meals a day and weekend food begins!

August marked the beginning of school in Southwest Virginia, and with that, the full implementation of the Virginia 365 Project to End Childhood Hunger. Students in selected schools are receiving breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack each school day, at no charge, along with food packs providing three meals a day for weekends.

Irene Mullins, principal of North Tazewell Elementary, says "NTES students are excited arrive at the school and go directly to their classrooms to begin their morning work."

Students at North Tazewell pick up a "grab and go" breakfast, to take back to their classroom. Principal Mullins reports an increase in the number of students eating breakfast with the start of VA 365. NTES

serves a "super snack" in the afternoon while they are still in an academic setting. "It is an awesome program and an excellent source of energy for learning for our students at NTES," says to Mullins.

The Virginia 365 Project has already made a very positive impact in the Southwest Virginia region. We look forward to similar results as Richmond students return to school.

Summer EBT is a Success

Claudia Jackson, SNAP Consultant with the Virginia Department of Social Services, reports very positive feedback from the summer EBT benefits. Jackson recalls a mother who she talked with about the summer benefits. This mother was out on short term disability; because of her call to VDSS, about the summer benefits, she had the opportunity to learn about other resources that were available to assist her during a difficult financial situation. Jackson also recalls a grandmother calling, in tears, to express her gratitude for the additional benefits.



The start of the school year always offers the promise of new beginnings – new teachers, new friends, and new opportunities. I am glad that one of this

year's new beginnings is the Virginia 365 Project to End Childhood Hunger. This fall, the Virginia 365 Project offers us the opportunity to ensure access to proper nutrition for our children three times a day, every day. Once the success of this model is proven, initiatives such as this one could be expanded across the state and across the country. Projects of this magnitude are only successful through the hard work and dedication of those involved. I am so grateful to all the partner organizations, schools and families who have helped make the launch of the Virginia 365 Project a success. The Governor and I wish everyone a happy start to the 2016-2017 school year and a happy start to the Virginia 365 Project to End Childhood Hunger!



Virginia Cooperative Extension

Adult Nutrition Education Sessions

Highland View Elementary: 8/15, 8/29, 9/26, 10/3, 10/24 (8:00 a.m. @ HVES)

Council Elementary: coming soon

Galax Elementary: 8/18, 9/8, 9/15, 9/22, 9/29, 10/13, 10/20, 10/27 (5:30 p.m. @ GES)

Baywood Elementary: 9/8, 9/22, 10/6, 10/13, 11/3, 11/17 (5:30 @ BES)

Dryden Elementary: 9/13 (4:00 @ DES); future classes are TBD

Lee High School: 9/26, 10/3, 10/18, 11/1, 11/14, 11/28 (4:00 @ LHS)

Dungannon Intermediate: 9/27 (10:30 a.m. @ DIS); future classes are TBD

Atkins Elementary: 9/28, 10/5, 10/19, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16 (1:00 @ Davis Memorial Church across from AES)

Chilhowie Middle: 9/20, 10/4, 10/18, 11/8, 11/22, 12/6 (6:00 @ CMS)

North Tazewell Elementary: coming soon



(FASWVA), a member of the Feeding America network, proudly commemorates 35 years of fighting hunger and changing lives through community partnerships. For the last three and a half decades, the Food Bank's ultimate mission has remained the same: eliminate hunger in the region.

In keeping with this mission, FASWVA is pleased to be working in partnership with the Virginia Department of Education, Virginia Department of Health, and other partners to test a model that seeks to demonstrate that childhood hunger can be eliminated by ensuring that children have access to healthy meals year round and that both student achievement and behavior improve when students are well nourished and ready to learn. Nearly 50,000 children in FASWVA's service region don't have consistent access to healthy meals, making this project especially critical.

"Too many children in our region find themselves with empty plates," says Pamela Irvine, President and CEO of Feeding America Southwest Virginia. "And empty plates mean empty stomachs. Children are our future and they need proper nutrition to grow, learn, and thrive. That's why Feeding America Southwest Virginia is so excited to be part of this important project."

The project is currently underway at 10 schools in the southern portion of the food bank's 26-county service region. VDOE and VDH are working together to provide three meals per day to students at each of these schools. In order to ensure children also have access to healthy food on the weekends, Feeding America Southwest Virginia is providing food packs to each student for the weekends and three-day holidays.

Coordinating staff, trucks, food and other logistics is always a challenge when tackling a new project, but it's a challenge Feeding America Southwest Virginia is more than willing to meet in order to make a difference in the lives of hungry children in our region.

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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Virginia Department of Education
School Nutrition Programs, 21st Floor
PO Box 2120
Richmond, VA 23218-2120
804-225-3968

Lynne.Fellin@doe.virginia.gov

Sherri.Dorsey@doe.virginia.gov

Southwest Virginia Office
121 Bagley Circle, Suite 432
Marion, VA 24354
276-782-3336

Leighann.Adams@doe.virginia.gov

For more information about the
Virginia 365 Project to End Childhood
Hunger, visit

www.doe.virginia.gov

