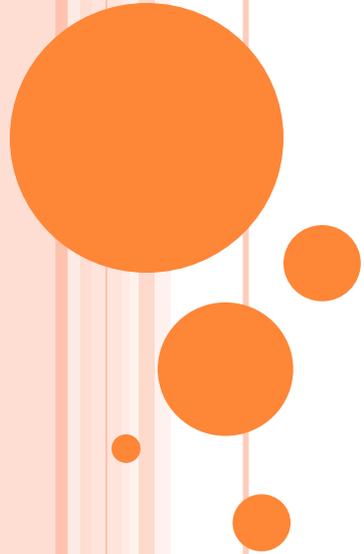


# FUELING THE MIND



# FUELING THE MIND

- Partnership between KDLA and KDE.
- Public libraries that served as or provided outreach to Feeding Sites in the USDA's Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) received funding to expand their Summer Reading Programs.



# FUELING THE MIND

- Money can be used to hire staff for the program, purchase supplies for the program, mileage for picking up meals, pay educational performers.



# WHY?

- Kentucky has one of the highest poverty rates in the country with 26.5% of its children living in poverty.
- Kentucky also ranks 5th in the nation in food insecurity, the lack of access to nutritionally adequate foods.
- 44% of Kentuckians struggle with minimal literacy skills and 37% of the Kentuckians age 25 and older do not have a high school diploma.



## WHY?

**Summer Slide:** the effect that spending the summer months out of school has on a child's retention of reading ability. Low-income children lose about 2 months (or 22%) of reading skills over the summer. Because summer learning loss is cumulative, it accounts for 2/3 of the reading achievement gap between low- and middle-income children.



# SIXTEEN LIBRARIES

- Boone
- Carter
- Casey
- Fayette
- Grant
- Jackson
- Jessamine
- Kenton
- Lincoln
- Logan
- Madison
- Menifee
- Powell
- Pulaski
- Taylor
- Union



## FUELING THE MIND--OUTCOMES

- The sixteen libraries who participated served **53 sites** across the state, including a total of **38 mobile or outreach sites**.
- **20,534 children** participated in the program.
- Public libraries that participated in the Fueling the Mind program saw an average of **17% increase in their Summer Reading participation** over 2012.
- Libraries that participated in Fueling the Mind **extended their program lengths by 32%** and **offered 121% more programs** than they would have without the grant.



# FUELING THE MIND PANELISTS

- Carol Sexton, Pulaski County Public Library
- Ricki Barker, Ricky Combs, and Shelley Tucker, Madison County Public Library
- Lisa Sensale Yazdian, Boone County Public Library
- Angela McGuire, Union County Public Library



# FUELING THE MIND HIGHLIGHTS

## **Pulaski County Public Library**

- Overwhelming positive response to their Fueling the Mind Program. Many times over 400 children would attend their meals and programs. **In response they mobilized 78 volunteers who gave over 700 hours in the 63 days of their program.**

“The need in our community is great not only financially but for quality literary based activities and programs for children of all ages. Our library strives to be the cultural and literary center of our community and the Fueling the Mind: Preventing Summer Reading Loss allowed us to bring wonderful and varied programs at no charge to children of all ages.” –*Carol Sexton, Pulaski County Public Library*



# FUELING THE MIND HIGHLIGHTS

## **Madison County Public Library**

- The Fueling the Mind program led to a partnership with the local health department, Eastern Kentucky University, and Berea College students to survey Berea residents about food availability—supply chains, quality and variety available. They held focus groups at the library and involved some of the Fueling the Mind participants in the focus groups.
- Madison County also used their outreach vehicle to take lunches to bookmobile stops.

“We often saw large families return daily—lunch at the library became a part of their daily schedule. In addition to making a positive nutritional impact on some of the most vulnerable members of our community, I feel this program builds a strong identification in our families of the library as an essential and central part of their daily lives. These kids will always remember coming to the library for lunch in the summer. We are building future library lovers one sandwich at a time!” --  
*Ruthie Maslin, Madison County Public Library*



# BOONE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

- Hired 4 part-time staff
  - 1 Driver for the CCoW
  - 3 Outreach Associates for food service, programming, summer reading logs (2 staff for in-house; all 3 for outreach)
- Added 50 additional summer programs
- Served 1,170 meals to children over 8 weeks
  - Received donation of HeaterMeals for adults ([heatermeals.com](http://heatermeals.com))
- Received local Hunger Relief grant from Walmart
  - Reached 885 people
    - Lunches for participating adults
    - Mobile food pantry distribution in Florence



