

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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News Release

Lunch at the Library: Free Lunches for Children 2-18 Years of Age

Beale Memorial Library, Auditorium

701 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield CA

Monday – Friday, 11:30am – 12:30pm, June 1 – July 24, 2015

As part of a statewide collaboration between the California Library Association (CLA) and the California Summer Meal Coalition, the Kern County Superintendent of Schools is providing meals to children 2-18 years of age at the Beale Memorial Library, Auditorium. Closure of local schools for the summer break can mean an end to learning, enrichment opportunities, and may also limit access to healthy food, an issue with the greatest impact on our communities' low-income children. Libraries are natural spaces for serving meals to children whose access to lunch disappears when school ends and summer begins. Responding to the need and ensuring Bakersfield's children have continued access, the Kern County Library will supplement its Summer Reading Challenge with free summer meals. These lunches are served at no charge to children, and served at \$3.00 for parents and caregivers.

This year, the Lunch at the Library program is more than just a place for children and teens to eat this Summer – it's a place to learn, laugh, and grow! This is an opportunity to be physically active, eat a balanced diet, and reinforce skills through events designed specifically for families attending the lunch hour. Activities highlight arts, music, health dance, drama, and storytelling.

For full program listings for the Lunch at the Library program, visit kerncountylibrary.org.