

September 16, 2024

Updated Information: Voluntary Recall of Apple Juice Sold in Georgia

On August 26, 2024, Walmart announced its voluntary recall of Great Value 8 oz. apple juice sold at select Walmart stores. The products were sold in 25 states, including Georgia. The recall was voluntarily initiated by distributor Refresco Beverages US Inc. due to the products containing inorganic arsenic above the level set by industry guidance.

Since August 26, 2024, additional apple juice products sold in Georgia have been voluntarily recalled by the Refresco Beverages. The updated recalls are below:

Walmart

Great Value Apple Juice six-pack of plastic 8-ounce bottles that have a "best if used by" date of "DEC 2624 CT89-6" and "DEC 2724 CT89-6b

Walgreens

Nice! 100% Apple Juice that have a "best if used by" date of "MAR 2525 CT89-1 e"

Aldi

Natures Nectar 100% Apple Juice that has a "best if used by" date of "Mar26 2025 CT89-4" and "Mar27 2025 CT89-4h"

Dollar General

Clover Valley 100% Apple Juice that has a "best if used by" date of "03/27/2025 CT89-4"

This recall is classified as Class II. Per the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), a<u>Class II</u> <u>designation</u> product recall is one in which use of or exposure to a violative product may cause temporary or medically reversible adverse health consequences or where the probability of serious adverse health consequences is remote.

Per the FDA, arsenic may be present in food from the environment where foods are grown, raised, or processed. The FDA monitors and regulates levels of inorganic arsenic from food, specifically apple juice as apple juice is a **greater potential source of inorganic arsenic** exposure for children than for adults, because children's dietary patterns are often less varied than those of adults, and they consume more apple juice relative to adults. **Exposure to inorganic arsenic** is associated with adverse human health effects, including cancer, diabetes, adverse birth outcomes, and cardiovascular and neurodevelopmental effects.

For a copy of the updated voluntarily product recall please clickhere.

Reimbursement Rates for CACFP Providers

Effective July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Reimbursement Rates

Effective July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

	Child and Adult Care Centers			Day Care Homes	
Type of Meal Served	1 2	Reduced Price	Paid	Tier I	Tier II
Breakfast	2.37	2.07	.39	1.66	0.60
Lunch or Supper	4.73	4.33	.72	3.15	1.90
Snacks	1.21	.60	.11	.93	.26

Cash-in-Lieu value of 30.00 (.3000) cents is already added to lunch/supper rates for centers as shown above. NOTE: The extra \$0.10 per meal and snack provided by the Keep Kids Fed Act expired June 30, 2023.

Administrative Payments for Day Care Home Sponsors Per Home/Per Month Rate in Whole U.S. Dollars		
Number of Homes	Rate	
Initial 50 (homes 1 - 50)	\$ 147.00	
Next 150 (homes 51 - 200)	\$112.00	
Next 800 (homes 201 - 1000)	\$ 87.00	
All Additional (homes 1001 and over)	\$ 77.00	

NOTE: The Keep Kids Fed Act provision allowing all Tier 2 Day Care Homes to be reimbursed at the Tier 1 rate expired June 30, 2023.

Submit your FY25 Application by October 15

Participating CACFP Sponsors and Institutions are required to meet annual renewal requirements by October 15, 2024.

Step 1: Complete Annual Training Requirements

These requirements include:

- Reviewing the CACFP 2025 Annual Training presentation in GA ATLAS
- Completing the CACFP 2025 Annual Training Test Assessment in GA ATLAS

Once the annual training assessment has been completed and submitted, you will receive access to the FY 2024-2025 CACFP application.

Step 2: Enroll in FY 2025

Upon completion of the Annual Training and Assessment, the CACFP application for the associated program year will change the institution or sponsor's status to "Not Enrolled" and the "Enroll" button will be available.

Enroll into FY 2025

Step 3: Submit your FY 2025 Application on or before October 15.

Original or Annual Budgets and Budget Amendments must also be submitted on or before October 15, 2024.

Failure to complete the annual requirements by the specified deadline date will impact continued participation in the CACFP, which includes submission of monthly claims for

DATE	Task		
July 24	Registration Opened for required 2024 CACFP Annual Training		
August 1	Enrollment Opened for FY 2025		
	Upon completion of Annual Training and Assessment, Sponsors &		
	Institutions may enroll in FY 2025		
September 15	Deadline to submit any additional changes to the FY 2024 Application		
	Any FY 2024 changes including: updates to the application management plan and budget the addition/termination of centers/homes		
	MUST be completed in GA ATLAS by September 15, 2024, to allow		
	time for review and processing.		
October 15	Deadline to complete 2025 CACFP Annual Training and Assessment		
	Deadline to submit 2025 CACFP Application		
	Deadline to submit original or annual budget and budget amendments.		

