

## **CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THE CHILD CARE FOOD PROGRAM**

- 1853 The Children's Aid Society of New York provided this country's first school service program.
- 1913 There were thirty cities with school food service programs, most of them operated by charities.
- 1930 The federal government stepped in with financial aid and surplus agriculture.
- 1946 The 79<sup>th</sup> Congress passed the National School Lunch Act and established the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). The government guidelines, established at this time, defined nutritional requirements.
- 1962 The Act was amended to make the program more effective by providing free or reduced-priced lunches to children. Although authorized in 1962, this amendment was not funded until 1966.
- 1965 Government began providing support for child care feeding programs within child care centers. This was the forerunner of the Child Care Food Program.
- 1966 With the passage of the Child Nutrition Act, a pilot breakfast program was started.
- 1968 Congress instituted the Child Care Food Program as part of the Child Nutrition Program, to improve nutritional status and prevent disease in children attending child care centers.
- 1975 Public Law 9-105 expanded the program to include state licensed family child care homes and all private or public non-profit child care facilities, including those serving non-needy areas. Participating family child care homes needed the sponsorship of a qualified institution or organization.
- 1976 Amendments were passed which did the following:
1. Established the Nutrition Education and Training (NET) Program; which provides Nutrition training for food service personnel and child care facilities.
  2. Revised the summer feeding program into the Summer Food Service.
  3. Strengthened the administration of the NSLP and required greater accountability of program funds.
  4. Gave the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to regulate the sale of competitive foods in schools, including such items as soda water, frozen desserts, candy, and chewing gum until the end of the last lunch period.
- 1977 The Child Care Food Program became permanent by Public Law 94-627. The program was modified in three major areas:
1. The cash was changed from an income to a reimbursement.
  2. Reimbursements for each child changed to a flat rate in family child care homes, regardless of family income.
  3. Sponsoring agency administration expenses would be paid by USDA.

1980 The Child Care Food Program expanded to allow adults in adult day care centers to participate. The name was then changed to the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

1996 Welfare reform legislation is enacted that creates significant changes to the CACFP.

1997 A two-tier system of reimbursement is implemented.

Presently, research continues to prove that proper nutrition in young children not only contributes to their physical growth, but to their intellectual and emotional development as well.

#### **THE GOALS OF THE CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM:**

- To ensure that well-balanced, nutritious meals are served to children and to help children learn to eat a wide variety of foods as part of a balanced diet.

#### **THE PROGRAM SERVES:**

- Children under the age of 13
- Migrant workers children, age 15 and under
- Physically or mentally disabled persons receiving care in a family child care home, child care group home or child care center where most participants are 18 years old or younger.
- Adults who are functionally impaired or over the age of 60, and unable to care for themselves

#### **DAY CARE HOME PARTICIPATION:**

- Family day care homes must follow Licensing or Approval requirements.
- Family day care homes must participate through a sponsoring organization.

#### **SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS:**

- Sponsors must be either private or public non-profit agencies or state and local governments, and have the staff and expertise necessary to provide nutrition and fiscal services to the family day care home community.