

February 18, 2022



# **Transitioning from CACFP to Happy Helpings** *Register to attend the Happy Helpings Summit on March 1*

Have you ever thought about becoming a Happy Helpings, Georgia's Summer Food Service Program Sponsor and offering year-round feeding? If so, we'd like to invite you to join us at the Virtual Happy Helpings Summit on March 1 at 11:00 a.m. Register here.

There are a lot of great reasons for CACFP Providers to transition to Happy Helpings. Some of the benefits include:

- Ability to hire year-round staff.
- Recognition in the community as a stable source of services.
- Additional financial stability with a continuous flow of reimbursements.
- Simplified application procedures as further evidence of financial and administrative capability when applying to participate is not required.

Institutions that are approved for both the CACFP and Happy Helpings must ensure that the same children are not served meals in both programs. Separate records must be kept for each program. Additionally, Institutions may not switch back and forth between participation in CACFP and participation in SFSP to serve the same children.

If you have questions or would like to register for new sponsor training offered in March or April, please contact Cindy.Kicklighter@decal.ga.gov.

# Celebrating National CACFP Week March 13-19 Thank You CACFP Program Operators!

## National CACFP Week is March 13-19, 2022



CACFP Week is a national education and information campaign sponsored annually the third week of March by the National CACFP Sponsors Association. The campaign is designed to raise awareness of how the USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program works to combat hunger as well as an opportunity for DECAL to thank our CACFP program operators for ensuring Georgia's children and adults have access to healthy meals.

During the week, we will focus our celebration on information and resources to recognize:

- C is for Community & Food Access
- A is for Adults
- C is for Children
- F is for Farm to Early Care & Education
- P is for Physical Activity

Watch your email for more information.

## **Introducing PolicyStat**

# New User-Friendly Way to Access DECAL CACFP/SFSP Policies & Memorandums

Nutrition Services is excited to introduce **PolicyStat** - an *online policy management system* that will allow CACFP and Happy Helpings, Georgia's Summer Food Service Program, organizations and DECAL staff to navigate, locate, and access policy documents more quickly.

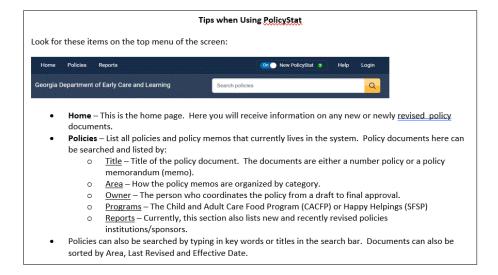
The system will also allow online collaboration and workflows that will make drafting, editing, and approving policy documents more efficient for Nutrition Services employees. PolicyStat is available now for public use.

The link for PolicyStat, entitled "PolicyStat," will soon be housed on the DECAL Nutrition Services' webpage, specifically located on the left-hand menu (under the Nutrition webpage) as **PolicyStat** for both CACFP and Happy Helpings. Until then, the system can be accessed by clicking **here**.

PolicyStat works like any other search engine. It is organized so that institutions and sponsors can search and/or sort a policy or policy memorandum by a keyword, policy number, title, date, area, or program. The system houses both numbered policies and policy memoranda, similar to the format currently on DECAL's website. Over the next several months, various training resources will be offered on how to navigate the system, the first being the Memo Monday webinar in March.

CACFP and Happy Helpings organizations are encouraged to take a moment to become familiar with the system. **Please Note:** As Nutrition Services works to perfect PolicyStat, please continue to use the DECAL website as your main resource for all CACFP and Happy Helpings related policies and memoranda.

For questions, please feel free to contact Robyn Parham atRobyn.Parham@decal.ga.gov or Sonja Adams at Sonja.Adams@decal.ga.gov.



# Statewide Nutrition & Physical Activity Award celebrating ECE programs

50 Child Care Centers & Family Homes will be selected to participate in pilot.

In Spring 2022, HealthMPowers, Inc., in partnership with the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning and the Georgia Department of Public Health, will select 50 vibrant and diverse child care centers and family homes to participate in a pilot to create an UPDATED and IMPROVED statewide nutrition and physical activity award.