# BOONE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

- Offered lunch and mixed age/family programming at our Florence Branch four days a week (11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m.; 30 min for lunch, 1 hr for programming)

<p><b>Movie Mondays</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Movie, book talks, activity (e.g., <i>Escape from Planet Earth</i>; Create a postcard to send from Earth to Planet Baab)</li></ul>	<p><b>Terrific Tuesdays</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Hands-on science, art, Legos, games, contracted outreach programs (e.g., Cincinnati Museum Center, Cincinnati Art Museum)</li></ul>	<p><b>Workout Wednesdays</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Boone County Parks &amp; Recreation (e.g., block games, kickball, etc.)</li></ul>	<p><b>Spanish Storytime &amp; Programming on Fridays</b></p>
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# BOONE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

- Offered dinner and mixed age/family programming twice a week at two remote sites with our Community Center on Wheels (CCoW) (6-7:30 p.m.)
  - Parking lot of a child care center next to hotel used by homeless families (joined by Boone County Parks Department)
  - White Pine Village (mobile home community)



## Fueling the Mind

### **Free Summer Dinners!**

Join us for stories, games and activities. Children will receive a **FREE** dinner.\* Adults will receive a **FREE** HeaterMeals Meal Kit, while supplies last\*\*.

**Mondays, June 10 to July 29, 6 to 7:30 p.m.**

**White Pine Village  
10201 Dixie Highway in Florence**

**Thursdays, June 6 to July 25, 6 to 7:30 p.m.**

**Biederman Educational Center  
8025 Dream Street in Florence**



# BOONE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

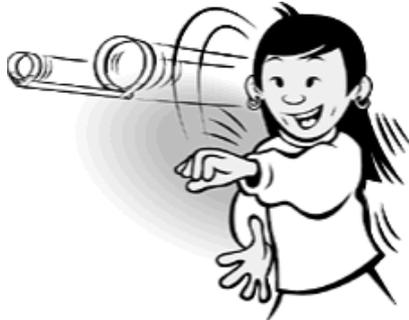
- High level engagement at the White Pine stop.
  - Average of 40 kids per night; Biederman average = 16.
  - As many as 65 kids at one time.
  - Few adults.
  - Wanted to return and check-out books before eating.
- Some kids visit their local branch, but most do not.
- Higher number of check-outs, returns and attendance than some of our regular monthly community stops.
- Have added White Pine to our regular schedule.
  - *Where's the food?*
  - *So you don't bring food when it's cold?*



# BOONE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

## ○ Sample Activities at Outreach Sites

- Decorated tote bags, wooden boxes, bars of soap (ideas from Artstravaganza! Training)
- Bubble Prints (colors, shapes, surface area)
- Bubble Blimp Makers (shapes, surface area)
- Goo (polymers and elasticity)
- Foam Gliders (gravity and air resistance)
- Hoopsters (gravity and air resistance)



- [http://www.exploratorium.edu/science\\_explorer/](http://www.exploratorium.edu/science_explorer/)
- *The Science Explorer: Family Science Experiments from the World's Favorite Hands-on Museum-The Exploratorium*



# BOONE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

## ○ Future Plans

- Visit outreach sites more frequently
- Stay for a longer period of time at outreach sites
- Enlist volunteers
- Have Parks Department at White Pine Stop
- Involve PAWS to Read (canine assisted reading program)
- Have big ideas planned before school lets out so kids know what to look forward to
- Factor in more planning time for Outreach Associates
- Give away reading material with summer reading log



# FUELING THE MIND HIGHLIGHTS

## Union County Public Library

- The Union County Public Library partnered with the Union County Community Garden Coalition to plant gardens at two of their sites. Families planted, weeded, and harvested food for their community.
- Hired 7 full-time employees and 20 part-time employees to assist with the program.

“The children and their parents were so excited about this. The Garden partnership was a great success. Many grandparents brought the children and they were all so thankful for the meals AND the programming. This year we really encouraged reading. We set a goal to read 2000 books in six weeks but we read 4720 BOOKS! AND we served 2607 meals!!” --*Angela McGuire, Union County Public Library*

