Subject: Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Partnership with Fellowship of Christian Cowboys

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

We recently met with the Fellowship of Christian Cowboys (FCC) that is headquartered in Colorado Springs to discuss the possibility of a partnership in the SFSP in Fiscal Year (FY) 2004. Rodeo Bible Camps currently operate in all States, except for Utah, in the Mountain Plains Region.

As a result of our meeting, the FCC has agreed to promote a partnership between its Rodeo Bible Camps and the SFSP in FY 2004. The FCC reported that a number of Rodeo Bible Camps operated in 27 States. The FCC is looking forward to promoting that meals served to campers meets all USDA requirements in the SFSP.

Rodeo Bible Camps are residential camps that operate from 3 – 4 days. Income levels for families with children attending the camps are generally mixed. The attendance at the camps averages about 50 children. Meal facilities vary, but may include an outside, chuck wagon cooking arrangement.

Discussions between our office and the FCC centered on the short duration of camp operation and the volunteer staff at the Rodeo Bible Camps. Because of the unique character of these camps, if an experienced SFSP sponsor would consider taking an agreement with the Rodeo Bible Camp as a site, it could be mutually advantageous if locations are not too distant for the sponsor and site. This year Rodeo Bible Camps are proposing to participate in the SFSP as sites if possible, or as a sponsor, if an experienced SFSP sponsor is not available.

The FCC is also contacting “sister” churches to arrange for a modified Rodeo Bible Camp to operate as a day camp in an urban setting. These urban day camps will emphasize ways for children to grow in their faith as well as learn some cowboy skills such as roping with a hay bale roping dummy.
Attached for your information are two FCC flyers. One flyer provides general information about the FCC and the other provides general information about Rodeo Bible Camps. Also enclosed is a listing of FCC Chapters and the states in which they are located as of November, 2003.

We provided State Agency contacts and phone numbers for all states to the FCC. We would appreciate if your SFSP staff would work with FCC camp volunteers if your SA is contacted about operating the SFSP as either a site or sponsor. If you have any questions, please contact my staff at 303-844-0354.

DARLENE SANCHEZ
Regional Director
Special Nutrition Programs

Attachments