

SPECIAL COVID-19 & CACFP TOWN HALL

MARCH 19, 2020

Hosted by:



In partnership with:



PAULA JAMES, CCFP ROUNDTABLE & COCOKIDS



AGENDA

- National Perspective – Jodi Kuhn, National CACFP Forum & KinderCare
- California Perspective – Melissa Cannon, California Food Policy Advocates
- Updates from the Hill – Geri Henchy, Food Research & Action Center
- Updates from USDA, Angela Kline, Andrea Farmer, and Jesus Mendoza
CDE, Sean Hardin

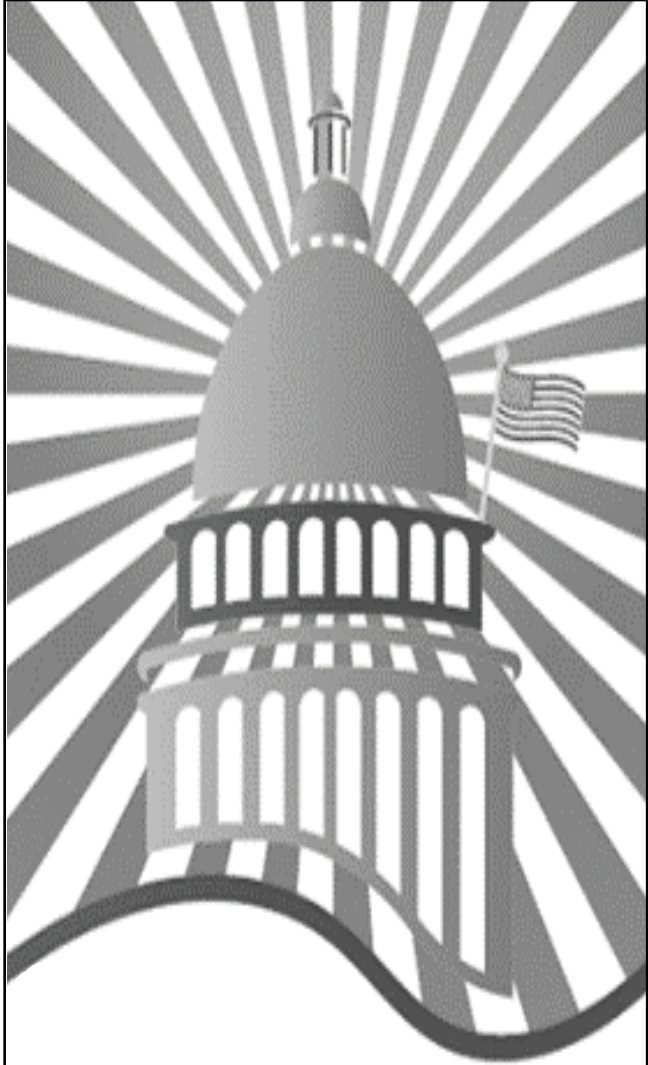
ELYSE HOMEL VITALE, CCFP ROUNDTABLE



Roundtable Resources

- Creating space for dialogue
- Coronavirus Community Library
- Information sharing (news alerts, social media)
 - 👉 www.nokidhungry.org/coronavirus-grant-request
- Tracking policy guidance
- Take action opportunities
- Advocating on behalf of CACFP community

www.ccfproundtable.org/coronavirus-2020



The National Perspective

Jodi Kuhn

National CACFP Forum &
KinderCare Education



March 2020

The National Perspective

3 Focus Areas for immediate USDA Guidance:

- Protect the children in care through the suspension of onsite monitor visits and state audits
- Allow for variations in meal patterns due to disruptions in food supply chain
- Provide flexibility in claim deadline



Suspend Onsite Visits

Suspension of onsite visits and conduct desk reviews until it is safe to restore social interaction:

- 1 - Specific guidance to stop
- 4 – Responded to inquiries and advised to stop
- 1- Requires on site visits and actively conducting on site audits this week

Meal Pattern Flexibilities

Provide allowances for meals that do not meet the meal pattern due to intermittent disruptions in the supply chain:

- 1 – Flexibility with type of milk
- 2 – Requested waivers from USDA
- 1- Requires meal pattern to be met with no exceptions

Extend Claim Deadlines

Provide extensions for claim deadlines:

- No states offering extensions at this time



California Anti-Hunger Perspective

Melissa Cannon, Senior Advocate
California Food Policy Advocates



California Food Policy Advocates

We are a statewide policy and advocacy organization dedicated to improving the health and well-being of low-income Californians by increasing their access to nutritious, affordable food.



First the bad news...

- Over 80% of California's children have been impacted by school closures.
- Many large child care centers have made the tough decision to close their doors.
- Older adults have been asked to stay at home.
- Bars, restaurants, and other businesses are also closing down, putting many low-wage workers out of hours or even their jobs.
- The emergency food system is facing volunteer shortages and shelter-in-place orders are impacting access to food.