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your assigned Application Specialist:

Application Specialists	Institution Assignment	Email	Phone Number
Jerald Savage	o (zero)-G	Jerald.Savage@decal.ga.gov	(770) 405-7916
Shericka Blount	H-P	Shericka.Blount@decal.ga.gov	(404) 656-6411
Vanessa Goodman	Q-Z	Vanessa.Goodman@decal.ga.gov	(404) 591-6027

Business Operations Representative	Institution Assignment	Email	Phone Number
Lavesia Ervin	o (zero)-C, H-P	<u>Lavesia.Ervin@decal.ga.gov</u>	(404) 293-5258
Joveta Watson	D-G, Q-Z	Joveta.Watson@decal.ga.gov	(706) 434-6831

Is it Time to Submit a Budget Revision for FY24?

This is an ideal time to review your budget and determine if it is necessary to submit a revision.

You should submit a budget revision if:

- A new cost is incurred since your last approved budget.
- A line item increases or decreases by 20% or more.
- When allocation methodologies change within the organization resulting in an increase or decrease of 20% or more.
- A new cost item will be incurred that requires prior or specific prior approval or special consideration.
- When an approved specific prior written approval item's actual cost is found to be more than the actual approved amount.
- If there is a 10% or more increase or decrease in the number of homes sponsored in any one quarterly for Day Care Home Sponsors, and /or when there is a 25% increase or decrease in the number of sites sponsored by the organization.

FY25 CACFP Budgets due October 15

All institutions/sponsors are tasked with completing annual renewal requirements to continue participation in the CACFP.

Your institution is required to submit a budget revision for FY25 if it meets one of the following criteria:

- An Independent Center with an approved budget in FY24 that intends to use FY25 reimbursement funds for new operating and/or administrative costs that require prior approval, specific prior written approval, or formal procurement.
- An Independent Center with an approved budget in FY24 with approved costs and the same costs in FY25, but new supporting documentation must be submitted for review and approval (ex: lease agreements for center space, equipment rental, etc.).
- All Administrative, Center and Day Care Home sponsoring organizations.

Please complete a budget for FY2025 by **October 15**, **2024**, to continue participation in CACFP.

If you need further guidance on submittal requirements for costs, please refer to the Budget Guidance Manual:

http://www.decal.ga.gov/documents/attachments/budgetguidancemanual.pdf or contact the Nutrition Budget team at nutritionbudget@decal.ga.gov.

At-Risk Afterschool Waivers Available during Unanticipated School Closures

On August 5, 2024, DECAL was approved by USDA to grant CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Meal Component facilities waivers for the following:

- Non-Congregate Meal Service
- Meal Service Times
- Parent and Guardian Meal Pick-up
- At-Risk Enrichment Activities

These waivers can only be utilized during unanticipated school closures resulting from natural disasters, unscheduled major building repairs, court orders relating to school safety or other issues, labor-management disputes or when approved by DECAL for similar unanticipated causes.

DECAL cannot approve a waiver for more than 10 consecutive operating days without approval from Food Nutrition Services (FNS). You may access the USDA's approval here.

CACFP institutions that are approved to operate the At-Risk Afterschool Meal Component and are interested in applying for these waivers during unanticipated school closures must submit waiver requests via the Waiver Module in GA ATLAS.

Once institutions have submitted waiver requests, institutions should email**Tammie Baldwin** advising of the submittal. For questions, please contact**Robyn Parham**.

DECAL Nutrition Spotlight:

Meet the Training and Technical Assistance (TA) Team

The goal of the **Training and Technical Assistance** (TTA) Unit is to improve performance and better equip new and participating institutions and sponsors by providing practical, user-friendly resources and guidance materials that strengthen internal controls and result in successful, sustainable Program administration and operation.

The Technical Assistance (TA) Coordinators & Trainers provide training, technical assistance, guidance, and user-friendly resources to Child Nutrition (CN) Program operators.

Every institution is assigned a TA Coordinator based on the location of their site. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your assigned TA Coordinator if you ever have question or need training or technical assistance.





Nkem Ijeh Region 1: North/Northwest

Nkem Ijeh has served as the Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator for the North/Northwest Region for five years.