The award will identify and celebrate ECE programs serving infants, toddlers, and/or preschoolers that provide healthy environments and encourage best practicies in nutrition and physical activity.

For more information about applying, contactecerecognition@healthmpowers.org

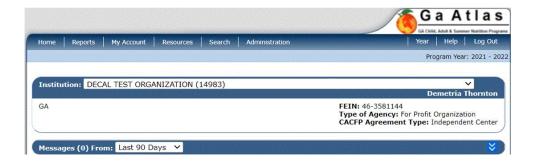
# Further DECAL Procurement Guidance Coming Soon!

In November 2021, the USDA issued guidance regarding the Office of Management and Budget's recent changes to procurement regulations. The guidance specifically addressed options available to CACFP operators regarding the micro-purchase threshold (please see Decal Memorandum *Updates to the Federal Micro-Purchase Threshold in 2 CFR* 200,320(a)(1) (December 22, 2021).

Additional Nutrition Services guidance regarding these changes is currently being developed and will be forthcoming.

# Reminder: Check your Email Messages in GA ATLAS

Don't forget you can check the messages you receive from Nutrition Services within GA ATLAS. Navigate to the home page and you will see a section for messages just below your institution's information.



# Did you know Health Inspections are an allowable cost under CACFP?

CACFP regulations do not require at-risk afterschool care centers, outside school hours care centers (OSHCCs), or emergency shelters to be licensed; however, they must meet State or local health and safety standards.

Fees charged for health inspections of at-risk afterschool care centers, OSHCCs, emergency shelters, adult care centers and SFSP facilities are allowable costs under the CACFP and Happy Helpings/SFSP.

Please note that only licensing and fees costs are allowable. Repairs and upgrades needed for facilities to be certified or approved by the State or local health department are excluded from health and safety inspection costs. All documentation to support costs must be maintained and available for review. To charge health inspection costs to CACFP, please follow the steps below.

- Licensing and Fees must be included in the CACFP budget as an operating expense under Facilities and Space Costs.
- An invoice or quote must be uploaded in ATLAS for review.

For more information on allowable costs **click here**. The policy memo for Health and Safety Requirements can be found **here**.

For any additional questions or concerns, please contact the Budget Compliance Supervisor, **Gwendolyn Howard**.

# **Administrative Cost Reminders for Sponsors:**

A Look at Decal Memorandum Charging Net Allowable Administrative Costs to the CACFP

Decal Memorandum *Charging Net Allowable Administrative Costs to the CACFP* (*October 1, 2020*) provides guidance to CACFP institutions and sponsoring organizations on the correct application and use of charging administrative costs to the CACFP.

Sponsoring organizations may retain a portion of their reimbursement (*i.e.*, charge an administrative fee) to support CACFP administrative costs associated with planning,

organizing, and managing the Program. Sponsors may retain the lesser of the following (but cannot retain both):

- 1. Actual net allowable administrative costs; or
- 2. 15% of the total reimbursement payments received

Please keep in mind that the approval of administrative costs in the Budget does not mean that the full amount of approved administrative costs can be used. Only the actual 15% of the reimbursement minus the cash-in-lieu or the actual net allowable administrative cost can be used regardless of the approved amount in the Budget.

In addition, Sponsors must (not an exhaustive list):

- Identify the percentage to retain based upon the organization's prior year's total allowable Program reimbursement, or prior year's net allowable administrative costs;
- Exclude cash-in-lieu when calculating the administrative fee;
- Frequently monitor allowable reimbursement and allowable administrative expenses on a monthly basis and reconcile the calculated administrative fee to those amounts;
- Maintain an internal source document that captures the Federal Fiscal Year's (Oct-Sept.) reimbursement earned by each sponsored center, sponsor fee withheld from each reimbursement, the amount paid to the sponsored center, and all administrative costs charged to the Program and use this information to conduct a year-end reconciliation;
- Complete and upload to GA ATLAS, the Year-End Administrative Fee Reconciliation document by November 30th after the close of each Program year; and
- At the end of the Program year, return to their sponsored centers any amount retained in excess/overage of the required net allowable administrative costs.

