USDA Foods and Consortia Facts

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) procures foods through direct appropriations from Congress, and under surplus-status and price-support activities. The foods are distributed to State Agencies for use by School Food Authorities (SFA) participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). On average, USDA Foods make up approximately 20 percent of the foods served at participating agencies in the form of beef, pork, fish, poultry, dairy, fruits, vegetables, oil, and grain. Some of those items are delivered in raw form, while others are diverted to a manufacturer for further processing (chicken patties, pizza, cheeses, etc).

To receive USDA Foods, Michigan SFA's will choose one of three consortia when completing their Next Generation Grant, Application and Case Management (NEXSYS) Coordinated application for NSLP. Membership in a consortium is a commitment for a period of one year. Each consortium procures the distribution, warehousing, and processing of USDA Foods and Department of Defense (DoD) Fresh Fruit and Vegetables for all school districts in its consortium. Schools that join a consortium will preorder USDA Foods beginning as early as November for delivery during the upcoming school year. Entitlement used for these purchases is calculated using prior year lunch counts multiplied by the current commodity entitlement rate. For further program information, contact Jaime Malnar at malnarj1@michigan.gov or fmfd-mde@michigan.gov.

Questions regarding the consortia should be directed at the contacts listed below:

Great Lakes Consortium (GLC)
Karen Watson - 800-632-4572 or glc_administrator@hpsnet.com
Nancy LaFave – 906-789-5597 or nlafave@eskymos.com
Distributor: Gordon Food Service (GFS)
GLC Website/PAL Report Location: https://glc.hpsusdafoods.org/

Macomb Oakland RESA (MOR)
Chuck Wolford – 734-740-2915 or charles@pcg-pro.com
Austin Brown – 517-740-2036 or austin@pcg-pro.com
Joy Hartman – 586-703-2285 or hartman@redfordu.k12.mi.us
Distributor: VanEerden
MOR PAL Report Location: http://veorders.vaneerden.com/

School Purchasing and Resource Consortium (SPARC)
Lori Adkins – 248-770-3184 or lori@pcg-pro.com
Allison Serr – 248-982-5882 or Allison.Serr@fraserk12.org
Distributor: SYSCO Food Service
SPARC Website/PAL Report Location: www.michigansparc.com