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DANIEL HORRIGAN, MAYOR

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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City of Akron to Provide Free Meals through Summer Food Service Program

Twelve locations will also participate in the Summer Reading Program to encourage summer reading practice and back-to-school readiness

Akron, Ohio, June 8, 2018 – As another school year comes to an end, Mayor Dan Horrigan is proud to announce that City of Akron Recreation Bureau will once again be participating in the federally-funded Summer Food Service Program this year.

“There is nothing more important than making sure our young people have the nutrition they need to grow, learn, and live healthy, productive lives,” Mayor Horrigan said. “Research tells us that children who are hungry or food insecure are less likely to be in good health, to form friendships, to be curious, and to learn. For some of our families in need, the meals provided by schools are their children’s primary source of nutrition. Through the Summer Food Service Program, we are able to continue to offer our children these essential meals at no cost throughout the summer, so that our students can return to class in the fall healthy and ready to learn.”

Meals will be provided to all eligible youth (18 years of age or younger) and summer day camp program participants that meet the income guidelines for reduced-price meals in the National School Lunch Program. The income guidelines for reduced-price meals by family size are available upon request. Children who are part of households that receive food stamps or benefits under the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) are automatically eligible to receive free meals.

The City is also pleased to announce the continuation of its Summer Reading Program, and is thrilled to be doubling the number of locations in 2018. The City of Akron will once again be partnering with the Akron Public Schools (APS) and Summit Education Initiative (SEI), to host its successful summer reading program, starting June 11th and continuing through August 9th. All children are eligible to participate, but the program is targeted at helping Akron students in kindergarten through fifth grade practice their reading with support from a community volunteer. **For the convenience of families, all twelve summer reading sites are also sites offering free lunch.**

“Our Summer Reading Program, which includes one-on-one sessions with volunteer tutors, helps stem the tide of reading loss and sends students back to school in the Fall, prepared to

start the new school year off right,” said Mayor Horrigan. “I thank President Sommerville and our partners on City Council, Akron Public Schools, and SEI for once again supporting these critically important programs for Akron’s young people.”

The Summer Reading Program partners are also seeking volunteers to read to students. “This is a great opportunity to make a positive difference in the life of a young person,” Akron City Councilman-at-large Jeff Fuso said of the program. “We encourage everyone to consider volunteering to read with a student—whether for just one hour or throughout the summer.”

"With each successive summer, we further extend the learning experience. Whether it's reading, science and math or something in the arts, it is vitally important our students are stimulated over the summer," added David W. James, superintendent Akron Public Schools.

“After analyzing last year’s program data, we saw significant increased reading gains over the summer for third through fifth grade student,” said Derran Wimer, Executive Director of SEI. “The program is promising for students in the intermediate grade schools years provided they can attend 15 tutoring sessions or more.”

Acceptance and participation requirements for the food service program and all activities are the same for all regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service.

Parents interested in registering their children for the Summer Reading Program and community members interested in volunteering should contact Roberta Rogers, Summer Reading Program Coordinator, at (330) 812-7878 or rogers2@apslearns.org. Volunteers can register for a location and a time slot at bit.ly/readingvolunteer.

For information or about summer meal program sites or details, please contact: Audley McGill, City of Akron Food Service Program Coordinator at 330-375-2826 or amcgill@akronohio.gov.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write or call immediately to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW; Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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Summer Lunch Program Sites

June 11th - August 10th, 2018

unless noted in (parenthesis)

****Serving Times are Subject to Change****

SITE NAME	Address	City/Zip	Breakfast	Lunch
Avilee Webb	230 Elson Ave	Barberton 44203		11:25am
Bethel SDA (starts 6/18)	1398 Canton Rd	Akron 44312		11:30am
Betty Jane CLC**	444 Darrow Rd	Akron 44305	9:00am	12:00pm
Church on the Boulevard**	754 Kenmore Blvd	Akron 44314		12:00pm
Copley Road Community Center	775 Copley Rd	Akron 44320	9:00am	12:00pm
Crouse CLC	1000 Diagonal Rd	Akron 44320	9:00am	12:00pm
David Hill CLC	1060 E. Archwood Ave	Akron 44306		11:00am
Edgewood Park	1170 Liberty Ave	Barberton 44203		12:25pm
Findley CLC**	65 W. Tallmadge Ave	Akron 44310	9:00am	12:00pm
Firestone Park Community Center**	1480 Girard St	Akron 44301		10:30am
First Apostolic Faith Church	790 Easter Ave	Akron 44307	8:30am	12:30pm
Forest Hill CLC	850 Damon St	Akron 44310	9:00am	12:00pm
Glory Hallelujah Childcare	1010 S. Hawkins Ave	Akron 44320	8:00am	12:00pm
Glover CLC**	935 Hammel St	Akron 44306		11:00am
Harris-Jackson CLC**	1085 Clifton Ave	Akron 44310		11:00am
Helen Arnold CLC**	450 Vernon Odom Blvd	Akron 44307	8:30am	11:30am
Honey Locust Gardens	3299 Prange Dr	Cuyahoga Falls 44223	9:30am	12:00pm
Joy Park Community Center	825 Fuller St	Akron 44306	8:30am	11:30am
Lakeview Lighthouse	1065 Kubler Trail	Akron 44312		11:30am
Leggett CLC	333 E. Thornton St	Akron 44311		11:00am
Mason CLC**	700 E. Exchange St	Akron 44306	8:30am	12:00pm
McEbright CLC	349 Cole Ave	Akron 44301	9:00am	12:00pm
New Life Mission Baptist Church	2321 17th St SW	Akron 44314	8:30am	12:00pm
Park East (starts 6/18)	695 Dunbar Dr	Akron 44311		11:55am
Patterson Park Community Center	800 Patterson Ave	Akron 44310	9:00am	12:00pm
Phoenix/Bridges(Barrett)	888 Jonathan Ave	Akron 44306		11:15am
Pinewood Gardens	8788 Ray Ct	Twinsburg 44087	9:30am	12:30pm
Portage Path CLC**	55 S. Portage Path	Akron 44303		11:00am
Schumacher CLC**	1020 Hartford Ave	Akron 44320	8:30am	12:00pm
Seiberling CLC**	400 Brittain Rd	Akron 44305	8:30am	12:00pm
Spring Hill Apts (starts 6/18)	1221 Everton Dr	Akron 44307	8:30am	12:00pm
Summit Lake Community Center	380 W. Crosier St	Akron 44311	8:30am	11:30am
Tuscora Park	501 E. Tuscarawas Ave	Barberton 44203		11:55am
UMADAOP	380 W. Crosier St	Akron 44311	9:30am	12:30pm
Valley View (starts 6/18)	943 Springdale St	Akron 44310		11:45am
Van Buren Homes (starts 6/18)	244 Lamberton Ave	Barberton 44203		12:15pm
Woodlawn United Methodist Church**	444 N. Hawkins Ave	Akron 44313		12:00pm

** Denotes Summer Reading + Lunch Program