*Please Note:* Funds retained that exceed the actual net allowable administrative costs cannot be deemed "excess funds" for sponsors' use. Any excess/overage must immediately be distributed pro rata back to the sponsored centers at the end of the year.

# USDA Seeks Input for the 2023 Family Day Care Home Participation Study

USDA Food and Nutrition Service is seeking input from CACFP stakeholders on their data collection for the 2023 Family Day Care Home Participation Study. Detailed information on the data collection process can be found in the Federal Register notice **here**.

The planned survey would ask a nationally representative sample of current and former CACFP-participating daycare homes about their experiences with the program. USDA is looking for feedback on the methods of data collection that would be most accurate and least burdensome for daycare homes to complete. If you are someone who may participate in this survey, or works with CACFP stakeholders who do, please consider giving your input before **February 28, 2022!** 

See options below to submit comments.

- Mail: Chanhatasilpa Chanchalat, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1320 Braddock Place, 5th floor, Alexandria, VA 22314
- Email: chanchalat.chanhatasilpa@usda.gov
- eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov

## FDA Warns Consumers Not to Use Certain Powdered Infant Formula

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced it is investigating consumer complaints of Cronobacter sakazakii and Salmonella Newport infections. All of the cases are reported to

have consumed powdered infant formula produced from Abbott Nutrition's Sturgis, Michigan facility.

The FDA is **advising** consumers not to use Similac, Alimentum, or EleCare powdered infant formulas if:

- the first two digits of the code are 22 through 37; and
- the code on the container contains K8, SH or Z2; and
- the expiration date is 4-1-2022 (APR 2022) or later.

•

Products that do not contain the information listed above are not impacted.

# **Get Informed: Upcoming Training Opportunities**

Upcoming Training and Technical Assistance

## **Training Announcements**

### **New Process!**

Nutrition Services has changed the distribution of Training Announcements. Beginning this month, only one [1] Training Announcement will be shared monthly that includes all training sessions offered in the upcoming month(s).



### March 16, 2022 - School Food Authority Training

Are you a school food authority (SFA) serving snack and supper meals? Do you need a refresher on the At-Risk Afterschool Meals Component? Join this webinar session to learn:

- revised regulations,
- required records,
- operation oversight, and
- offer versus serve options.

### March 21, 2022 - Memo Monday!

This webinar will provide instructions on how to use Nutrition Services' new policy resource, PolicyStat. Please also be on the lookout for additional information later this month on how to access the system.

## **Training Resources**

#### Team Nutrition Web Quizzes New Quiz Added!

USDA's Team Nutrition has developed interactive ten-question web quizzes as a fun way to introduce a variety of nutrition topics. The quizzes can be used during staff training and other nutrition events. Upon completion of each quiz, quiz takers receive a score along with a link to resources that can help expand their knowledge on the topic and build their nutrition skills. Quiz takers can also view a printable version of the questions and answers upon quiz completion. These web quizzes are also available as a widget. Please see a list of available quizzes below.

- Infant Nutrition Quiz [Spanish]
- Toddler Nutrition Quiz [Spanish]
- Meal Components Quiz
- Milk in the CACFP Quiz
- Older Adult Nutrition Quiz New!

## New Year and New Recipes New Recipes Added! -

USDA's Team Nutrition initiative is excited to announce the availability of ten [10] new USDA lunch and supper recipes for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), available in yields of 6, 25, and 50 servings. These quick-and-easy recipes are standardized to meet the minimum serving amount of at least one [1] meal component for children ages 3 through 5

and 6 through 18 years, and showcase a variety of foods and flavors. Titles of new recipes below are available through the Institute of Child Nutrition's **Child Nutrition Recipe Box** (CNRB).

