

Summer Food Service Program: The Ones Who Come Are the Ones Who Need It the Most

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Columbia, S.C., July 29, 2019 – USDA has been involved in the Summer Food Service Program for many years. This program serves free, healthy meals to eligible low-income children and teens during the summer months when they’re not in school. Without this program, many students would go hungry.

In South Carolina, the Department of Education is the state agency that administers the program for the USDA Food and Nutrition Service. Recently, we visited the Camden Cove Apartments located in Camden, S.C., which is one of twenty-three (23) South Carolina USDA Rural Development (RD) Multi-family housing complexes that participate in this program. On the day of our visit, several children participated in the program. On average, between 14 to 18 children receive meals through this program at Camden Cove Apartments, which is managed by Partnership Property Management.

Photographed is Josiah Lee, who was enjoying his lunch the day of our visit to Camden Cove. During the visit, we saw first-hand how this program benefits our residents. One by one, the children started coming into the community room for lunch. The children seemed happy to be there and eager to get their lunch. After the children left, we sat down to talk with Jessica Jay, the Site Manager at Camden Cove Apartments. She told us, “The ones that come, are the ones who need it the most. If we didn’t have this program, they may not get to eat lunch.”

USDA Rural Development Multi-Family Affordable Rental Communities are great sites for the Summer Food Service Program and provide a much-needed service for our residents. For more information about our Multi-family Housing Program, please contact your local servicing Area Office at: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/state-offices/sc>.

Additional information about the South Carolina USDA Rural Development is available online at: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/sc>.

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