**Celebrating and Recognizing the Child and Adult Care Food Program: National CACFP Week!**

**March 12-18, 2017**

The week of March 12 - 18, 2017 is National CACFP Week! The Child and Adult Care Program (CACFP) is a federally-funded program through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) that provides reimbursement for healthy meals and snacks served to children, youth and adults that are in homes, child care centers, adult day care centers, after school programs and emergency shelters. The CACFP strives to combat hunger and bring healthy foods to underserved populations. National CACFP Week is a time to raise awareness of this USDA program and its great benefits!

The new Revised CACFP Meal Pattern was published in 2016 and will be effective October 1, 2017. CACFP has helped provide and make healthy food choices more affordable to thousands of people.

In 2016, Missouri CACFP provided the following number of meals:

* 26,098,387 meals to children in Child Care Centers
* 2,760,795 meals to children in the At-Risk Afterschool Programs
* 6,839,161 meals to children in Child Care Homes
* 740,275 meals to adults in the Adult Day Care Centers

Here are some Best Practices for CACFP along with information on the New Meal Pattern!

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