Nkem worked in various areas in maternal and child health, education, and promotion including leadership positions. She graduated from Georgia State University with a bachelor's degree in psychology and later obtained her master's in public health from Mercer University School of Medicine.

Nkem enjoys the challenge of learning new information, becoming an expert in that subject and seeing program providers make connections after sharing the knowledge. She has a passion for serving families and ensuring the health and wellness of children.

Email: Nkem.Ijeh@decal.ga.gov

Phone: 404-973-4099

Julie Edwards Region 2: East

Julie Edwards has served as the Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator for the East Region for eighteen months.

Julie has 25 plus years of healthcare management experience. Prior to joining DECAL, she was the Director of an Adult Day Center in Augusta, Georgia.

She graduated with a Business Administration degree from the University of South Carolina. Julie is excited about teaching others and bringing her experience and knowledge to program providers.



Julie lives in Appling, Georgia, with her husband, Scott. Her hobbies include spending time on the boat at the lake.

Email: Julie.Edwards@decal.ga.gov

Phone: **404-796-1205**



Dr. Emilia Emmanuel Region 3: Metro West

Dr. Emilia Emmanuel has served as the Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator for the Metro West Region for two years.

Emilia is a trained Medical Physician/Health professional with over 13 years of experience in coordinating and management roles in Early Head Start/Head Start, community health education and advocacy services.

She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in nursing, and Doctor of Medicine from St. Mary's School of Medicine. She is also bilingual in English and Spanish.

Emilia enjoys combining the knowledge and skills she acquired in her years of medical education and work experiences to assist Georgia's children and their families. Her hobbies include spending time with her family, cooking, reading, traveling, and exploring nature.

Email: Emilia.Emmanuel@decal.ga.gov

Phone: 678-337-9759

Leatha Bryant Region 4: Southwest

Leatha Bryant has served as the Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator for the Southwest Region for nearly two years.

Leatha has twenty plus years of management experience including leading work teams, structuring quality improvement systems, coaching and training key personnel. She holds an Associate Degree in Business Management and a Bachelor of Science degree from Troy University.

Leatha loves assisting others, teaching new policies, techniques and ensuring that providers are able to meet program compliance and expectations.

She believes in continuous education and takes every opportunity to not only help educate others, but she is a lifelong learner herself. Her passion is serving and mentoring youth and young adults.

Email: Leatha.Bryant@decal.ga.gov

Phone: 404-998-0721



LaKisha Battle Region 5: Southeast

LaKisha Battle has served as the Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator for the Southeast Region for nine years.

LaKisha has 20 plus years of healthcare experience. She worked as a Program Director of the Medical Assisting Program at Atlanta Technical College and Oconee Fall Line Technical College, where diet and



nutrition were part of the curriculum she taught.

She earned a diploma and certification as Medical Assistant from the Heart of Georgia Technical College, a Bachelor of Health Science emphasis in Community Health Education degree from Georgia Southern University, and a Master's degree in Health Administration from the University of Phoenix.

She is also a member of the American Association of Medical Assistants (AAMA) and a faithful member of the Church of Christ. LaKisha's top goal is to provide meaningful customer service to providers that impacts their managing of the food program.

Her hobbies include gardening, spending time with family, cooking, particularly trying new recipes, and hanging with her fur babies Blaze, Bestie, and Buddie. A fun fact about LaKisha is that she is a pretty awesome clarinet player!

Email: Lakisha.Battle@decal.ga.gov

Phone: 478-314-2806



Meet Joann Kilpatrick Marketing and Outreach Nutrition Specialist

We are thrilled to announce that Joann Kilpatrick has joined the Nutrition Services Division as the Nutrition Marketing and Outreach Specialist.

In this role, Joann will spearhead community outreach efforts to recruit and retain providers for Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Happy Helpings, Georgia's Summer Food Service Program. She will develop and implement strategies to enhance program visibility, produce newsletters, coordinate social media and assist with organizing events.

Joann brings six years of dedicated experience in Nutrition Services to her position. Most recently, she served as the

point of contact for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Georgia, where she managed sponsor relations and developed a strong familiarity with DECAL's programs. Her positive experiences with DECAL and its training programs inspired her to join our team.

Joann is a natural caregiver who thrives on teaching and learning from others. She values the responsiveness and comprehensive training she received from DECAL, and is committed to ensuring that other providers and program contacts across Georgia have a similarly supportive experience.

Residing in Macon, Georgia, with her husband Justin and their two children, Joann enjoys spending time with her family and exploring the outdoors. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Nutrition from Purdue University Global.

