

We Can Do This: A volunteer-powered organization ensuring kids and families at the F Street Rec Center don't go hungry.

We Can Do This was started by Susan and Aneisha, a mother and daughter who saw a need in their community and decided to do something about it. As an employee at the F Street Rec Center, Aneisha began to realize that many kids who came to the Center on weekends didn't have access to regular meals when away from school. Troubled by watching kids she cared for go all day without eating, she brought it up to her mom one day after work.

Susan's simple response? "We'll fix that. There's no reason kids in our community should go hungry. *We can do this.*"

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Did you know 46 percent* of students attending the Lincoln Public Schools system qualify for free and reduced lunch? That's hundreds of children that don't always have access to affordable, safe and healthy food. Our community is fortunate that schools can address food insecurity for kids. But what about the days when schools aren't in session?

That's where We Can Do This comes to life. A volunteer-powered organization ensuring kids and families don't go hungry, We Can Do This provides meal service on Saturday and Sunday to F Street Rec Center participants. Local residents and community groups volunteer their time to procure, prepare and serve food for up to 60 kids a day.

Susan and Aneisha saw others who needed help and took action. Now dozens of volunteers serve over 5,000 meals a year to kids that would otherwise have gone hungry.

Join the group and together, We Can Do This. Here's what we need:

- **Volunteers:** help prepare and serve meals. Individuals and groups welcome. Five volunteers needed per meal, 2-hour commitment.
- **Food:** donate food items that will feed up to 60 people. Food must be prepared in our kitchen or at a licensed food service establishment.
- **Money:** make a financial contribution through our fiscal sponsor Mystic Rhoads Productions (mysticrhoads.org). All donations go to directly to the meal program and are tax deductible.

We Can Do This also provides a birthday closet for the children at the Rec Center. On the last Sunday of each month we celebrate monthly birthdays for the kids. The song is sung, cupcakes are eaten and each birthday boy and girl get to pick a gift from the birthday closet. Gift item donations are accepted and financial contributions can be designated specifically for this program.

For more information:

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*<https://www.education.ne.gov/dataservices/data-reports/>