



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health – Women’s & Children’s Health Section
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Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor

Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary
SFSP 09-10
CACFP 09-14

September 4, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Sponsors Participating in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
Institutions Participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

FROM: Arnette Cowan, MS, RD, LDN 
Head, Special Nutrition Programs
Nutrition Services Branch

SUBJECT: Excessive SFSP and CACFP Meals

This memorandum serves as a reminder for SFSP sponsors and CACFP institutions to avoid food waste and make use of excess food, including donation of leftovers to other organizations.

Sponsors and institutions should make every effort to keep food waste to a minimum. When sites/ facilities experience situations of leftover foods, they should promptly adjust orders to more accurately reflect the actual number of participants. Despite these efforts, however, on occasion, sites/facilities may actual have excess food. In this situation, sponsors and institutions should exhaust all alternatives permitted by the State, local health and sanitation codes before discarding food. Options may include offering “sharing tables,” transferring meals to other approved sites, and refrigerating the food for the next-day’s use. Sponsors and institutions are also encouraged to consider donating excess food.

Food donations made by SFSP sites and CACFP facilities can provide a valuable resource to organizations working to address hunger in local communities, such as homeless shelters, food banks, and panties. Although donated meals may not be claimed for reimbursement in either the SFSP or CACFP, food donation avoids unnecessary waste and can save expensive disposal and/or storage costs. Additionally, by collaborating with other hunger organizations, SFSP sponsors and CACFP institutions can expand the reach of these important programs and build network that better serve the local communities

Please contact your regional consultant with questions.

cc: SNP Staff
Auditors



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