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Committed to Cultural Diversity

## Bracing for Food Stamp Cuts



PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Shannon Long, Multnomah County Library programming assistant, welcomes kids for free lunches as part of a summertime Meals 4 Kids program at the county library system's Midland location near Southeast Stark Street and 122nd Avenue, one of 15 locations served by the new program.

### Summer program fills a hunger gap

To help stave off summertime food insecurity for families that would normally receive free or reduced lunch for their kids during the school year, more than 1,200 children are receiving nutritious lunches daily as part of the Meals on Wheels People's popular Meals 4 Kids program. Launched this summer as part of a contract with United States Department of Agriculture and other partners, the meals provide lunches to Portland's children in need

of nutritious food at 15 locations throughout the Portland area. More than 21 million children in the U.S. rely on free and reduced-priced meals at school, and food insecure children are at higher risk of hunger when they are out of school in the summer. To address this need, Meals 4 Kids offers an expanded summertime lunch service for children and families who have a hard time affording nutritious meals.

"The Meals 4 Kids summer lunch program helps to fill the gap when the USDA free and reduced lunch program that operates during the school year is not available," said Meals 4 Kids Director Jessica Morris. "We're honored that the USDA Summer Food Service Program contracted with Meals 4 Kids to further reduce food insecurity by serving areas where

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### Advocates for the hungry decry proposal



PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Kenneth Green of the Salvation Army collects food donations for distribution to needy families from the Oregon Food Bank in northeast Portland, Advocates for the hungry are bracing for a rule change from the Trump Administration that could kick three million people off of food stamps, including over 60,000 in Oregon.

BY DANNY PETERSON  
 THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Advocates for the hungry are bracing for the impacts while fighting against a proposed rule change from the Trump Administration that could kick more than three million people off of food stamps, including over 60,000 in Oregon.

Under new regulations that are scheduled to take effect after a Sept. 23 public comment period, qualified recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)—a form of cash welfare--will no longer automatically be enrolled in food stamps, also known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or "SNAP."

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue  
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