



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

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**FISCAL YEAR 2015
CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM
FAMILY DAY CARE HOME SPONSORS MEMORANDUM #14**

TO: Family Day Care Home Sponsors

FROM: Marla J. Moss, Director
Office of School Support Services

DATE: March 2, 2015

SUBJECT: **National Child and Adult Care Food Program Week**

Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has issued a press release announcing National Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Week, March 15-21, 2015.

MDE administers the CACFP and will celebrate and promote the CACFP during this week. The celebration is focused on encouraging parents and child care providers to make healthy eating and physical activity decisions for children. The 2015 theme for the National Child and Adult Care Food Program Week is "Raising Awareness Across the Nation." Research shows that proper nutrition in young children contributes to their physical growth, as well as their intellectual and emotional development.

The News Release is attached. If you have any questions regarding this memorandum, please contact the Child and Adult Care Food Program at 517-373-7391.

Attachment

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National Child and Adult Care Food Program Week March 15-21, 2015

March 2, 2015

LANSING – The Michigan Department of Education, education organizations, and private agencies around the nation will celebrate the National Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Week from March 15-21, 2015.

The 2015 theme for National CACFP Week, “Raising Awareness Across the Nation,” presents an excellent opportunity to emphasize research outcomes that proper nutrition in children not only contributes to their physical growth, but also their intellectual and emotional development. Through the CACFP, good nutrition pays.

CACFP provides federal funds to non-residential child care facilities to serve nutritious meals and snacks. CACFP plays a vital role in improving the quality of child care by making it affordable for many families requiring child care. The goal of the CACFP is to improve and maintain the health and nutritional status of children in care while promoting the development of good eating habits.

Eligible child care facilities include:

- Licensed child care centers
- Head Start Programs
- After-school care programs
- Emergency shelters providing residential and food services to homeless children
- Family child care homes, including relative care providers
- Some private, for-profit child care centers
- Adult Day Service programs

Each year, over 5,000 family and group day care homes and 550 independent centers and sponsors of centers are approved to participate in the CACFP. Each year these institutions serve over 9.2 million breakfasts, 11 million lunches, 15.5 million snacks, and 7 million suppers to children and adults in day care centers, afterschool at-risk programs, and family day care homes participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

CACFP has served admirably for more than 30 years through advanced practices and nutrition education. CACFP is dedicated to the health and well-being of this nation’s and state’s children and has been joined through the years by many other excellent child nutrition programs. There is evidence of the continued need for nutrition education and awareness of the value of child nutrition programs.