

STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

CITIZENS PLAZA BUILDING 400 DEADERICK STREET NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-1403

TELEPHONE: 615-313-4700 FAX: 615-741-4165 TTY: 1-800-270-1349 www.tn.gov/humanservices

BILL HASLAM

GOVERNOR

DANIELLE W. BARNES

COMMISSIONER

March 21, 2018

Sloan Stewart, Board Chair South Central Human Resources Agency Post Office Box 638 Fayetteville, Tennessee 37334-2757

Dear Mr. Stewart.

The Department of Human Services (DHS) – Division of Audit Services staff conducted an unannounced on-site monitoring review of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) at South Central Human Resources Agency (Sponsor), Application Agreement number 00-501, on February 14, 2018. Additional information was requested and provided on February 14, 2018. The purpose of this review was to determine if the Sponsor complied with the *Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) applicable parts, provider agreement, and applicable Federal and State regulations.

Based on our review of the Sponsor's records and information provided, the Sponsor had 23 feeding sites operating during January 2018. Marshall County Head Start I, South Lawrence Head Start, and Perry County Head Start feeding sites were selected as the sample sites.

Background

CACFP Sponsors utilize meal count sheets to record the number of breakfast, lunch, supper, and supplement meals served. Meals served by participating Sponsors must meet the minimum guidelines set by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and DHS to be eligible for reimbursement. The CACFP Sponsor reports the number of meals served through the DHS Tennessee Information Payment System (TIPS) to seek reimbursement. We inspected meal counts sheets for our test period and reconciled the meals claimed to the meals reported as served for each meal service. We also assessed compliance with civil rights requirements. In addition, we observed a lunch meal served at Marshall County Head Start I on January 22, 2018, a breakfast meal served at Perry County Head Start on January 23, 2018, and a lunch meal served at South Lawrence Head Start on January 23, 2018. We also attempted to observe a lunch meal service at Lawrenceburg Head Start/Early Head Start on January 23, 2018, but the site was not in operation due to a plumbing issue.

Our review of the Sponsor's records for January 2018 disclosed no significant deficiencies.

Technical Assistance Provided

The Sponsor was offered and declined technical assistance.

We appreciate the assistance provided during this review. If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Sean Baker, Audit Director 2, at 615-313-4727 or Sean.Baker@tn.gov.

Sincerely.

Sam O. Alzoubi, CFE Director of Audit Services

Exhibits

cc: Paul Rosson, Executive Director, South Central Human Resources Agency Allette Vayda, Director of Operations, Child and Adult Care Food Program Debra Pasta, Program Manager, Child and Adult Care Food Program Elke Moore, Administrative Services Assistant 3, Child and Adult Care Food Program Constance Moore, Program Specialist, Child and Adult Care Food Program Marty Widner, Program Specialist, Child and Adult Care Food Program Comptroller of the Treasury, State of Tennessee

Exhibit A

Sponsor of Centers Meals Program Data

Sponsor: South Central Human Resources Agency

Review Month/Year: January 2018 Total Reimbursement: \$37,165.13

Site Meal Service Reconciliation and Monitor Activity	Reported on Claim	Reconciled to Documentation
Number of Days that CACFP Food Service was operated	12	12
Number of Sites	23	23
Total Attendance	6,389	6,389
Number of Breakfasts	6,053	6,053
Number of Lunches Served	6,200	6,200
Number of Supplements Served	5,801	5,801

Exhibit B

Sample Site Data

Site: Marshall County Head Start I

Month: January 2018

Site Meal Service Reconciliation and Monitor Activity	Reported on Claim	Reconciled to Documentation
Number of Days that CACFP Food Service was operated	10	10
Total Attendance	162	162
Number of Breakfasts Served	143	143
Number of Lunches Served	160	160
Number of Supplements Served	152	152
Total Amount of Eligible Food Costs	XXX	\$890.37
Total Amount of Eligible Food and Non-Food Costs	xxx	\$931.01

Exhibit C

Sample Site Data

Site: Perry County Head Start Month: January 2018

Site Meal Service Reconciliation and Monitor Activity	Reported on Claim	Reconciled to Documentation
Number of Days that CACFP Food Service was operated	11	11
Total Attendance	140	140
Number of Breakfasts Served	127	127
Number of Lunches Served	134	134
Number of Supplements Served	128	128
Total Amount of Eligible Food Costs	XXX	\$878.49
Total Amount of Eligible Food and Non-Food Costs	xxx	\$990.13

Exhibit D

Sample Site Data

Site: South Lawrence Head Start

Month: January 2018

Site Meal Service Reconciliation and Monitor Activity	Reported on Claim	Reconciled to Documentation
Number of Days that CACFP Food Service was operated	11	11
Total Attendance	175	175
Number of Breakfasts Served	173	173
Number of Lunches Served	173	173
Number of Supplements Served	162	162
Total Amount of Eligible Food Costs	XXX	\$772.56
Total Amount of Eligible Food and Non-Food Costs	xxx	\$776.48

