



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Partnership Serving Free Meals to Keiki During School Closure

Including on Prince Kuhio Day, March 26

Honolulu, HI, March 23, 2020 – A partnership of non-profit and governmental organizations has started serving free lunch to children and youth at seven sites on Oahu during the current public school closure.

Five will be open on Prince Kuhio Day, when DOE-sponsored feeding sites will not be open. The grab-and-go meals are available to keiki up to age 18 at these sites:

March 23 to 27

11:30 to 12:30

Kalihi Valley International Bike Program
1638 Kamehameha IV Road
Honolulu, HI 96819

Kipapa Elementary School
95-076 Kipapa Drive
Mililani, HI 96789

Nuuanu YMCA
1441 Pali Highway
Honolulu, HI 96813

Palolo Valley Homes
2170 Ahe Street
Honolulu, HI 96816

Puohala Elementary School
45-233 Kulauli Street
Kaneohe, HI 96744

March 23 to 25 & March 27

Noon to 1 pm

Kuhio Park Terrace Resource Center
1485 Linapuni Street
Honolulu, HI 96819

March 30 to April 3

11:30 to 12:30

Palama Settlement
810 North Vineyard Blvd.
Honolulu, HI 96817

On a typical school day, about 61,000 economically disadvantaged Hawaii students benefit from free or reduced-price school meals. For many, these are the only nutritious meals that they eat regularly. For their families, these meals help relieve financial stress by reducing their food budgets.

During the summer, when students aren't getting free or reduced-price meals at school, community partners work together to provide meals to children and youth in low-income areas via the federal Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

During this unplanned school closure, three SFSP sponsors -- YMCA Honolulu, Parents and Children Together, and Palama Settlement -- are opening food sites in low-income areas on Oahu for keiki. They are partnering with Aloha Harvest, Kapiolani Community College, Hawaii Appleseed, and Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs.

These SFSP sites provide added feeding capacity on Oahu to complement the feeding sites that the Department of Education (DOE) is operating at 38 schools, out of 256 public schools across the state, during the school closure.

The dates of service at these SFSP sites may be extended, depending upon DOE announcements of further school closures and funding availability.

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