- Chicken and Waffles with Maple-Peach Glaze
- Grilled Cheese, Ham, and Tomato Sandwiches
- Ground Turkey Wraps (Pinwheels)
- Mini Meatloaf Patties
- Parmesan Chicken Tenders
- Pork Loin with Rice and Gravy
- Roasted Spaghetti Squash with Tomato Sauce
- Sautéed Tempeh with Vegetables
- Spiral Pasta and Broccoli
- Taco Seasoned Stuffed Peppers
  - Children ages 3-5: [6 Servings] [25-50 Servings]
  - Children ages 6-18: [6 Servings] [25-50 Servings]

# Child Nutrition Program Meal Service During Coronavirus (COVID-19): Best Practices for Parent Pick-Up of Meals and Snacks

USDA's Team Nutrition initiative has updated this publication. This revised publication includes information and language about SY 2021-2022 waivers and flexibilities, as well as additional tips for improving traffic flow, verifying eligibility, managing alternative pick-up options, and communicating with families. Many of these new suggestions were gathered from schools, child cares, and summer meals sites that have successfully implemented parent pick-up in their communities during the COVID-19 public health emergency. For more information and related resources, visit the **Team Nutrition COVID-19 Resources**. [Download in English]

## Is My Recipe Whole Grain-Rich in the CACFP?

USDA's Team Nutrition has developed this worksheet to help program operators determine if their recipe(s) meets the whole grain-rich criteria. Remember that at least one [1] grains component per day must be whole-grain rich in the CACFP.

## [Download in English and Spanish]

#### **How to Spot Whole Grain-Rich Foods in the CACFP**

USDA's Team Nutrition has developed this worksheet to help program operators determine if the foods you plan to serve meet the whole grain-rich standard.

[Download in English and Spanish]

# **Available Nationwide Waivers During COVID-19**

In light of the exceptional circumstances of the current public health emergency, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has extended Nationwide Waivers to support access to nutritious meals while minimizing potential exposure to the novel coronavirus.

For any waiver-related questions, please contact Robyn Parham.

#### NATIONWIDE WAIVERS

#### **DECAL Participation of Nationwide Waivers due to COVID-19**

For full details on the CACFP waivers below, please click on the links to read the actual waiver memo or click here for more information on DECAL's website.

#### **CACFP**

### Area Eligibility in the Afterschool Programs & for Family Day Care Home Providers in School Year 2021-2022

This waiver allows schools and at-risk afterschool care centers, regardless of their location, to claim all National School Lunch Program, Afterschool Snack Service and Child and Adult

Care Food program At-Risk Afterschool meals and snacks at the free rate. This waiver also allows day care homes participating in the CACFP to claim all meals served to enrolled children at the Tier 1 rate, regardless of their location. \*\*Waiver in effect until June 30, 2022\*\*

### Reimbursement for Meals & Snacks served to Young Adults in the CACFP

This waiver allows emergency shelters to claim reimbursement for meals and snacks served to individuals under the age of 25. \*\*Waiver in effect until the COVID-19 public health emergency is lifted.

### **Parent Pick-Up:**

Under this waiver, Program operators in a State with an approved waiver allowing non-congregate meal distribution during COVID-19 related operations may distribute meals to a parent or guardian to take home to their eligible children. \*\*Waiver extended to June 30, 2022\*\*

#### **Specific Meal Pattern Flexibility**

This waiver allows program operators to serve meals that do not meet specified meal pattern requirements during the public health emergency. FNS is establishing a waiver for all States of the following CACFP requirements:

- That at least one serving per day, across all eating occasions, must be whole grain rich.
- That the crediting of grains by ounce equivalents must be fully implemented by October 1, 2021.
- That low-fat milk (1 percent) must be unflavored

\*\*Waiver in effect until June 30, 2022\*\*

#### **Meal Times Waiver:**

The requirement that meals must follow meal service time requirements is waived during the public health emergency. \*\*Waiver extended until June 30, 2022\*\*

