



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Nutrition Service

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria, VA
22302-1500

December 21, 2001

SUBJECT: Recruiting For-Profit Centers to Participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

TO: Regional Directors
Child Nutrition Programs
All Regions

As you are aware, the fiscal year 2002 Department of Agriculture appropriations legislation (Public Law 107-76), enacted on November 28, 2001, extended the free and reduced price provision for for-profit centers in the CACFP through September 30, 2002. The intent of this extension was to increase Program benefits offered to low-income children by expanding the eligibility requirements for proprietary centers.

The Committee Reports, which accompanied the appropriations bill, encourage "States (to) conduct outreach to recruit new providers into the CACFP program through the 25 percent free and reduced-price meal eligibility criteria option." Additionally, the Reports encourage States to pool title XX funds to further maximize access to CACFP meals. Consistent with this expression of Congressional interest in making the CACFP available to for-profit centers, we are asking State agencies to work with eligible for-profit centers in their State to ensure their participation in the CACFP, either under the free and reduced price provision or the title XX provision contained in section 17(a)(2)(B)(ii) of the National School Lunch Act. We are also asking States which do not pool their title XX funds to continue to work towards this goal.

Please share this information with your States. With your support, we look forward to bringing these vital benefits to more children.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Stanley C. Garnett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

STANLEY C. GARNETT
Director
Child Nutrition Division