CACFP-245

Subject: Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP): Adult Day Care Plans of Care

To: STATE AGENCY DIRECTORS (Special Nutrition Programs) -
    Colorado DH, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri DH,
    Montana DHES, Nebraska ED, North Dakota,
    South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming ED

As a result of questions at the National CACFP meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, there appears to be different and conflicting interpretations as to the need for adult day care centers to have plans of care for non-impaired enrolled adults 60 years of age or older.

To require an individual have a plan of care on file who is a nonfunctionally impaired person 60 years of age or older is a meaningless and unnecessarily burdensome requirement. While the nature of adult day care centers participating in the CACFP (i.e., centers that provide a structured, comprehensive program of health, social and related support services for functionally impaired individuals) would make it very likely that they would have an individual plan of care for each enrollee, FNS believes that it is not necessary for them to have one for non-impaired enrollees 60 years of age or over. They must, however, have a plan for each impaired enrollee.

There has been concern expressed by some who feel that such a change in policy will permit centers which provide recreational, social or other services to non-impaired individuals to be admitted to the CACFP. However, this should not happen since Program regulations state that: "Adult day care centers shall provide a community-based group program designed to meet the needs of functionally impaired adults through an individual plan of care. Such a program shall be a structured, comprehensive program that provides a variety of health, social and related support services to enrolled adult participants." Based on that regulatory definition, centers participating in the Program will, in general, care for functionally impaired adults who must have plans of care. A non-impaired adult 60 years of age or older may be enrolled at the center, but such an adult would be the exception, rather than the rule. For CACFP purposes, the center need not have a plan of care for those non-impaired adults.

Please feel free to contact our office at (303) 844-0359 for any questions you may have.

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