



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor

City of New Bedford
Office of the Mayor
Contact: Jonathan Carvalho
(508) 979-1410
jcarvalho@newbedford-ma.gov

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

Play in the Park and Summer Food Service Program offer free meals and activities for kids

New Bedford, Massachusetts– The New Bedford Parks, Recreation & Beaches Department will continue its annual Play in the Park and Summer Food Service programs to offer fun activities and healthy meals for kids ages 18 and under at 21 parks, playgrounds, and housing sites across the city free of charge. The program runs June 19 through August 23, 2019 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday through Friday, as well as a dinner service at Monte’s Park on Tuesday and Thursday evenings 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Each site will be staffed by local youth to hand out nutritious lunches and host recreational, arts and crafts, and educational activities for children. This year we are also partnering with the Art-Mobile, New Bedford Art Museum, Coastal Foodshed, and New Bedford Seafood.

The following sites are Summer Food Service Program sites: Ashley Park, Brickenwood Housing, Brooklawn Park, Buttonwood Park, Clasky Common Park, Dottin Place Housing, Harrington Park, Hayden-McFadden Elementary School, Hazelwood Park, Gomes School Playground, Montes Park Dinner Program, Noah’s Playground, Nashmont Housing, Parkdale Housing, Presidential Heights Housing, Riverside Park, Roberto Clemente Park, Ruth St Playground, Satellite Village Housing, Shawmut Village Housing, Westlawn Housing.

The summer programs are federally funded through the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Community Development Block Grant with support from Project Bread. Mass in Motion has also partnered to support the new summer dinner program. The Department of Parks, Recreation & Beaches will partner with community organizations to bring a variety of activities to each site. There will be five rainy day sites open

throughout the city to ensure access to meals throughout the summer. A complete list of sites can be found at www.newbedford-ma.gov/parks-recreation-beaches/.

Last year the Department of Parks, Recreation & Beaches served over 85,000 free meals to children and has received awards for statewide recognition of its continued outstanding achievement in providing the Summer Food Service Program in New Bedford. For more information regarding the Play in the Park and Summer Food Service Program contact Alexandra Matthews at Alexandrea.Matthews@newbedford-ma.gov or (508) 961-3015.

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