

## DID YOU KNOW?



On average, 2.5 million children per day receive nutritious meals and snacks at the more than 200,000 licensed or approved Child Care centers or family child care homes, which participate in the Child Care Food Program. Children in childcare facilities participating in the Child Care Food Program receive meals, which provide them with the nutrients they need for healthy growth and development.

But children enrolled in the Child Care Food Program receive something more as well; According to a report issued by the Work and Families Institute, family child care homes participating in the Child Care Food Program provide higher quality *care* to children-not just better meals, but higher quality care as measured by a number of different indicators. Both the General Accounting Office and Columbia University's National Center for Children attribute this higher quality of care to the additional training and monitoring provided under the Program. That means that the Child Care Food Program is more than a nutrition assistance program, it is also an important part of the nations' childcare infrastructure.