

September 8, 2021 Board Report

Food and Nutrition Division



Division Overview

- Community and School Nutrition
 - USDA Waivers: NDA elected to continue six USDA nationwide waivers released on April 20, 2021 to provide flexibilities to School Food Authorities (SFAs) and program sponsors/operators through June 30, 2022. In addition, off-site monitoring will remain in effect until 30 days after the end of the public health emergency for state agencies and sponsors.
 - NDA's USDA Child Nutrition Emergency Operational Costs (EOC) Reimbursement Plan, for program sponsors/operators that struggled financially due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, was approved. The reimbursement program is intended to provide financial relief to operators of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), and Child and Adult Care Program (CACFP) that experienced lower revenues during the early stages (March – June 2020) of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
 - Eligible school meal operators are scheduled to receive \$12.4 million in payments to be dispersed in September 2021.
 - Eligible CACFP organizations, family day care homes, and centers are scheduled to receive \$1.5 million in payments to be dispersed in September 2021.
 - 45 of 46 School Nutrition Program operators have elected USDA COVID-19 extended flexibilities to operate the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) program for the 2021-2022 School Year. SSO operators are eligible to serve all children for free and will receive a higher reimbursement rate for reimbursable meals served. School meal program operators are electing additional nationwide flexibilities to serve meals to students learning remotely and to adjust their meal pattern in the event of staffing and supply chain shortages or grab-and-go meal distribution.
- Partnership activities
 - Collaboration with the Division of Public and Behavioral Health's Obesity Steering Committee continues as staff attends quarterly meetings to increase awareness of CACFP and to support other child nutrition efforts in the state.
 - In collaboration with the Food Distribution Program (FDP), the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) has created a Nevada Native Heritage workgroup to discuss preservation of Native heritage and food sovereignty. Participants of the group include UNR Cooperative Extension, Nevada Special Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Tribal liaisons, and Tribal partners.
 - SN continues to work with DHHS-Department of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) and Nevada Department of Education (NDE) on the SY20-21 Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) benefit issuance that is scheduled to begin in September 2021.

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Program Updates

- Community Nutrition (CN)
 - Administrative reviews (AR) completed October 2020 – present:
 - 14 CACFP virtual ARs
 - Nine have been conducted virtually since October 1, 2020.
 - CN Program Data July 1, 2020-July 31, 2021
 - CACFP: 42 sponsors, 2,943,746 meals served
 - SFSP: 39 sponsors, 30,125,710 meals served
 - FY22 Application Renewal Training was conducted for 42 Child and Adult Care Food Program sponsors on July 27, 2021.
- School Nutrition (SN)
 - Administrative and Procurement Reviews (AR, PR) and SSO Program observations were completed remotely via desk audit and use of virtual technology in place of onsite observation due to COVID-19 restrictions.
 - Nine AR, PRs for SY 20-21
 - Twelve SSO Program observations for SY 20-21
 - SN Program Data July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021:
 - Total lunches served: 1,877,644
 - Total breakfasts Served: 1,183,076
 - Snacks served: 175,866
 - Milks served: 58,679
 - Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP): SN completed approval and notification of all 80 FFVP elementary school applicants for SY 21-22. The maximum of \$75 per student per school was awarded this year.
 - NDA submitted a plan for School Meal program operators to receive Pandemic EBT operational cost reimbursements for the 2021 School Year. If approved, 41 school district and charter schools will receive a combined \$91,000 depending on enrollment for their P-EBT-related costs, including determining eligibility, communication, and eligibility data provisions.
- Food Distribution (FD)
 - The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) clients continue to receive food through the Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN) and Three-Square Food Bank (TS). Average monthly participation has started to show signs of decreasing as economic indicators improve but is still above pre-pandemic levels.
 - Total pounds distributed statewide = 21,556,983.
 - July: FBNN 81,023 individuals; TS 220,231 individuals
 - Aug: FBNN 72,908 individuals; TS 216,787 individuals
 - Sept: FBNN 62,803 individuals; TS 200,551 individuals
 - Oct: FBNN 67,057 individuals; TS 241,078 individuals
 - Dec: FBNN 49,033 individuals; TS 202,862 individuals
 - Jan: FBNN 60,875 individuals; TS 141,161 individuals
 - Feb: FBNN 59,534 individuals; TS 228,611 individuals

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- Mar: FBNN 65,974 individuals; TS 186,400 individuals
- April: FBNN 60,068 Individuals; TS 123,825 Individuals
- May: FBNN 64,172 Individuals; TS 94,604 Individuals
- June: FBNN 50,942 Individuals; TS 85,223 Individuals
- Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP): NDA began distributing SFMNP coupon booklets in southern Nevada on May 17, 2021. A total of 4,800 booklets, with \$216,000 in purchasing power, have been distributed to local agency partners throughout the state. Seniors may use the coupons to purchase unprocessed fruits, vegetables and honey from SFMNP-certified farmers. Coupons for southern Nevada can be used for purchases from May through July, and coupons in northern Nevada may be used for purchases from June 15 to September 15.