



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## **Summer Food Program at the Noble County Helps Combat Child Hunger**

*Thanks to Walmart Foundation support, the Y's Summer Food Program is available at sites across the country this summer.*

[Perry]—According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, around 22 million kids receive free or reduced-cost meals thanks to the National School Lunch Program. However, once the school year ends, only 17 percent of those same kids are able to access free meals over the summer break, leaving many children without during the summer months.

The Y is working to fill that gap, and thanks to support from the Walmart Foundation, will help keep children healthy and well-nourished this summer, ensuring that kids reach their full potential. Participating youth will receive both food and fun through nutritious meals and snacks, while also enjoying recreational and learning activities aimed at keeping bodies and minds active. Y sites across the country, including The Noble County Family YMCA, will offer the Summer Food Program to any child under 18. The program runs from May 18th to August 16.

Now in its thirteenth year, the Summer Food Program is part of an existing national partnership between YMCA of the USA (Y-USA) and the Walmart Foundation to address child hunger, which is more prevalent during the summertime. Made possible by a grant from the Walmart Foundation, the Y is better able to reach kids in need. The program is part of the Y's year-round effort to address child hunger; during the school year, the Y's Afterschool Meal Program provides a combination of learning activities and healthy meals and/or snacks at the end of the school day.

The Noble County Family YMCA will serve upwards of 150 children here in Noble County this summer. To learn more about the NoCo Family YMCA's Summer Food Program, call 580.336.4411, email [jozie.sands@noblecoymca.org](mailto:jozie.sands@noblecoymca.org), or visit [www.noblecoymca.org/mealsforkids](http://www.noblecoymca.org/mealsforkids).

"Hunger has a lasting impact on the development of children," says Caity King, Director of Strategic Advancement, Noble County Family YMCA. "Giving kids access to nutrition-filled meals allows kids to focus, learn and become empowered to reach their full potential. The Y's Summer Food Program helps make sure kids can enjoy healthy and delicious meals and snacks all summer long."

The YMCA will be offering free meals to youth at three locations this summer with the following schedule:

The Noble County Family YMCA is taking the Summer Food Program into the community to reach youth who may not be able to visit the Y. Kids will have access to healthy meals and snacks and fun activities through the Y's Tim Hight Food Program.

In Perry, The Y served 14,299 meals and snacks during the 2022-2023 School Year. Since the Noble County Family YMCA began its food security work, the Tim Hight Food Program has

served over 70,000 meals and snacks to Noble County youth. The Y's commitment is to help kids achieve their full potential by nurturing their physical, mental and character development. Since the start of the Summer Food Program, the YMCAs across the country have served over 220 million healthy meals and snacks to hundreds of thousands of kids.

During the school year, the Noble County Family YMCA will also serve healthy meals and snacks in its afterschool program to provide kids with nourishment and academic enrichment.

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### **About the Y**

Driven by its founding mission, the Y has served as a leading nonprofit committed to strengthening community for more than 175 years. The Y empowers everyone, no matter who they are or where they're from, by ensuring access to resources, relationships and opportunities for all to learn, grow and thrive. By bringing together people from different backgrounds, perspectives and generations, the Y's goal is to improve overall health and well-being, ignite youth empowerment and demonstrate the importance of connections in and across 10,000 communities nationwide. Learn more at [ymca.org](http://ymca.org).

### **About Philanthropy at Walmart**

By using our strengths to help others, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation create opportunities for people to live better every day. We have stores in 27 countries, employing more than 2.2 million associates and doing business with thousands of suppliers who, in turn, employ millions of people. We are helping people live better by accelerating upward job mobility and economic development for the retail workforce; addressing hunger and making healthier, more sustainably-grown food a reality; and building strong communities where we operate and inspiring our associates to give back. Whether it is helping to lead the fight against hunger in the United States with \$2 billion in cash and in-kind donations or supporting Women's Economic Empowerment through a series of grants totaling \$10 million to the Women in Factories training program in Bangladesh, China, India and Central America, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are not only working to tackle key social issues, we are also collaborating with others to inspire solutions for long-lasting systemic change. To learn more about Walmart's giving, visit [www.foundation.walmart.com](http://www.foundation.walmart.com).

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