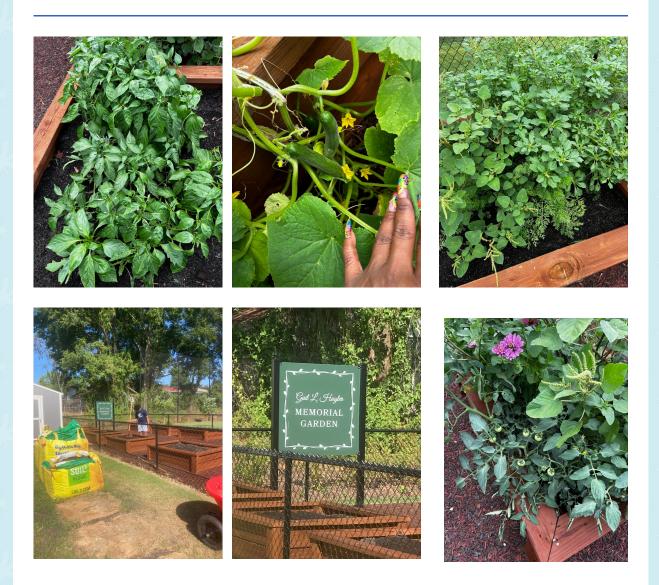
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Augusta exposes Kids to Food Production from Seed to Plate

Kids enrolled at the E. W. Hagler Club of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Augusta enjoy growing a variety of vegetables and flowers in the Gail L. Hagler Memorial Garden. The garden was established as a teaching resource designed to provide kids with greater access to

fresh produce and exposure to food production from seed to plate. The kids planted and maintained the garden as part of a Farm to Summer initiative.

The garden is more than just a collection of plants; it's a vibrant learning environment where members gain valuable skills and knowledge. From planting and tending to harvesting, these hands-on experiences teach responsibility, teamwork, and the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

Food Program Director Susan Robertson says, "The garden was a great experience and one that will continue throughout the seasons to come." She added, "Special thanks to our Facilities and Fleet Manager, Gary Winfrey for starting this project with our kids at E.W. Hagler."



The summer garden included squash, zucchini, cucumbers, okra, jalapeño peppers, green peppers, tomatoes and marigolds. Collards and kale will be planted in the fall.

Action Alert: USDA Requesting Comments on Record Keeping Requirements

Comment deadline September 26, 2024

USDA FNS is requesting comments on the recordkeeping requirements for CACFP and SFSP operators to use the new menu planning option to serve vegetables to meet the grains requirement.

To be eligible to use this option, operators must be able to show that the largest demographic they serve are American Indian or Alaska Native children. USDA is seeking input on how to collect demographic data and the potential burden it will place on operators.

Comment Deadline: September 26, 2024

Comment for CACFP Comment for SFSP

FNS has requested comments regarding:

- whether this recordkeeping is necessary
- how much time it will take to collect this information, and how much it will cost your organization
- what methods would be best to collect this information
- whether there are strategies to minimize the time and cost burden by using technology

For more information about the recordkeeping requirements outlined in the final rule and estimation of burden for CACFP and SFSP operators, read <u>NCA's summary blog</u>.

You can send any questions to policy@cacfp.org.

In Case You Missed It: Webinar Recordings Now Available!

If you missed a webinar, please visit the **Training and Technical Assistance** webpage for previously recorded webinars. This month's training highlight is the **FY 2025 Renewal Readiness** webinar that discusses step-by-step instructions on how to complete Annual Renewal requirements.

Meal Pattern Minute New!

The **National CACFP Sponsor Association** has developed quick CACFP meal pattern tips, recipes, resources, and videos. View the videos of the following meal pattern minute tips below.

- Almond Milk as a Milk Substitute
- Serving Nuts & Seeds
- Home-Canned Fruits and Vegetables
- Crediting Tomatoes, Avocados and Pumpkins New!
- Crediting Leafy Vegetables New!

Snack Attack New Recipes!

The **National CACFP Sponsor Association** has shared snack options for program operators that are #CACFPCreditable.

- French toast sticks and vanilla yogurt
- Pancake medallions and strawberries
- Pasta salad with ham and cheese cubes
- Puffed cereal and plums
- Jicama and mango
- Soft pretzel and cantaloupe
- Corn salsa and wheat crackers

Community Helpers – Farmer Activity

The **National CACFP Sponsor Association** has shared a fun activity that helps kids learn about a farmer which grows food for people to eat and tends to livestock.

