

# Building for the Future

This child care center/facility receives Federal cash assistance to serve healthy meals to your children. Good Nutrition today means a stronger tomorrow!

Meals served here must meet nutrition requirements established by USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program

Questions? Concerns?  
Call USDA at 1-800-795-3272

or

Special Nutrition Programs at 1-800-982-3261

or

Your child care center's/facility's contracting organization at

SOUTHWEST HUMAN DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, INC  
1-800-369-9082

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# Nos preparamos para el futuro

Este centro de cuidado de niños recibe asistencia económica federal para servir comidas nutritivas a sus hijos. La Buena nutrición hoy significa un mañana más saludable.

Las comidas que se sirven aquí tienen que cumplir con los requisitos de nutrición establecidos por el Programa de Alimentos para Adultos y Niños del Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos (USDA).

¿Tiene preguntas o inquietudes?  
Comuníquese con el USDA al 1-800-795-3272

o

el Programa Especial de Nutrición al 1-800-982-3261

o

la organización que contrata al centro de cuidado de niños de su hijo al

SOUTHWEST HUMAN DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, INC  
1-800-369-9082

Conforme a la ley federal y a la política del Departamento de Agricultura de Estados Unidos (USDA), se prohíbe a esta institución discriminar por raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, edad o discapacidad. Para presentar una queja por discriminación, escriba al USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 o llame al 1-800-795-3272 o al 202-720-6382 (TTY). El USDA es un proveedor y empleador que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades.

**SOUTHWEST HUMAN DEVELOPMENT SERVICES  
USDA CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM**

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Your family day care provider participates in the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program under the sponsorship of Southwest Human Development Services, a private non-profit agency dedicated to providing quality services to the children of our state. This federal program ensures that each child in the sponsored home receives or is offered the USDA minimum meal requirements during day care operations (see reverse side for meal patterns and serving sizes).

**Eligibility Applications for Non-Residential Children**

The Food Program reimburses your family day care for a portion of their expenses for food served to the children in care. The meal reimbursement rates your provider receives will vary according to qualification of your day care provider as 1) a low-income provider, 2) a provider serving an area defined as low-income by school or census data, or 3) a provider who serves low-income children. If your provider or your child does not meet eligibility standards, your provider will receive a lower reimbursement for the meals served to the children in her care. Your provider may adjust her day care rates based on the meal rates she receives from our agency.

Your provider also has the option of distributing Child Nutrition Program Applications (Form 1531-H) to all or selected children in her care for us to determine if these children are eligible for a higher meal rate. Please see the accompanying chart "Income Standards for Determining Eligibility" and/or the "List of Federal/State Funded Programs with Eligibility Requirements which Match the CACFP" to see if your family meets these requirements. If you believe your child may qualify for a higher meal rate, please follow the attached instructions and complete and submit the yellow Child Nutrition Program Application for each child under the age of thirteen in the provider's care. All applications must be mailed directly to our office in the attached envelope to assure strict confidentiality of your income information.

**Parent's Rights and Responsibilities**

Voluntary Application Process: You are not required to complete and submit eligibility applications for your children. Your provider will still receive a partial reimbursement for your children's meals regardless of your household income. If your provider is eligible for a higher meal rate based on the income or category eligibility of your child, she will receive a higher payment for her meal service.

No Separate Charges: The Program rules do not allow the family day care provider to charge you separate fees for meal service, nor ask you to provide food the meals served to your child who is claimed under the Program. Day care fees that you are charged for service cover the cost for your child's care and the food costs not reimbursed to the provider.

Doctor's Statement: If your child is allergic to foods required by the Program (i.e., milk), it is necessary for you to provide a medical statement from the child's pediatrician or physician stating this condition and recommending food substitutes. Please give this statement to the provider so she may forward it to our offices. Religious and ethnic diet variations are respected. The reverse side of this letter indicates the federal meal patterns to be followed for the meal types and age groups.

Verification of Participation: The Texas Department of Agriculture's Special Nutrition Programs rules require our agency to contact parents or guardians to confirm participation of children on the Program. Ten percent of all participating day care providers are selected by TDA each year for verification.

Questions or Complaints ? If you have any questions, complaints or suggestions about the Program, its operation, or your family day care provider's meal service, please do not hesitate to contact Brenda Baldwin, Southwest Human Development Services, Inc., P.O. Box 28487, Austin, TX 78755-8487, 512-467-7916/1-800-369-9082. All inquiries are confidential.

*Non-Discrimination: In the administration of federal child nutrition programs, children are not discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, handicap, religion or political creed. If you believe discrimination exists, write immediately to: USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call 1-800-795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 TTDY*