
Division Overview

Pending matters of significance

- School Nutrition
 - USDA released the proposed rules: Simplifying Meal Service and Monitoring Requirements in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP). The proposed changes are intended to simplify meal patterns and increase flexibility for the operator, reduce food waste, and give state agencies more options in monitoring requirements. The USDA public comment period for this Proposed Rule closes March 23rd, 2020. NDA-Food and Nutrition will submit feedback during this period on the changes.

Partnership activities

- Community Nutrition
 - Nevada Department of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH)
 - The childcare centers and daycare homes that participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) have better quality care and support for healthy meals to reduce childhood obesity compared to centers not participating in the program. The Community Nutrition Specialist is working with the Early Childhood Obesity Steering Committee to increase awareness regarding CACFP for childcare centers. The DPBH and NDA are developing six different brochures/pamphlets targeting Early Care and Education Centers and Homes to increase understanding of the program requirements, advantages, and guidelines in preparing nutritious meals and increase access.
 - DPBH and the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (UNCE)
 - Community Nutrition is collaborating with DPBH and UNCE to develop curriculum and resources for preschools, Head Start programs and childcare homes and centers. UNCE will also present ideas at the annual Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) training regarding activities connecting children to local farmers and foods to increase access and improve meals.
- School Nutrition
 - Las Vegas Raiders
 - The School Nutrition (SN) team facilitated a \$500,000 pledge by the Las Vegas Raiders to pay off all current student meal debt in Nevada at school districts and public charter schools operating federal school lunch and breakfast programs statewide.
 - USDA/Institute of Child Nutrition
 - The Nevada SN program was among nine states selected to participate in Institution of Child Nutrition's S.T.A.R. (Strategies-Training-Action Plans-Resources) Program for Managers in 2020. This is a 12-month

training and formal mentoring program for Food Service managers and site-level supervisors that operate USDA School Nutrition programs to help improve program administration and operations. The Nevada workshop will be hosted in Las Vegas.

- University of Nevada, Reno - Dietetic Internship program
 - The SN program hosted a two-week dietetic internship rotation January 21-31, 2020. The intern gained significant hands on, direct school nutrition experiences at both the NDA-FND office and in a coordinated visit with Washoe County School District Nutrition Services.

Program Updates

- Food Distribution
 - Since July 2019, NDA has provided \$9,501,270 in USDA Trade Mitigation food to our food bank partners Three Square and the Food Bank of Northern Nevada.
 - NDA released the RFP for USDA Foods Processed End Products for the NSLP on February 18th. The RFP is seeking qualified vendors to provide specific food items for school meals throughout the state for the next four years. (Some products included in the RFP: burritos, chicken nuggets, applesauce, brown fried rice, etc.)
 - NDA has allocated \$5 million of entitlement to school districts in SY 19-20 for fresh produce procurement through the USDA Department of Defense (DoD) Fresh program, a significant increase over the \$2.1 million allocated in SY 18-19. This was done in response to Clark County School District increasing its utilization of a greater variety of produce now being offered through DoD Fresh.
- Audit Services
 - Conducted retail price surveys and general store check investigations for 520 locations in the southern and northern marketing areas.
 - Completed 4 Audit Reviews for subrecipients that are *exempt* from Single Audit requirement threshold (total Federal awards received less than \$750,000).
 - Completed 20 Single Audit Reviews for subrecipients that exceeded the requirement threshold for FY 2018 and 2019.
- Food Safety
 - In December 2019, the Food Safety Laboratory underwent its triennial accreditation audit by the FDA as a State Central Milk Laboratory. The audit was satisfactory, and the lab's accreditation was renewed for another three years. Additionally, all three lab analysts were successfully recertified by the FDA to conduct regulatory testing of dairy products for bacteria, somatic cells, antibiotic residues, and pasteurization efficacy. Additional recertifications were obtained for bacteriological testing of dairy waters, glycols, and single-service plastic containers.
 - Food Safety was awarded \$14,306 in FDA grant funds for the 2020 calendar year to provide training for NDA staff who conduct inspections.
 - Staff conducted the following:
 - 77 dairy farm inspections and 22 re-inspections
 - 64 food processing plant inspections and 23 re-inspections

- Milk: 12 bulk milk hauler evaluations, 10 milk plant sampler evaluations and 37 milk tank truck inspections
 - 11 meat and poultry processing facility inspections
 - Samples collected: 47 water samples, 657 dairy samples, 500 brucellosis
 - 9 complaint investigations
 - 79 Store checks for illegal products
 - 42 warning letters were issued, 6 Cease & Desist Orders were issued
 - Food Safety lab conducted 4,055 tests on the following:
 - 2,511 dairy samples tested
 - 47 water samples tested
 - 8 marijuana samples tested
- Community Nutrition
 - CACFP Total Meals Served July – November 2019 (State FY20): 2,492,810
 - Sponsors: 43
 - Child Care and Adult Centers – 1,161,264
 - Head Starts: 322,041
 - Shelters: 7,905
 - Afterschool/Outside Hours Care: 1,001,600
 - SFSP Total Meals Served July – November 2019: 323,678*
 - Sponsors: 29
 - Rural or Self-Prep: 275 sites and 260,958 meals served
 - All others: 97 sites and 62,673 meals served

**The increase in the SFSP meals served was due to the Upward Bound Program at UNLV that continues during weekends throughout the school year. This program offers academic instruction in math, sciences, composition, literature, and foreign languages to high school students from low-income families and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree.*

- School Nutrition
 - The School Nutrition team applied for the 2020 USDA Farm-to-School Grant. FND's proposal included support for determination and identification of locally grown foods, collaborating with local producers and processors, developing a farm-to-school network, delivering training on local procurement, local producer food tasting events at schools, and steps toward implementation of formal farm to school programs.
 - The FND awarded the NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant awards to a record number of Nevada schools in 2019. School nutrition staff will reimburse up to \$258,000 in federal grant funds to 26 school sites for their purchases of new school kitchen equipment over the next two years. This includes walk-in refrigerators, refrigerated salad bars, ovens and sanitizer sinks. The equipment will help them improve or maintain a high level of food safety in their kitchens, serving delicious and nutritious school meals and increasing a school kitchen's capacity of serving more meals to the students.
 - Meals Served: July 1 – October 31, 2019*
 - NSLP: 12,536,825 meals
 - SBP: 7,141,142 meals

- Afterschool Snack Program (ASP): 97,834 snacks
*(*Final meal claim data only available through October, as participating institutions have 60 days to submit.)*

Industry Impact

- TEFAP Trade Mitigation
 - Through the Food Purchase and Distribution Program of the Trade Mitigation package, Nevada food banks and their community partners have received an additional 14 million pounds of food (totaling \$15 million) to date, which effectively tripled the amount of The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) food available in the state. Nevada accepted 100% of Trade Mitigation food offered. Food banks quickly adjusted, opening new distribution sites and providing TEFAP food to an additional 70,000 food-insecure Nevadans who previously couldn't access the program due to the limited availability of TEFAP food. Because the TEFAP network has expanded to accommodate the additional food, there is considerable concern over what will happen when Trade Mitigation ends in December 2020. We are working with our partners in other states to request a USDA-managed transition out of the Trade Mitigation where quantities would be gradually reduced. In addition, we have suggested our food banks try to reduce the number of sites that are overly reliant on Trade Mitigation by combining TEFAP and donated food. This may alleviate needing to close newly opened sites. Both of our food banks opened several mobile distributions to accommodate Trade Mitigation and these sites may be closed if the volume of food is decreased.