Try the Activity

Infant Sample Menu

The National CACFP Sponsor Association has developed this sample menu for infants, 6 months to 11 months, to help providers plan a calendar with creditable recipes.

[See the Sample Menu]



Nutrition Ed Nook Crisp and Delicious Apples!

Crisp and Delicious Apples are September's Harvest of the Month spotlight.

Apples are a great low-calorie snack that are naturally fatand sodium-free. Apples are a good source of fiber, which helps keep you regular, controls blood sugar and lowers cholesterol, and vitamin C, which supports healthy gums, skin and blood. Eat the peel to get the most from this nutritional powerhouse!

Apples are in season in Georgia from around August through October. North Georgia is the center of the state's apple industry with more than 85% grown in Gilmer and

Fannin counties. Georgia's apple varieties include Red Delicious, Golden Delicious, Fuji, Granny Smith, and more.

Fun Fact: Georgia's Apple Festival is hosted annually during October in Ellijay, Georgia.

Integration:

- Apple Pancakes
- Pumpkin Applesauce
- Cranberry Applesauce
- Chicken Apple Salad Wrap
- Fall Apple Pumpkin Oatmeal
- Fruit and Nut Butter Pita Pockets

Education:

- Watch Fruit for Kids with Blippi | Apple Fruit Factory Tour video to learn
 how apples get to the grocery store. You'll visit the orchard and tour inside the apple
 factory, Blippi will help your children learn about fruit.
- *Compare & Contrast* different apple varieties, such as Granny Smith, Gala, Fuji, using the five senses, look, feel, taste, sound, and smell.
- Read aloud Apple Farmer Annie by Monica Wellington. Follow along with Annie, a busy apple farmer, as she picks, counts, sorts, bakes tasty treats, and sells her best apples.
- *Talk* with families about how children can help with meal preparation such as choosing which apples to buy at the store or rinsing apples under cool running water. **Bonus:** Send recipes home with families for them to incorporate apples into their meals! Check **Pinterest** for recipe inspiration.

Conversation:

- Have the children you serve eaten apples before?
- Which apple variety is their favorite?
- What is their favorite way to eat apples?

Share your Harvest of the Month stories and menu integration of apples with Nutrition Education Specialist, Morgan Chapman, MPH, MCHc at

Physical Activity Corner

Tips for Play, Games and Movement

Physical activity, exploration, and play are critical for all ages, especially our youngest learners. Through this, children develop coordination and strong, healthy bodies and exercise their minds through sensory play including touching, reaching, grasping, and exploring.

Play is one of the main ways that children learn, develop, and grow. Each new phase of physical activity development brings new opportunities for learning and development. An infant might explore by touching, grasping, banging something, or crawling. A toddler might explore by walking or climbing. Young children are naturally curious and excited to learn about their surrounding environment.

According to CDC, physical fun such as free unstructured games during playtime helps develop children's motor and coordination skills, prevent childhood obesity, and build social and emotional intelligence. A child builds their confidence in a safe enjoyable environment.

Enjoy these fun ideas to get our younger children moving:

- Provide child-friendly sports equipment, like balls, poly spots or throwable beanbags.
- Make time for outdoor play at a park or playground, in the backyard, on a beach or at a football field. Moving around on various surfaces develops strength, balance, and coordination.
- Make an obstacle course ortreasure hunt.
- Provide chalk to draw outside with a child.
- Go for a nature walk. This gets a child moving, and they can also collect leaves, sticks, or pebbles for crafts or pretend play when you get home.
- Younger children can practice coordinating the small movements of their fingers through playdough, blocks, and drawing activities.

Providing children plenty of opportunities to play is one of the best ways to help them grow into curious, creative, healthy, and happy adults equipped with the skills they need today.

Integration:

- Georgia's Early Care and Learning Standards (GELDS) Songs, movement, and play
- Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students (GEEARS)
- Playgrounds in Georgia
- Active Play: Healthy Habits Start Early
- CDC Making Physical Activity a Part of a Child's Life



Education:

- Read aloud, 'Are You Ready to Play Outside?' by Mo Willems.
- Watch the video on Movement and Play: "Play-based Learning with Dr. Peter Gray."
- **Talk** with families about ways to bring parents, educators, and communities promote physical activity on movement and play all year round, whether at home, outside, in their local community, at your childcare site, or at their local community recreational areas.
- **Bonus**: Share #ActivePlay, #OutdoorGames, #MovementandPlay, #MoveYourWay, and #LovePlay pictures and events that are happening in your communities.