The good news...

- Governor Newsom has prioritized access to meals for low-income kids and older adults.
- He issued an Executive Order allowing schools to retain state funding during school closures on condition that they make meals available to students in non-congregate settings.
- CDE and other state agencies are working around the clock to seek waivers from USDA to implement available flexibilities to help children of all ages access school meals (CDE and USDA will share more).

www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/schoolmeals.asp

The legislature has stepped aside to let the Governor take additional action

- The California legislature postponed the legislative session until April 13. All bills and the annual budget process are on hold.
- Before recess the legislature passed legislation to authorize the governor to spend up to \$1 billion for emergency response.
- The governor has authority to use the funds "for any purpose" related to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.
- Things are evolving on a daily basis...

www.gov.ca.gov

Where are we seeing problem spots?

- Child-presence requirement for grab-and-go meals limits meal access for many children.
- Not all school districts are making meals available to low-income children of all ages.
- Wide differences in terms of school meal access across districts.
- Anti-hunger partners want to serve 3 meals, but SFSP/SSO waiver is limited to max of 2.
- Many social service agencies have closed their doors and capacity concerns have been raised.
- H.R. 6201 (Geri will share more) and additional state/federal guidance should help with many of these challenges.

Thank you!

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Questions?

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CCFP Roundtable Meeting

Washington
Update:
Congress

CACFP Advocacy Goal:

Facilitate the success of CACFP in continuing to support child care during the COVID 19 pandemic





“Daycares feel the crunch in wake of school closures”

Ohio Preparing For Possible Day Care Center Closures





The Families First Coronavirus Response Act

Three Key CACFP Provisions



Gives USDA the authority to issue nationwide child nutrition - CACFP waivers in order to eliminate paperwork for states and help child care, afterschool programs, and community organizations quickly adopt and implement flexibilities during this crisis

Families First Act

“(b) Child And Adult Care Food Program Waiver.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may grant a waiver under section 12(l) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act ([42 U.S.C. 1760\(l\)](#)) to allow non-congregate feeding under a child and adult care food program under section 17 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act ([42 U.S.C. 1766](#)) if such waiver is for the purposes of—

- (1) providing meals and meal supplements under such child and adult care food program; and
- (2) carrying out paragraph (1) with appropriate safety measures with respect to COVID–19, as determined by the Secretary.”



Waivers to allow CACFP to operate as non-congregate sites: offering meals off-site, “grab and go” and delivered

Families First Act

CACFP non-congregate feeding must be consistent: “(1) with appropriate safety measures with respect to COVID–19, as determined by the Secretary.”



Closed schools have been using non-congregate summer food service waivers to serve meals through distribution mechanisms designed to be consistent with safety

Waivers to adapt meal pattern requirements in response to a disruption to the food supply as a result of COVID-19



Center will close
at 5pm until further
notice. No dinner
will be served





Next step:
economic
stimulus bill

Economic Stimulus: The Child and Adult Care Food Program

Congress must ensure that the support provided by CACFP continues through the duration of the emergency preserving the infrastructure and capacity that will be needed again when activity returns to normal. It is vitally important to the strength of the economy to sustain the viability of the:

- Child care centers participating in CACFP: many child care centers participating in CACFP are small businesses and all the child care centers are employers in their communities; and
- Network of community-based sponsoring organizations that support good nutrition in child care through administering CACFP to family child care homes and centers.

Forum Recommendations: Centers

- For the duration of the emergency, the total meal reimbursement for a child and adult care center will be based on the larger of the 1) average reimbursement per child per day per site in January and February 2020 multiplied by the number days in the claiming month or 2) the meal reimbursement claim for the current month.
 - Conforming amendment: For the duration of the emergency, sponsors of unaffiliated centers could choose to be reimbursed for administrative services based on the 1) total amount of administrative reimbursement received in October 2019 or 2) the amount of administrative reimbursement due to the sponsor based on the current claim month.
- For the duration of the emergency, for-profit child and adult care centers participating in the Child Adult Care Food Program will maintain the institutional income eligibility established in February 2020.

Forum Recommendations: Sponsoring Organizations and Family Child Care Homes

- For the duration of the emergency, the total administrative reimbursement for a sponsoring organization of family day care homes will be based on the total number of providers claimed in October 2019 if higher than the current claim month.
- For the duration of the emergency, the total reimbursement for a family child care home will be based on the total number of providers claimed in October 2019 if higher than the current month.



FRAC.org

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CA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, NUTRITION SERVICES DIVISION
USDA, WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
USDA, FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE



CDE requested waivers:

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/lr/cnpwaiver.asp>

Have a seat at the table!



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@ChildCareFood
ProgramRoundtable



www.ccfproundtable.org

Thank you!