

Summer Lunch and Fun 2010 Outcome Report



For 9 weeks during the summer of 2010, Bienestar offered the Summer Lunch and Fun program at two of our properties in Hillsboro: Montebello Apartments, and Sunset Gardens Apartments. Bienestar was able to offer the Summer Food Service Program to resident children as well as children from the community at large in partnership with the Hillsboro School District and the Oregon Department of Education. Bienestar also offered activities each day after lunch at each site. This summer we served 5,249 lunches.

The two Bienestar Summer Lunch and Fun Programs were held in the community rooms and the area outside the community rooms. Lunch was served from 12:00-12:30pm and activities were provided from 12:45-1:45pm each day. Throughout the summer Bienestar staff members Amanda Schuft, Juan Carlos Aguilera, Gracie Garcia, Elena Barreto, and Jorge Tello worked at the program. Bienestar was able to hire former Homework Club volunteer Debi Myers and teen resident Fernando Alvarez to work with the program. Bienestar was also lucky to have many generous volunteers for this summer's program. Three teen residents: Dulce Flores, Andrea Flores, and Gustavo Martinez, volunteered daily for the program along with teens Amanda Cahn and Crystal Rico. Each volunteer provided an exceptional service to the children who attend the program.

Each day children were lined up outside community rooms, sometimes as much as an hour in advance, waiting for lunch. Staff and volunteers could always hear a chorus of children knocking on doors and windows asking, "is it time, is it time?" until the clock struck noon and lunch was served. Over the course of the summer, Bienestar staff and volunteers served 2,415 lunches at Sunset Gardens Apartments and 2,834 lunches at Montebello Apartments. The lunches were greatly appreciated by the children as well as the parents who accompanied them. Staff and volunteers frequently received heartfelt thanks from mothers after their children had been fed.





Activity time during the Summer Lunch and Fun program was an opportunity for the children to be engaged five days a week for an hour a day. Each day of the week had a different theme. The five themes were reading, culture, arts and crafts, sports and games. Bienestar was given the opportunity to use a generous amount of supplies from the Washington County Commission on Children and Families. We were able to use the supplies in a variety of activities on a daily basis. The supplies were essential for our arts and crafts days, sports days, and game days. We also used the supplies for some of our cultural activities. One of the highlights of our cultural activities for the kids was making piñatas. At the end of the summer the kids opened some together that the staff and volunteers had made. For our reading activities, reading specialist Christy Ranslow developed a 9 week reading program for activity time that was engaging and beneficial to the children. The activity time at each site usually brought in at least 10 children a day.

Special guests also came to the two Bienestar Summer Lunch and Fun sites throughout the summer. Representatives came from the Hillsboro Police Department to fingerprint the children and give them informative safety talk. A program through the Oregon Zoo came to each site with a variety of small animals. The program was called Zoo to You. The children were taught about each animal by the teens who participated in the program, and then were given the opportunity to touch the animals. We were also visited by some representatives of the Portland Children's Museum who organized painting with the children.



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The Summer Lunch and Fun Program was a success for Bienestar and the families and children we were able to serve. The program was partially funded by a grant from Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda Schuft

