Statewide CACFP Conference Recap
Over 100 CACFP Sponsors joined KSDE for a Statewide Conference in early November where attendees learned about leading the way in creating healthier childcare environments. Participants who attended the pre-conference training, Let’s Talk About It…Grains to Ounce Equivalents, reported they felt more confident in identifying and serving whole grain-rich items as well as in their ability to calculate the grains component using ounce equivalents as a result of attending the training. Did you miss the opportunity to attend? Watch for regional spring training dates for Grains 101 where attendees will learn about calculating ounce equivalents, identifying whole grains and grain-based desserts. Training dates and locations will be announced in a future update.

Important Reminder
All claims for reimbursement must be certified. On the claims tab in KN-Claim after you have entered a claim(s) and uploaded a for-profit roster, if applicable, click on the pencil icon on the Sponsor Claim line. Scroll down to the bottom and check the box that says “I certify…”. Then click Save and Exit.

Training Opportunities
Jump Start for Centers
Jump Start for Centers is required for all new authorized representatives of centers and recommended for new support staff who provide assistance to the authorized representative. The classes are repeated through the year. The schedule and registration information is at www.kn-eat.org, CACFP, Training. The next class will be December 11 in Topeka. This free training class includes sessions on CACFP Administrative Integrity and Meals Done Right.

Online Professional Development Classes and Tutorials
CNW staff continue to develop new interactive online training classes and quick train tutorials that can be accessed free of charge 24/7 via the KSDE Training Portal. CACFP Family Style Meal Service and the PY2019 CACFP Administrative Workshop are now available online. The professional development classes offer a certificate upon successful completion which can be printed. Quick train tutorials are 5 minutes or less with no quiz and no certificate. Create an account now at https://learning.ksde.org and see the entire list of classes and tutorials available. For detailed instructions on creating an account and accessing the training, go to www.kn-eat.org, CACFP, Training.

Increasing Flexibility for Verification of For-Profit Center Eligibility in the CACFP
In a Federal Register notice published on October 4, 2018, USDA announced a proposed rule that would exempt for-profit centers from monthly verification if they annually demonstrate that at least 50 percent of children or adults served are eligible under relevant statutory provisions. Comments must be received on or before December 4, 2018.

It’s Time to Start Planning!
What can you do to celebrate National CACFP Week - March 17-23, 2019?
**Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs Interactive Web-Based Tool Enhancements!**

On November 1, FNS released new enhancements to the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (FBG) Interactive Web-Based Tool. The following enhancements are specific to the Recipe Analysis Workbook (RAW) which now has the following capabilities: allow an existing RAW to be copied and easily recreated for multiple serving sizes; include the total vegetable amount with a breakdown of vegetable subgroup amounts on the meal pattern contribution statement; and create a notes section. This release also includes the addition of three preschool meal pattern charts. The Food Buying Guide Interactive Tool may be accessed at [https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/](https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/).

**Hunger Action Summits**

Nearly 15% of Kansas households lack consistent access to food. To eliminate hunger in our state, Kansans would need an additional $185,071,000 in their combined household budgets. By helping more Kansas kids participate in school meals and other Child Nutrition Programs, YOUR actions can reduce hunger in Kansas. Make plans to join Kansas Appleseed on **Monday, December 10 in Hays OR Friday, January 25 in Topeka** for an engaging workshop to learn how you can make an impact in your community. More details coming soon. Contact Joey Hentzler (jhentzler@kansasappleseed.org) at Kansas Appleseed with any questions.

**Healthier CACFP Award**

Be one of the first childcare centers or daycare home providers in Kansas to be recognized for the Healthier CACFP Award! Are you looking for a way to promote your child care program and stand out from all others? The *Healthier Child and Adult Care Food Program Award* is a USDA recognition system which supports child care centers and daycare home providers taking steps to improve the nutrition, physical activity, nutrition education and/or environment for children in their care. Apply today to win an award! Those who qualify will receive statewide recognition as a Healthier CACFP Award Winner and a certificate to showcase the award at their site. In addition, the first 20 Healthier CACFP Awarded sites in Kansas will receive a monetary award of **$300/child care center or $100/daycare home**! For more information on the criteria and/or for assistance with applying, contact Emily Brinkman at ebrinkman@ksde.org or (785) 296-2276.

**Sunflower Spotlight**

The Sponsor listed below will be featured in our November Sunflower Spotlight at [www.kn-eat.org](http://www.kn-eat.org), Child & Adult Care Food Program, Recognition.

**Day Care Connection**, a Sponsor of Day Care Homes, wanted to make the requirement to keep yogurt, cereal and whole grain labels easy and fun as to not overwhelm day care homes that participate in the CACFP. In response, they created “Labels for Loot”. Each day care home was mailed a plastic baggie with a “Labels for Loot” sticker on the front along with a half page information sheet. The information sheet provided directions to cut and store yogurt, cereal and whole grain labels inside of the provided bag and to keep the baggie in a location that would make the labels easily accessible during a home visit. Valerie Cable, Executive Director, states that, “so far Labels for Loot has been met quite favorably and providers are finding it easy to use the baggies to store their labels.”

**Staffing Update**

Julie Henry has been promoted to an Assistant Director position on the Child Nutrition & Wellness Team. Julie has a Bachelor of Science in Family and Consumer Science Education, a Bachelor of Science in Family Studies and Human Services as well as a Master of Science in Education. Her work experiences have included Food Service Director at Baldwin City Public Schools, Parent Educator and Coordinator for the Parents as Teachers Program, 8th Grade Family & Consumer Sciences Teacher and Director of Operations for a Technology Company. Congratulations Julie!
Healthy Holidays!
Happy & healthy holidays from the Child Nutrition & Wellness team! Please call or email your area Child Nutrition Consultant or any of the Topeka office staff if you have questions or for technical assistance!