

NEWS RELEASE
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Poe Center is First Open Feeding Site for 2013 Summer Food Service Program

Wake County Youth Will Receive Free Lunch Throughout Summer

Raleigh, N.C. – Sponsored by the USDA, the 2013 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) has begun, and the Poe Center will serve as Wake County's first open feeding site for free and healthy lunch. The SFSP was established to ensure that low-income children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. Free meals, that meet federal nutrition guidelines, are provided to all children 18 years old and under at approved sites in areas with significant concentrations of low-income children.

Children and youth visiting the Poe Center's PlayWELL Park will receive free lunch every Wednesday from 11a.m. to noon beginning June 19 and continuing through August 7. Lunch will be served at the park and children must eat inside the park.

This year marks the fifth year of the SFSP, and Wake County has provided countless meals to children in low-income areas. The Wake County Public School System, the Poe Center and the USDA are committed to making sure that all children receive nutritious meals.

The Poe Center's PlayWELL Park is open to the public Monday through Friday from 10:30 a.m. until 7 p.m. in addition to the first and third Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The 1.5 acre park is one-of-a-kind, with the playground and equipment centered around health education.

About the Summer Food Service Program

The Poe Center is Wake County's 'open' feeding site, meaning that any child, 18 years and younger, in the area may eat at that site during meal service times. The others are 'closed enrolled' sites, meaning a child must enroll in the summer enrichment program to receive a meal at the site. Anyone interested in participating in a local summer feeding program should contact the church, club or summer program sponsor. For a complete list of feeding sites, call 1-866-3-HUNGRY or 1-877-8-HAMBRE (for Spanish speakers) and a live operator will tell you where the closest sites serving free, nutritious summer meals are located or visit www.whyhunger.org/findfood to locate sites using an online map.

About the Poe Center

Incorporated in 1985, the Alice Aycock Poe Center for Health Education is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that delivers health education programs to children, youth and adults across the State of North

Carolina. Since opening a flagship teaching facility in 1991, the Poe Center has served approximately one million North Carolinians. For additional information on the Poe Center, please visit www.poehealth.org.

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