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**THE YMCA OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON RECEIVES 25K GRANT AWARD FROM SAFEWAY FOUNDATION’S NOURISHING NEIGHBORS PROGRAM**

*These most vital funds will help the Y’s Healthy Living Program*

*feed area children over the summer*

WASHINGTON, D.C. - July 17, 2021 - The YMCA of Metropolitan Washington is pleased to announce that it received $25,000 in grant funds from the Nourishing Neighbors Summer Meals program to help feed children across the Washington metropolitan area during the summer. The program is part of Safeway Foundation’s Nourishing Neighbors Community Relief Initiative.

In 2020, the Y distributed over 135,024 pounds of meals and produce to help over 13,136 local families, especially those with children, stay fed. With the grant of $25,000 provided by Safeway Foundation’s Nourishing Neighbors Program, the Y will be able to continue to provide food and care to children this summer so that no child goes hungry.

“With school out for the summer, many children in our community will not have adequate access to proper nutrition. The Y’s mission is to provide families with children programs and services that will help a child develop to their fullest potential. Proper nutrition for children is vital for their development and daily living,” says Genette Comfort, Vice President of Philanthropy. “We’re grateful that the Nourishing Neighbors summer meals grants are available to help organizations like the Y bridge the nutrition gap,” says Comfort.

Safeway Foundation’s Nourishing Neighbors summer meals grants help organizations that work to bridge the nutrition gap for students without access to school meal programs during the summer break.

“We’re honored to partner with Safeway Foundation to help support our combined efforts in the fight against child hunger. We’re particularly grateful to be able to reach and provide for more children in our communities so that they can enjoy their summer break without the feeling of hunger. Partners like Safeway Foundation are key for nonprofits like the Y to continue to fulfill the need for food services to children,” says Angie L. Reese-Hawkins, President and CEO.

If you want to know more about the Y’s Nourishing Neighbors program in partnership with the Safeway Foundation, go to [www.ymcadc.org](http://www.ymcadc.org)..

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 **About YMCA of Metropolitan Washington**
The YMCA of Metropolitan Washington is a 501©3 non-profit charity organization that has been serving the communities and families of Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia in the areas of youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, for nearly 168 years. Through opportunities in wellness, aquatics, youth sports, summer camps, childcare and more, the Y engages more than 250,000 individuals and families. For more information, visit www.ymcadc.org.

**About Safeway and Safeway Foundation**

Safeway in the Mid-Atlantic Division is part of Albertsons’s Companies (NYSE: ACI). Locally great and nationally strong. Albertsons Cos is a leading food and drug retailer in the United States. The Mid-Atlantic Division operates Safeway stores in Maryland, Virginia, the District of Columbia and Delaware. Safeway is committed to helping people live better lives by making a meaningful difference, neighborhood by neighborhood. During 2020, Safeway and Safeway Foundation locally donated more than $5.1 million in food and financial support to help people in the areas of hunger relief, education, cancer research and treatment programs for people with disabilities, and veterans. For more information, visit [www.safeway.com](http://www.safeway.com) and [www.safewayfoundation.org](http://www.safewayfoundation.org)