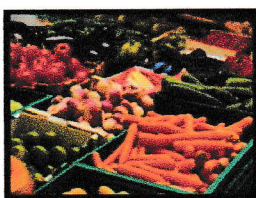
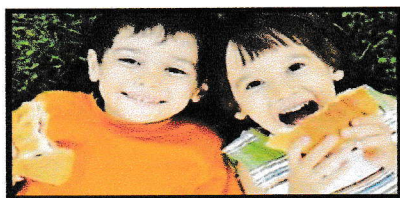


## ***Bringing Nutrition Assistance to Children's Homes***

### **Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children (SEBTC)**



**Could families in your community use extra food assistance this summer?**

The Food and Nutrition Service of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has conducted demonstration projects that examine enhancing the **Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)** and the **Seamless Summer Option (SSO)**, as well as, conducting demonstration projects that test providing household food benefits to reach food insecure school children and prevent hunger in the summer.

Connecticut has used a household-based method of delivering nutrition assistance to low-income children during the summer through the **Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children (SEBTC) Demonstration Project**. In the summer of 2015, over **5,007** students and **2,587** households received **\$2** per child per day of summer vacation to purchase food. For 2016, the existing **2,587** SEBTC households will continue to receive summer **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)** cards, that can be used like a debit card to buy healthy foods in local stores and farmers' markets.

**Q: How are households eligible to participate in the SEBTC Demonstration Project (summer SNAP benefits) for the summer of 2016?**

A: Only children that received SEBTC benefits in 2015 and newly eligible children living in previously participating households (e.g., previously non-school age children that are now school age, children that were living with a different parent, etc.) will be eligible to receive summer SNAP benefits this year. The **Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)** and the **Department of Social Services (DSS)** will assist school food authorities to validate that returning children are still eligible to participate in the SEBTC in adherence with 2016 USDA guidelines for Connecticut outlined below:

- ♦ the children are still eligible to receive free/reduced-price school meals;
- ♦ the family still lives in the demonstration area;

- ♦ each of the children who previously received benefits still live in the household;
- ♦ the children attended school (including home school, private schools, and non-demonstration area schools) at some point during the 2015-16 school year; and
- ♦ any newly eligible children living in previously participating households eligible to receive benefits this year are added, even if they did not participate in previous years (e.g., previously non-school age children that are now school age, children that were living with different parents, etc.).

**Q: How and when will returning participants receive benefits?**

A: The first SEBTC benefits will be deposited onto summer SNAP cards on the last day of school. The amount will be prorated based on the state's average last day of school. Benefits will also be added (\$60 per eligible child per month) to the summer SNAP card on July 1st and August 1st. **All benefits have to be used by midnight on September 9, 2016.**

**Q: Are households able to participate in the SFSP and the SSO when receiving SEBTC benefits?**

A: Yes, students who were selected to receive summer SNAP benefits under this grant can continue to participate in both the SFSP and the SSO. **All children** facing summer food insecurity can access information about Connecticut SFSP, SSO or SNAP at:

**www.ctsummermeals.org** or by calling **End Hunger CT!** at **1-866-974-SNAP** or **1-866-974-7627**.

If you have questions about SEBTC, please contact:  
**Terese Maineri, CSDE, at 860-807-2145 or**  
**Terese.Maineri@ct.gov** or **Susan Gwiazda, DSS, at 860-424-4992 or Susan.Gwiazda@ct.gov**.

