

Child Care Food Program for Child Care Centers

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (**CACFP**) is a federal program funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). It is administered by the VT Department of Education & sponsored locally by Child Care Resource. The goal of the CACFP is to ensure that children are receiving nutritious meals and snacks while in child care.

The CACFP is open to licensed child care centers. The CACFP staff at Child Care Resource will facilitate your center's enrollment, train your staff, assist with meal planning, and process your reimbursement checks on a monthly basis. You will receive the resources and continuing support that will help to make your program a success!

It Pays To Participate!

- Participating centers receive a cash reimbursement toward child care food expenses.
- Child Care Resource's CACFP staff will administer much of the paperwork associated with the program and train your staff at your site.
- You will have access to our resource library of cookbooks, nutrition curriculum and general nutrition materials.
- You will receive delicious recipe ideas and creative activities for use by your staff and the children in your care.
- You will receive 3 on-site visits each year from our friendly and knowledgeable staff.

Children Benefit!

Children's brains develop rapidly during the first five years of life. Children who are exposed to good nutrition in these formative years:

- Are more likely to develop life long healthy eating habits.
- Children who are exposed to a variety of foods are less likely to be "picky eaters".
- Are less likely to experience frequent illnesses
- Learn important social skills by sharing meals with family, friends and teachers.
- Learn and perform better in school, as reported by several child health studies.

Parents Benefit!

- Many parents view child care centers that offer meals and snack as providing quality care.
- Busy parents do not need to pack snacks and lunches.
- Parents are assured that their children are eating healthy meals and snacks while they are in your care.

If you are interested in learning more about the CACFP or are interested in joining this amazing program call or email Nancy DeCoster at (802)863-3367 ext. 23 or ndecoster@childcareresource.org.