## **Meal Time Made Easy**

What does meal time look like in your child care program? Do children sit together to share healthy meals and snacks? Or do you and your teachers spend this time opening lunch boxes and heating up food brought from home? If meal time is not as easy as you would like, the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) can help!

The CACFP is open to all registered child care homes, legally exempt child care (LECC) providers, qualifying licensed child care centers and after school programs. Programs that enroll in the CACFP agree to follow basic meal and attendance guidelines. In return, participating programs can be paid for the meals and snacks they serve to the children in their care. Programs can choose to serve or "claim" up to two meals and one snack per child/per day. Yes, you can serve healthy foods and be paid to do it!

The benefits of joining the CACFP are far reaching! Participating in the CACFP is a sign of quality to parents. Parents love the convenience of not packing lunches and snacks every day. More importantly, parents are reassured with the knowledge that their children are eating healthy meals and snacks while they are in your care.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) please contact us!

<u>Registered Child Care Homes and LECC Providers</u> contact: Anna Graham (802) 863-3367 x 132 or <u>agraham@childcareresource.org</u>

<u>Child Care Centers and After School Programs</u> contact: Rachel Warden (802) 863-3367 x 123 or <u>rwarden@childcareresource.org</u>

