

Child Care & Nutrition, Inc.

Mini-Teddy Newsletter

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July 2017 Edition

Legislator Letter Enclosed

For the past several months, providers have been contacting us with their concerns regarding the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Your voices have been heard. We have drafted and enclosed a letter that you can use, if you choose, to educate legislators and bring more public awareness to your needs. Also included is a map and contact information that shows who your legislators are within the state. If you want to share this letter with Congress and Senate Representatives for Minnesota, please fill your name and address on the back and mail it to your area representative, Senator Amy Klobuchar, and Senator Al Franken.

You can create your own letter and mail it, also. We encourage everyone who wants to take part in the democratic process to tell your legislators what you stand for and what you need as a CACFP provider.

We are also sending this electronically to our providers who receive the newsletter via email.

Minute Menu to Kid Kare Switch

At the end of June, CCNI staff will begin calling providers who haven't yet switched from Minute Menu's Kids Pro to KidKare, yet. We hope to have everyone using KidKare by July 1, 2017. YEL-016 Once you start using KidKare, do not go back to Kids Pro as the information only transfers to KidKare one time and Kid's Pro will no longer be functional.

Thank you! You are great!

Claiming Dates for July, 2017

Claim received by noon on July 6
Payment will be sent on July 14

Claim received by noon on July 13
Payment will be sent on July 21

Claim received by noon on July 20
Payment will be sent on July 28

New Household Income Guidelines

The income guidelines are effective from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

Household Size	Maximum Total Income				
	\$ Per Year	\$ Per Month	\$ Twice Per Month	\$ Per 2 Weeks	\$ Per Week
1	22,311	1860	930	859	430
2	30,044	2,504	1,252	1,156	578
3	37,777	3,149	1,575	1,453	727
4	45,510	3,793	1,897	1,751	876
5	53,243	4,437	2,219	2,048	1,024
6	60,976	5,082	2,541	2,346	1,173
7	68,709	5,726	2,863	2,643	1,322
8	76,442	6,371	3,186	2,941	1,471
Add for each additional person	7,733	645	323	298	149

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***Have a Safe and Happy
Fourth of July!***

Should I Stay on the Child and Adult Care Food Program?

At CCNI, sometimes we hear of providers who are questioning the worth of participating on the CACFP. The changes of the new menu guidelines seem to be “shaking the tree” and we are hearing from a few providers now and then who are wondering, “is the food program worth it?” We answer with a resounding “YES!!!” Here are the reasons why the food program is important to you.

- 1. *Income you can count on!*** Families come and go, and you know how that affects your family income. You will receive reimbursement for the children’s meals up until the day they leave. For example, a family leaves at the end of June. You submit the claim for the June meals to CCNI in July and we reimburse you for them according to our submission and payment dates. That meal reimbursement gives you a little residual income until you fill the vacancy in your child care .
- 2. *Minnesota State Law requires providers to follow the CACFP guidelines for meals served in their child care!*** So, whether or not you are participating on the program, you are required to serve meals & snacks according to USDA’s meal pattern requirements .
- 3. *The unannounced visits are a hassle when I have to call every time I leave the house.*** No, you don’t. We don’t want you to call us whenever you leave home, just let us know if you plan to be gone during a meal time. For instance, let’s say your breakfast serving time ends at 8:00 am and your lunch starts at 11:00 am and you do not serve an am snack. You can take the children for a walk from 8:00-11:00 and if we stop during that time, we will leave a notice in the door, but we will not deduct any meals or snacks. But if you do leave during a meal time, are closed or have no children present to claim for the day, then , yes please tell us so we don’t make an unnecessary trip .
- 4. *The paperwork is too much!*** Are you kidding? With all the paperwork you did to get and stay licensed? Your license entitles you to participate in this program! This paperwork is so easy to record and pays you for it. **AND** you need the documentation to claim your meal deduction on your taxes each year.
- 5. *The new guidelines are too costly.*** We believe that these new menu changes give you more variety and may even help save money in the grocery store. And USDA is allowing certain menu errors for one year that will not result in deductions . So, hang in there with us. We are doing the best we can to help make this program the best resource a licensed family child care provider can have.