

INTRODUCTION

CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM 2011-2012

Welcome to the Child Care Resource Center's Child Care Food Program. The purpose of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is to help your children develop sound nutritional habits, while training you to serve nutritious meals to the children in your care. The Food Program for child care homes is similar to the School Lunch program, and will reimburse you for meals you serve, if those meals meet USDA requirements.

The Child Care Resource Center is a sponsor of the Food Program, which means we are responsible for: approving your home for participation in the program; providing training for you in nutrition, sanitation, health and safety; providing you with all the forms necessary to follow the Food Program; reviewing your program by visiting your home three times per year; and processing and mailing your monthly reimbursement checks.

This **Provider Notebook** contains information on menu planning, quantities and required amounts, and food safety and sanitation. You will learn how to build a Cycle Menu, how to substitute foods, and how to fill out the many forms that are required for reimbursement.

Once you are approved for participation in the Child Care Resource Center's Food Program, you can be reimbursed for two meals and one snack or two snacks and one meal per child. You must keep accurate records of your meal services and of the children's attendance. When you sign your contract with the Food Program, you will be placed in Tier One or Tier Two, based on where you live or your family income level. Eligible meals will be reimbursed according to which Tier you qualify for. Tier One rates will be reimbursed to providers who live in low-income areas or are themselves considered low income. Tier Two rates will be reimbursed to providers who do not qualify for Tier One by income or area. As of July 1, 2010, the following rates will apply:

<u>Meal</u>	<u>Tier One</u>	<u>Tier Two</u>
Breakfast	1.24	.45
A.M. Snack	.69	.19
Lunch	2.32	1.40
P.M. Snack	.69	.19
Supper	2.32	1.40
Evening Snack	.69	.19

The Food Program can be a great support to you in your career as a child care provider. We look forward to working with you and helping you develop a nutrition program that will help your children increase good eating habits (and help you with the cost of providing nutritious foods). If you have any questions, please call us at 918-834-2273.