View this email in your browser

Click Here for your January Training Module

If you use a yahoo email address please send all correspondence and forms to swhumandev@gmail.com - 030367

The issue affecting our Toll Free number has been resolved. If you would like to contact the Austin office you can now use 1-800-369-9082 or our Toll Free Fax 1-888-467-1455

Dear Providers,

This has a been a rough year for everyone and its finally coming to close with great news of vaccine availability on the horizon! We at Southwest hope everyone is having a safe holiday season and we wish everyone a very Happy New Year! 2021 brings hope with it and we look forward to working with you and helping you make it great. Here are your notes for January. This month it's a little different. Below are links to surveys that allow you to provide your feedback regarding rules and regulations that affect you.

Make Your Voice Heard!

Child Care Regulations and Texas Workforce Commission each have opportunities for Child Care Providers and stakeholders to share their voice with state agencies. See below for more information and deadlines to make your opinion heard.

Public Comment Period Open for Proposed Minimum Standard Rule Changes on Physical Activity, Nutrition, and Screen Time

The public comment period is **November 20 through December 21, 2020** for the proposed rule changes for physical activity, nutrition, and screen time in:

- <u>Chapter 744</u>, Minimum Standards for School-Age and Before or After-School Programs
- Chapter 746, Minimum Standards for Child-Care Centers
- <u>Chapter 747</u>, Minimum Standards for Child-Care Homes

To see the proposed changes, go to the <u>HHSC webpage for Comments on</u> Proposed Rules or to the Texas Register.

Send your comments on the proposed rule changes by Dec. 21 to Child Care Regulation by one of the following methods:

- E-mail HHS Child Care Licensing Rules
- Mail to Aimee Belden, Rules Writer (20R024), Child Care Regulation, Texas Health and Human Services Commission E-550, P.O. Box 149030, Austin, Texas 78714-9030

When sending your comment(s), please include the specific rule number you are commenting on. This will help ensure your comment is reviewed and considered appropriately.

Provide Feedback by Completing the Day Care Minimum Standards Review Survey

Human Resources Code Chapter 42 requires the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to conduct a comprehensive review of all rules and standards at least every six years. Your input is important.

Provide your input by completing the Day Care Minimum Standards Review Survey. Survey responses are accepted through December 31, 2020.

Participation is not required, but your input is requested and valued.

The survey:

- Includes focused questions for specific minimum standards.
- Allows you to provide feedback on any specific standard you feel needs clarification or deletion.
- Allows you to provide feedback on any additions you would like to see.

You may contact msc@hhsc.state.tx.us with any problems accessing the survey online. HHSC will keep you posted on more opportunities to comment on the Minimum Standards.

Child Care Regulation Minimum Standards Review Survey

Your Input for TWC's CCDF State Plan

Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) is developing the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) State Plan for Fiscal Years 2022-2024. The CCDF State Plan will outline the policies, strategies, and vision for the child care

program, including the subsidy program and Texas Rising Star.

They need to hear from YOU! To develop the 2022-2024 CCDF State Plan, TWC is seeking input from child care providers, parents, and other stakeholders across Texas.

Please complete the <u>Stakeholder Survey</u> in English or Spanish to give TWC your opinion. This survey is available until January 7, 2021.

Stakeholder Survey- English

Encuesta a las partes interesadas - Español

The coronavirus pandemic continues to devastate child care programs, affecting children, families, and economies across the country. To understand the depth of the ongoing crisis and the extreme measures child care providers have taken to stay open as long as they can, NAEYC surveyed thousands of programs across states and settings between November 13 and 29, 2020. For access to the national analysis, and prior survey data and analyses from March, May, and July 2020, visit NAEYC's website.

View Survey Analysis

2021 Calendars are still available. Click Here to order yours today!

Covid-19 Resource Page

Food Program Resources:

CACFP Crediting Handbook

CACFP Reimbursement Rates

Income Standards For Determining Program Eligibility

WIC Eligibility Information

Click Here to connect with us on Facebook!

