nutrition news

Helpful Hints & Tips | CACFP Edition XVIII

CACFP to SFSP: Year-Round Meals for Your Community's Children



As summer approaches, CACFP participants who operate the At-Risk Afterschool Program should consider serving as a Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsor or meal site. The SFSP ensures that children in low-income communities have access to free and nutritious meals during the summer when school is out of session. As a current At-Risk Afterschool Program participant, the SFSP is a natural transition for your program to ensure the children you serve have access to well-balanced meals throughout the year.

The two SFSP trainings remaining for the FY 2016 season are listed below:

- April 27-28, 2016 at the Conference at Georgia Piedmont Technical College in Clarkston, GA
- May 3-4, 2016 at the Georgia International Convention Center in College Park, GA

To register for one of these trainings, contact Leslie Truman at (404) 657-1779.

GA ATLAS Tips

DECAL is still rolling out GA ATLAS, our new Application, Training, Learning and Access System. The following tips will help transition you from CNP 2000 to GA ATLAS:

- Review and update your current CACFP application.
 The information contained in the FY 2016 CACFP application is the information that will be converted into the FY 2017 CACFP application in GA ATLAS. Please review each section within the FY 2016 CACFP application and ensure that the information is current and accurate. For more information refer to the FY 2016 CACFP Application Update Procedures document on DECAL's website.
- Be sure to submit current and accurate applicable supporting documentation. For more information refer to <u>FY 2016 CACFP Annual Documentation Requirements</u> on DECAL's website.

For questions regarding the GA ATLAS transition, contact your assigned TA Coordinator or email the TA team at NutritionTA@decal.ga.gov.

• Updated Policy Guidance and Memoranda •

Nutrition Services recently release new policy guidance for all CACFP institutions.

Policy/Policy Memorandums: <u>Food and Drug Administration Requirements for Vending Machines</u>

The purpose of this FDA rule is to provide consumers with clear and consistent nutrition information, allowing them to make informed and healthful dietary choices when purchasing items from vending machines. Covered vending machine operators must comply with this regulation by December 1, 2016.

All CACFP policies and policy memoranda are available on DECAL's website here and here.

Incorporating Physical Activity as Seasons Change



As the weather gets warmer, we encourage you to implement some physical activities and education into your curriculum. Regular exercise in nature is proven to improve children's physical and mental health. Outdoor activity helps kids maintain a healthy weight, boosts their immunity and bone health, and lowers stress.

For ideas on getting active with the children in your care, check out Let's Move! Outside, an initiative of the Let's Move! campaign, created to get kids and families to take advantage of America's great outdoors. For ideas on where to go and what to do, visit this <u>link</u>.

Upcoming FRAC Conference Calls



The Food Research & Action Center (FRAC) will hold conference calls on the topic "Afterschool Meals Matter." Following are details about two upcoming calls, including how to register to participate.

Engaging Seniors and Parents (Thursday, April 21st at 1 p.m.): Seniors and parents can be involved in afterschool meals on many different levels, and engaging both groups can lead to increased participation and program sustainability. Learn how both groups can help promote the program, act as volunteers, or lead activities at sites. To register for this call, click this <u>link</u>.

School and School Nutrition Directors Operating the Afterschool Meal Program in Schools and Beyond the School Walls (Thursday, May 19th at 1 p.m.): School nutrition directors are experts in operating the child nutrition programs. Hear from school nutrition directors who are successfully operating the Afterschool Meal Program – in schools and out – and learn how they work with afterschool coordinators, sites, and anti-hunger organizations to provide healthy meals to children who need them. To register for this call, click here.