## **Non-Congregate Feeding:**

The requirement that meals be served in a congregate setting and must be consumed by participants on site is waived during the public health emergency. \*\*Waiver extended to June 30, 2022\*\*

#### **Onsite Monitoring Requirements**

FNS waives, for all CACFP sponsoring organizations, that CACFP monitoring requirements included at 226.16(d)(4)(iii) be conducted onsite. To ensure Program integrity during this time, sponsoring organizations should, to the maximum extent practicable, continue monitoring activities of Program operations offsite (e.g., through a desk audit). \*\*Waiver remains in effect until 30 days after the end of the public health emergency.\*\*

## **Nutrition Ed Nook** It's All About Cauliflower



The February Harvest of the Month (English and Spanish) item of cauliflower can be enjoyed fresh or frozen.

Cauliflower is a family member of collard greens, mustard greens, and turnip greens, which were January's Harvest of the Month item. Cauliflower is a cool season vegetable that requires plenty of sun and is best harvested in the spring when the high temperature is less than 75°F.

Cauliflower is an excellent source of vitamins C and K and a good source of fiber, folate, and vitamin B6. Cauliflower can be purchased in white, which is most common, green, orange,

and purple. You can steam it, roast it, puree it, mash it, or grate it! Fun fact: Cauliflower was originally grown in Asia around the Mediterranean Sea. It has been grown and eaten across Europe since the 1500s. However, it did not start growing in the U.S. until the 1900s.

### **Integration:**

- Roasted Cauliflower
- Grilled Fall Veggie Kabobs
- Skeleton Vegetable Board
- Potato-Cauliflower Mash
- Low Carb Cauliflower Hummus

#### **Education:**

- *Grow* cauliflower it is a cool-season vegetable but is more difficult to grow than other members of the cabbage family.
- *Make* different cauliflower recipes to share with participants to see which recipe they enjoy the most.
- *Talk* with families about how participants can help with meal preparation including washing and draining cauliflower florets to be cooked in a dish. **Bonus:** send cauliflower recipes home for families to try together!

#### **Conversation:**

- Have the participants you serve tasted cauliflower before?
- What is their favorite way to eat cauliflower?
- What other vegetables do they like to eat with their cauliflower?

## February's Harvest of the Month BONUS Item: Milk



A glass a day wards the diseases away! Milk is fresh, creamy, and full of nutrition. The February Bonus Harvest of the Month item milk is a great source of many important nutrients, such as calcium and vitamin D. These nutrients are important for growth and development. According to FAO, in 2019, the U.S. produced about 11% of the world's total milk production. According to Georgia Grown, Georgia dairies produced 205 million gallons of milk. Take a look at the **Mayfield Dairy Farms** website, with different locations throughout GA. Share a fresh, cold glass of milk or try this "Golden Milk" recipe with your program participants. To learn more about where milk comes from and how it is processed, visit the Georgia Mobile Diary Classroom website.

Share your Harvest of the Month stories and menu integration of cauliflower with Nutrition Health Educator, Diana Myers, MS, RD, LD at diana.myers@decal.ga.gov

**DECAL's Nutrition Spotlight:** *Meet Shericka Blount, Application* 



## Specialist

During the past six years, Shericka Blount has served as an Application Specialist for DECAL's Nutrition Services Division.

In this role, she is responsible for processing application documents along with monitoring, reviewing, and ensuring compliance with federal regulations and state policies for both federal Nutrition programs: Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Happy Helpings, Georgia's Summer Food Service Program. Providing service to the citizens of Georgia is what she likes best about her job.

Collectively, she has 15 years of experience working with USDA programs. She worked nine years in various Department of Human Services state agencies determining eligibility for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid and Temporary and Needy Assistance for Families (TANF) programs with a final role as Senior Eligibility Worker.

Shericka is originally from Portsmouth, Virginia. She earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Bluefield College in Virginia and a master's degree in human behavior from Capella University.

In her leisure time, she enjoys reading, crocheting and spending time with family which includes her 18-year-old daughter and eight-year-old son.