Conversation:

- What is movement and play in early childhood?
- How do you engage parents, educators, and staff to engage in physical activity (indoor/outdoor)?
- How do you play with children of different ages?
- Why family engagement, movement, and play are important in physical activity?

Share your #ActivePlay, #OutdoorGames, #MovementandPlay, #MoveYourWay and #LovePlay stories and pictures with Physical Activity Specialist, **Tina McLaren**, **MPH at tina.mclaren@decal.ga.gov**!

Are You Ready to ParSLAY the Day?

Get Kids Eating, Growing & Learning about Parsley



Each year, Georgia Organics coordinates a statewide campaign to get kids eating, growing, and learning about a locally grown fruit or vegetable during October Farm to School Month. This year's campaign will be celebrating *ParSLAY the Day*!

To participate in *ParSLAY the Day* at your school, home, early care center, or in your community, visit **bit.ly/parslaythedaysignup** to register. Participants will receive access to a free electronic toolkit filled with parsley-themed activities, standards-based lesson plans, fact sheets, recipes,

school nutrition resources, and more!

Share your *ParSLAY the Day* pictures and activities on social media with #parslaytheday. Each week during October, anyone who has used this hashtag will be entered to win a prize and at the end of the month there will be a grand prize winner.

Questions? Visit the October Farm to School Month FAQ page or email yaza@georgiaorganics.org.

Nourishing Healthy Eaters

Interactive, Online Courses by Nemours Children's Health

As a child care professional, you work to ensure healthy development for those in your care. Making sure they eat nutritious foods and build healthy habits is a crucial part of their development.

Nemours Children's Health have an interactive course to help you learn how to nourish healthy eaters – they even have a course focused on preschool-aged children.

Nourishing Healthy Eaters and **Nourishing Preschoolers** are interactive, online courses for child care professionals (Head Start and Early Head Start teachers, family child care providers, child care providers) to explore the role of nutrition in early



childhood development and deepen their understanding of how children learn to become healthy eaters.



Eat Healthy and Live Active Georgia Early Care and Education Harvest of the Month 24-25 Calendar

Harvest of the Month (HOTM) is the Georgia Department of Education School Nutrition Program's farm to school initiative that highlights an item each month that can be sourced locally and served in Georgia's school meals.

DECAL's Harvest of the Month calendar aligns with the Georgia Department of Education's Harvest of the Month initiative and was created in partnership with Quality Care for Children, Georgia Organics, Georgia SNAP-Ed, and the Farm to Early Care & Education (ECE) Coalition for ECE settings.

Visit the Georgia Department of Education's HOTM **webpage** and Quality Care for Children **webpage**. Upon viewing, you can find tips and tricks for preparing produce items, curriculum connections, activity lists and book alignment for your early care classrooms.

CACFP Resources:

The following documents were covered in previous newsletters:

- CACFP Learning Collaborative Launches FARMWISE
- Updated Procurement Forms to include Civil Rights Assurance Statement
- New CACFP Memo on State Agency Monitoring
- Updated Agreement for DCH Sponsors
- Thriving Child Care Business Academy
- Claim Deadlines Updated
- Get the Lead Out of Water Where Children Learn and Play
- Updated Agreements for DCH and Administrative Sponsors
- Updated Suspension & Disbarment Certification Information
- How to File a CACFP Claim for Reimbursement

You can find archived CACFP Newslettershere.

Dates to Remember

DATES	EVENTS
September 15	Deadline to submit additional changes for
	FY2024 Application
October 15	Deadline to complete FY2025 CACFP Application.
	Deadline to submit original or annual budget and
	budget amendments

How was my Customer Service?

Provide feedback on your experience with the Nutrition Team



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

Join Us for a NEW DECAL Download!

Family Peer Ambassadors



Since the Fall of 2019, DECAL has had a group of volunteers working in their communities to share information with families about the resources available in our state.

Our DECAL Family Peer Ambassadors are fathers, mothers, grandparents, foster parents, and other kinship caregivers of young children.

They serve as leaders in their community, providing families of young children with information about child development and strategies they can use to support their children's school readiness along with different resources available to families of young children. This month the program is celebrating it's Fifth Birthday! Joining us on this week's DECAL Download to talk about Family Peer Ambassadors is DECAL's Child and Family Development Training Specialist, Jenny Semendy and one of our Family Peer Ambassadors from Atlanta, Ebony Tolbert.

Listen to the episode here.



Nutrition Services Marketing & Outreach Team

Cindy Kicklighter Joann Kilpatrick

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Nondiscrimination Statement: English

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