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For Immediate Release

MAYOR WHARTON AND CIGNA ADDRESS CHILD FOOD INSECURITY WITH SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM.

(MEMPHIS, Tenn.)- Summer can be an exciting time. But for many children who receive free and reduced-price meals at school, summer can also mean hunger. To address this need and support wellness among city youth, the City of Memphis created *FUN (Fitness, Unity, and Nutrition)* as part of the USDA Summer Food Service Program, supported by over \$125,000 in funding from Cigna and the Cigna Foundation.

“Hunger does not take a break and just as learning does not end with the dismissal of school, neither does a child’s need for nutrition”, says Mayor A C Wharton, Jr. “With summer right around the corner, it’s time to think about keeping Memphis children eating healthy during these months.”

The City of Memphis Summer Food Service Program begins June 3rd and ends August 2, 2013, Monday – Friday from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Available at twenty three park sites throughout the city, the program promises to deliver fun for area youth. This initiative will not only provide a free healthy meal for youth 18 and under, but sites will provide programming structured around healthy lifestyle choices, community engagement, leadership development, character building, and violence reduction strategies.

Summer food service programs throughout the city are extremely underutilized and the City is fortunate to have Cigna’s contribution and invaluable partnership which will bring this program to the children who need it most.

“Cigna's mission is to improve the health, well-being and sense of security of the people and communities we serve,” said Mary Tate-Smith, Cigna vice president in

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Memphis. “As a partner in the Summer Food Service Program, our goal is to help provide good nutrition, promote healthy habits that can last a lifetime and to help Memphis children reach their full potential. “

Tate-Smith said child wellness is a key focus area of Cigna's corporate responsibility platform, Cigna Connects, through which Cigna is bringing together resources, experts and stakeholders to create lasting improvements in health. (<http://www.cigna.com/aboutcigna/corporate-responsibility/index.html>)

Other partners in this program include the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Building Futures, and Urban Youth Initiative. For more information, visit www.cityofmemphis.org or call 211.

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Participating Parks

NORTH

Treadwell

N. Highland @ Guernsey

New Chicago

Breedlove @
St. Charles

Georgian Hills

3930 Lewier St

Jackson

Pikes Peak Ave.

Alberson

Whitney @ Baskin

Denver

Tulsa @ Bigelow

Gooch

1974 Hunter

Raleigh Bartlett Meadows

5195 Twin Wood

CENTRAL

Peabody

712 Tanglewood

Binghampton

2606 Everett

Jesse Turner

S. Parkway E @
Bellevue

EAST

Godwin

4410 Mallory Ave.

Winridge

Ridgeway/
Village Grove

SOUTH

Belz

Shelby @
E. Fernwood

Oakhaven

3875 Bishops Bridge

Dalstrom

Shelby Dr./
Weaver Rd

Lincoln

1363 E. Person

Riverview Park

1891 Kansas St.

Gardenview

Hartz Dr. @
Raines Rd.

Gaston

1048 South Third St.

Lewis Davis

Pendleton @
Deadrick

Obrien

Prescott @ Steve

Westwood

810 Western Park