## Morgan Chapman serves as Nutrition Public Health Intern

The Nutrition Division welcomes Morgan Chapman to her new position as the Nutrition Public Health Intern. In this role, she will assist Diana Myers, Nutrition Health Educator with planning and coordinating health education programs that support sponsors and institutions for the Child and Adult Care Program (CACFP) and Happy Helpings, Georgia's Summer Food Service Program.



"I am excited to intern with the Nutrition Division, learning and understanding how the division works to ensure children across Georgia have access to healthy meals," said Morgan.

Morgan's passions include working with children and helping others. She enjoys cooking, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.

Morgan's work experience includes serving as a TEEMS AmeriCorps service member at the Samuel L. Jones Boys & Girls Club in Decatur. There, she led after-school programming designed to provide homework assistance in math and science while creating fun strategies for learning. While working at the Boys & Girls Club, she started a Cooking Club that intersected fun, food and education and saw first-hand how children enjoy learning and trying new foods

In 2019, Morgan graduated Magna Cum Laude from Georgia State University with a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences (Biology). While at Georgia State, Morgan worked as a COVID-19 Case Investigator with the Student Health Clinic and currently serves as a Graduate Administrative Assistant. She will graduate in May with a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology, while concurrently earning a Maternal and Child Health Graduate Certificate.

Upon graduation, Morgan plans to attend medical school. Her ultimate career goal is to become a pediatrician. She says her science and public health background will prepare her to be a great doctor, because she understands "that patients are more than the set of symptoms they present with." She believes it is important to know more about your patients than just their illness or disease. "Patients should be treated as holistic individuals, and understanding the social determinants of health, connecting patients to resources outside of a doctor's office are just as important." she added.

Morgan takes pride in her different experiences because they've helped her learn how medicine and public health work together to ensure that patients have greater success in health and quality of life. She's excited to become an effective and informed pediatrician.

# **Updated Contact Information for Business Operations Representatives**

Business Operations Specialist	Institution Assignment	Email	Phone Number
Temika Moore	o (zero)-G,	Temika.Moore@decal.ga.gov	(404) 463-1494
Jerald Savage	H-P	Jerald. Savage@decal.ga.gov	(770)405-7916
Edith Pierre	Q-Z	Edith.Pierre@decal.ga.gov	(404) 463-8314

## **CACFP Resources:**

The following documents were covered in previous newsletters:

Managing Virtual Monitoring and Supply Chain Disruptions Fact Sheet Flexibilities During COVID-19 Supply Chain Disruptions Non-profit Food Service and Procurement Procedures Monitoring

Planning Update: Emergency Operating Costs Funding for CACFP Providers

**New Mailbox for Budget Department** 

**Nutrition Services Resumes Pre-COVID Business Operations** 

**Updating your Banking Information Stay Informed: CACFP Policy Updates** 

**Claim Deadlines FY22** 

Healthy Cooking in CACFP with Chef Asata Reid: 5 Part Video Series

Annual Renewal Requirements must be completed to participate in CACFP

**How to Handle FDCH Carry Over** 

**CACFP Meals for Young People Experiencing Homelessness** 

How to Request Continued Use of USDA Waivers for FY 2021 – 2022

Happy Helpings Announced

Procurement Tips for CACFP

**CACFP Budget Submission Required for FY2022** 

USDA Webinar: Meal Service Flexibilities for the FY 2021-2022 School Year Guidance for Serving School-Age Children in the CACFP during COVID-19

Oct 1: Deadline to Implement Grain Ounce Equivalents in Menu Planning

**Expiring Soon: Updated CACFP Meal Pattern Flexibilities** 

**Reminder: Review Your Online CACFP Applications for Accuracy** 

Celebrating Breastfeeding as the Best Source of Nutrition

CACFP Reimbursement Rates: July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

Strategic Plan for Growing Farm to School and Early Care and Education in

Georgia

Beech-Nut to stop selling a specific baby rice cereal because of arsenic levels found in some test samples