Visit our Website at www.swhuman.org

Annual Training - Online Portal

Infant Feeding Guide Order Form or Click Here to view PDF. Your Local Rep can also drop one off at your next visit!

Interested in Direct Deposit? Click Here

Provider Handbook (Español) | Annual Training Packet (Español)

Help with Scantron Forms

Kidkare is now offering eForms! Enroll kids and have the parents sign and activate them all online! If you are interested email the Austin office at info@swhuman.org or call us at 1-800-369-9082 to enable your account! <u>Click Here</u> to learn more about eForms.

Click here for Upcoming Workshops

Upcoming Workshop Dates: Due to Covid-19 all Workshops have been cancelled until further notice. In order to complete your training visit our Online Training Portal

News From Cacfp.org:

Take a survey to be entered to win one of 100 gift cards valued at \$100 each! Participate in a nationwide survey of <u>#CACFP</u> Sponsors and Providers being conducted by the

UIC School of Public Health

for a chance to win a \$100 gift card. Share your experiences, challenges and needs related to providing meals and snacks to children during the #COVID19 pandemic to help guide future training and technical assistance programming. Take the survey: https://redcap.link/cacfpcovid20

Turn whole wheat pancakes into your kids' favorite jolly old elf!

Sift 1 1/3 c whole wheat flour, 1 1/2 tsp baking powder, 1/4 tsp salt and 1/4 tsp baking powder in a bowl. In a separate bowl, mix 1 large egg, 3 tsp brown sugar, 1 1/3 c buttermilk and 1 tbsp vegetable oil. Combine with flour mixture.

For each pancake, pour 1/4 cup of the batter onto a sprayed and heated griddle or skillet. The recipe makes 12 servings.

Then, decorate your pancake with bananas, rasperries and grape halves (or fruits of your choosing) to make Santa! #CACFP

Got any socks lying around that are missing their mates? Make this super easy and cute sock snowman! All you need is a sock, some string, rice or a stuffing material of your choice, a child-safe marker, and some fabric or a ribbon. First, cut the foot off a spare sock and save it for later. Turn the sock inside out, and tie off where you just cut. Then, turn the sock back out and fill it with your stuffing. Tie off the top of the sock and also tie off a section for a head. Roll up the leftover part of the sock to make your snowman's hat, and use some ribbon or fabric to make a scarf. Draw a face and buttons with a child-safe marker, and your snowman is complete! (Click Here for Image Instructions) #CACFP

Read Aloud

15 MINUTES is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that is working to make reading aloud every day for at least 15 minutes the new standard in child care. What favorite books do your #CACFP kids love to hear? #CACFPally

Click Here for this Months Parent Provider Connection Letter!

Team Nutrition

Team Nutrition is an initiative of the USDA Food and Nutrition Service to support the child nutrition programs through training and technical assistance for food service, nutrition education for children and their caregivers, and school and community support for healthy eating and physical activity.

Team Nutrition Resources for Child Care

Mealtime Memo:

Mealtime Memo for Child Care offers information for child care providers participating in

the Child and Adult Care Food Program, focused on good nutrition for young children.

Click here for the latest issue!

Mystery provider: Every Month there will be a provider ID hidden in this email somewhere. If you find your 6 digit ID call or email us and we will send you a prize!!

Yahoo Email Users:

Yahoo.com will occasionally block our mail server from receiving your emails. If you have a yahoo email account and have noticed we are not receiving your submissions, please use our alternate email address swhumandev@gmail.com. Also if you have a non-yahoo alternate email address please call 1-800-369-9082 or send the new address to emailupdate@swhuman.org

Our email campaign is designed to help keep our providers up to date with any news, changes or any unforeseen payment delays. If your email changes please send us the update at emailupdate@swhuman.org.

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement





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