

# Child Care & Nutrition, Inc.

## Mini-Teddy Newsletter

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June 2017 Edition

### ***Almond Milk? Cow's Milk? Soy Milk?***

The milk options available to families today are very diverse and although the Child and Adult Care Food Program wants to abide by parent's wishes for good nutrition for their children, we sometimes "crash" into policy issues. So we have tried to break it down here:

**Cow's milk** is the most generally accepted and used in the child nutrition program. "Mammal" milk such as goats milk and breast milk are also accepted and can be claimed on the CACFP without any diet or special statements. You must use pasteurized milk that contains the correct fat content for the age of the child. In October, that will be whole milk for one year olds and 1% or skim for children two years and older.

**Soy milk** is an alternative that can be served and even brought by parents as long as the milk is on the USDA approved list. We need a parent request form filled out and sent to the office. Call or email us to request a form.

**Almond**, rice or other plant milks do not qualify unless the doctor prescribes it because the child has a disability or a medically disabling reaction to cow's milk. In order to serve these types of milk substitutes, we need a diet statement from the doctor identifying the disability, the omissions, and substitutions.

#### **Which Milk is Healthier?**

We found this question on the *Fit Today* website which explains the nutritional difference between the milks:

"Cow's milk and almond milk are both packed with essential nutrients and generally healthy for you. Both are rich in calcium, vitamin A, vitamin D, and B vitamins. Cow's milk is a good source of phosphorous, but almond milk is rich in vitamin E. Cow's milk is high in protein, which is the main advantage of cow's milk

over almond milk. But almond milk is naturally lactose-free, so likely won't cause problems if you're lactose intolerant. If you're seeking a plant-based milk that's rich in high-quality protein like cow's milk, soy milk is a good option."

Lactose free milk, reduced lactose milk etc. are always creditable when offered and served by the provider.

#### **Claiming Dates for June 2017**

Claim received by noon on June 8  
Payment will be sent on June 16

Claim received by noon on June 15  
Payment will be sent on June 23

Claim received by noon on June 22  
Payment will be sent on June 30

#### ***Alert! CCNI office will be closed Wednesday, May 24, 2017***

All CCNI staff will be attending a meeting hosted by Minnesota Department of Education regarding new meal pattern guidelines.

#### ***Technical Assistance in July***

June claims (processed in July) will be handled a little differently. We are going to watch the menus and if there are any areas that the changes may cause a deduction on your DAK-013 claim after October 1, 2017, we will send out information with your checks or Direct Deposit pay stubs to clarify the issue. We are hoping that this will help you see the new changes and may need to tweak your menus a little. We will try to offer as much advice and help as possible. Thank you for your continued support and faith in the CACFP.

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## *And the Survey Says....*

Thank you to our fabulous friends who took the time to respond to our survey printed in last month's newsletter. Here are the preliminary results. Your feedback helps us tremendously!!

### **How long have you been claiming with CCNI?**

57% of the responses showed longer than 10 years  
(Thank you for your long time support! We love it.)  
16% claimed less than 12 months  
14% each category between 1-5 and 6-10 years.

It is so nice to hear from providers new to the program and those who have been with us for a long time.

### **What's the best part of claiming with CCNI?**

(More than one answer was allowed in this question)  
39% report the reimbursement  
22% report helpful staff  
20% Regional Director  
19% Nutrition information  
18% Newsletters  
20% online claiming  
13% easy paper work

### **How professional is CCNI?**

41% reports extremely professional  
54% reports very professional  
5% reports somewhat  
No one stated that we were lacking in this area! Great to hear! We try very hard to give you the best service.

**Marshall Training?** 8% attended our all day training. The answers from the 92% of the responses was the training was too far, busy on that day, didn't need the workshop topics, etc.

When asked if providers would attend more or other all day trainings, only one response was no. Overwhelmingly providers responded yes or maybe.

### **How satisfied are you with your Regional Director?**

78% report very satisfied, 16% reported somewhat satisfied and 3% stated they were either not very happy, or unhappy.

### **How happy are you with your home visits?**

73% reported they were very satisfied and 27% said they were okay. 0% response to "frustrated" or "other."

## *Comments from the Survey*

I use the paper claiming, since my computer is not in my daycare area. It only takes a few minutes to record the day's meals, and I can do it while the children are resting. I can't think of any improvements! Works well for me, and if it ain't broke, don't fix it!!

Make it easy for us!!!

Cheat Sheet on the changes coming in October

I am happy with the way it is.

The whole [CCNI] 'package' has been great

## *Dropped Child vs. Drop In Child*

At your home visits, we ask if you have any children who "dropped out" of your program. It helps keep our records updated and efficient through the year.

However, if there is a chance a child will show up on a future claim, please don't drop them. We don't want to miss reimbursing you properly. For example, if you dropped a child, and then they are claimed in a future month, we assume you "clicked on" (Minute Menu or Kid Kare providers) that child by mistake and will deduct the meals for that child claimed.

## *Kid Kare Change*

Providers should be transitioning to Kid Kare from Minute Menu completely by October 1. You can watch several training videos at <https://help.kidkare.com/help>

Remember once you change over to Kid Kare, do not record anything in the old Minute Menu, it will not automatically transfer to keep information in one place.