What to do if you have Lost or Destroyed Records

Monitoring Sponsored Centers Non-profit Food Service and Procurement Procedures Income Eligibility Guidlines for FY 2022

**CACFP Training Resources** 

**Farmers Resource List** 

Questions and Answers for Child Nutrition Program Operations in School Year 21-22

How to file a CACFP Claim for Reimbursement

How to update your banking information

How to Exclude Cash-In-Lieu (CIL) When Calculating for CACFP Administrative Cost

**How** to Calculate Allowable Administrative Costs Each Month

**Guidance** on Reimbursement for Meals and Snacks Served to Young Adults in the CACFP **Guidance** on P-EBT for Schools and Childcare

FAQs Child Nutrition Program: Emergency Operational Costs Program

You can find archived CACFP Newslettershere.

NATIONAL ANTI-HUNGER POLICY CONFERENCE



March 15-17, 2022

# Mark your calendar for March 15-17 for the 2022 National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference

The 2022 National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference is once again virtual to allow thousands of anti-hunger advocates from all across the country to safely and conveniently attend without having to travel. The conference plenaries and content-rich workshops will take place on March 15 and 16 and then on March 17, head (virtually) to Capitol Hill to advocate for bold policy solutions for ending hunger in America.

The conference will offer a number of workshops featuring presenters from diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences and content that explores one of the following conference themes:

- Building on Lessons Learned on the Critical Role of the Federal Nutrition Programs
   During the Pandemic
- Addressing the Inequities and Root Causes that Fuel Who Experiences Hunger in America
- Creating a Movement to End Hunger in America



CHILD NUTRITION
CONFERENCE
CACEP · AFTERSCHOOL MEALS · SUMMER FOOD

The National Child Nutrition Conference will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, April 18-22, 2022. For 35 years, this conference for CACFP, Afterschool, and Summer Food programs has offered unparalleled training, education and networking opportunities to the child nutrition community.

Register to attend the five-day professional education event offering over 75 hours of presentations, featuring topics including nutrition, program operations, administration and financial management of CACFP and SFSP, resources and technology, case studies, train-the-trainer sessions, and management solutions.

Register for the conference here.

## **Dates to Remember**

DATE:	February 2022	
February 28	Deadline to participate in the USDA's 2023 Family Day Care Home Participation Study	
March 1	Happy Helpings, Georgia's SFSP Summit	
March 13-19	National CACFP Week	
March 15-17	National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference	
March 16	School Food Authority Training	
March 21	Memo Monday: Policy Stat	
April 18-22	National Child Nutrition Conference	
June 1	<ul> <li>Non-profit Food Service and Procurement: Train all sponsor &amp; center staff. Finalize the monitoring plan.</li> </ul>	

# **How was my Customer Service?**

Provide feedback on your experience with the Nutrition Team



Click on the icon at right to participate in the customer service survey. Responses are anonymous.

## Join Us for a NEW DECAL Download!

Family Peer Ambassadors



Did you know that February is Parent Leadership Month? So, it's a great time for a podcast on DECAL's Family Peer Ambassadors, made up of fathers, mothers, foster parents or guardians of young children that have had a child in child care or early intervention currently, or in the past two years.

The Ambassadors serve as leaders in their community, engaging families in activities to provide them with information about child development and strategies they can use to support their children's school readiness.

Joining us to talk about the Family Peer Ambassador Program are Ann Panzica, Child and Family Development Training Specialists;

Bridget Ratajczak, Child and Family Development Supervisor and three of our current

DECAL Family Peer Ambassadors: Ni'Aisha Banks-Devore, Raymond Dockery, and Mayra Velez. We were impressed with all three so please be sure to listen!

Listen Here.

Have a suggestion for a future podcast? Let us hear from you at decaldownload@decal.ga.gov.



## **Nutrition Division**

**Marketing & Outreach Team** 

**Cindy Kicklighter** 

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Nondiscrimination Statement: English Nondiscrimination Statement: Spanish

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