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- (xi) The institution, one of its sponsored facilities, or one of the principals of the institution or its facilities has been convicted for any activity that indicates a lack of business integrity;
- (c) Administrative review is also available if the State agency notifies the institution and responsible principal or responsible individual of the following actions: proposed disqualification of a responsible principal or responsible individual, denial of a budget, denial of a line item within a budget, downward adjustment of the amount approved in a budget, suspension of an institution's participation, denial of start-up or expansion funds, denial of a request for advanced payment, recovery of an advance in excess of a claim, denial of a claim for reimbursement (except for late submission), decision not to forward an exception request for payment of a late claim, overpayment demand, denial of a new or renewing institution's application for participation, denial of sponsored facility application, notice of proposed termination, claim denial, claim deadline exceptions and requests for upward adjustments to a claim, or any other action affecting an institutions participation or claim for payment.
- 3. All appeal requests must be presented in writing to the TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings not later than 15 calendar days after the date the institution or sponsoring agency receives the notice of adverse administrative action.
- 4. The date of an institution's or sponsoring agency's receipt of a notice of suspension and/or proposed termination and disqualification will be governed by the federal regulation at 7 CFR Part 226.2. The notice must specify the action being proposed or taken and the basis for the action, and is considered to be received by the institution or day care home when it is delivered, sent by facsimile, or sent by email. If the notice is undeliverable, it is considered to be received by the institution, responsible principal or responsible individual, or day care home five days after being sent to the addressee's last known mailing address, facsimile number, or email address.
- 5. The TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings will acknowledge the receipt of the appeal request within 10 calendar days of the receipt of the institution's or sponsoring agency's request for review. The written request for review should state if a fair hearing is requested or if a review of written information in lieu of a fair hearing is requested. If the appeal request from the institution or sponsoring agency does not specifically request a hearing, a review of written information in lieu of a hearing will occur. If a fair hearing is requested and the institution or sponsoring agency's representative fails to appear, the right to a personal appearance is waived.
- 6. If an institution or sponsoring agency does not request a fair hearing or a review of written information in lieu of the hearing within 15 calendar days from the date the institution or sponsoring agency receives a Notice of Proposed Termination, the TDHS will issue a letter advising the institution or sponsoring agency that it is terminated from the CACFP effective on the 16a calendar day following the institution's or sponsoring agency's receipt of the notice, and that the responsible principals and individuals of the institution or sponsoring agency are disqualified from participation.
- 7. To be considered for a fair hearing or for a review of written information in lieu of a fair

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hearing, all written documents must be submitted to the TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings not later than 30 days after receipt of the notice of adverse administrative action.

- 8. The action of the TDHS must remain in effect during the administrative review. The effect of this requirement on particular actions by TDHS is as follows:
 - (i) Overpayment demand. During the period of the administrative review, TDHS is prohibited from taking action to collect or offset the overpayment. However TDHS must assess interest beginning with the initial demand for remittance of the overpayment and continuing through the period of administrative review unless the administrative review official overturns the TDHS's action.
 - (ii) Recovery of advances. During the administrative review, TDHS must continue its efforts to recover advances in excess of the claim for reimbursement for the applicable period. The recovery may be through a demand for full repayment or an adjustment of subsequent payments.
 - (iii) Program payments. The availability of Program payments during an administrative review of the denial of a new institution's application, denial of a renewing institution's application, proposed termination of a participating institution's agreement, and suspension of an institution are addressed in paragraphs (c)(1)(iii)(D), (c)(2)(iii)(D), (c)(3)(iii)(D), (c)(5)(i)(D), and (c)(5)(ii)(E), respectively, of 7 CFR §226.6.
- 9. The institution or sponsoring agency must refute the charges contained in the notice during the fair hearing or in the written information that is provided in lieu of the hearing.
- 10. The institution and the responsible principals and responsible individuals may retain legal counsel, or may be represented by another person.
- 11. If a fair hearing is requested, the institution or sponsoring agency will be notified in writing of the time, date and place of the fair hearing at least 10 calendar days in advance.
- 12. Any information which supports an adverse administrative action taken by the TDHS shall be available to the institution or sponsoring agency for inspection from the date of the receipt of the request for a fair hearing or a review of written information in lieu of the hearing.
- 13. In accordance with 7 CFR Part 226.6 (k)(8), the TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings must conduct the administrative review of the proposed disqualification of the responsible principals and responsible individuals as part of the administrative review of the application denial, proposed termination, and/or proposed disqualification of the institution with which the responsible principals or responsible individuals are associated. However, at the administrative review official's discretion, separate administrative reviews may be held if the institution does not request an administrative review or if either the institution or the responsible principal or responsible individual demonstrates that their interests conflict.
- 14. The procedures contained in the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act found at TCA 4-5-301 et seq. shall be followed in rendering a decision on all appeals. The decision of the hearing officer is the final administrative determination to be afforded to the institution or sponsoring agency, and shall be rendered in a timely manner not to exceed 60 calendar days from the date of the receipt of the request for a fair hearing.
- 15. The processing limits for administrative appeals MUST be met. In the event a continuance is requested by a party, one continuance may be granted at the Hearing Official's discretion. This

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continuance shall not be for a period longer than ten (10) calendar days unless there are exceptional circumstances. Exceptional circumstances must be detailed in the order of continuance and the order must contain a date certain for the hearing, to be set as soon as possible. A report of pending CACFP desk review and fair hearing requests will be generated and reviewed daily by the Clerk's Office and the Legal Director for Appeals and Hearings who will monitor the dates for timeliness. In the event a decision has not been rendered within forty-five (45) calendar days of the date of receipt of the request for fair hearing or desk review, the Legal Director for Appeals and Hearings or their back-up shall notify the hearing official to take appropriate action.

16. All requests for a fair hearing or for a review of written information in lieu of a hearing must be submitted to:

Tennessee Department of Human Services
Division of Appeals and Hearings
PO Box 198996, Clerk's Office
Nashville, TN 37219-8996
Warn (615) 248, 7013 on (866) 255, 6126

Fax: (615) 248-7013 or (866) 355-6136 E-mail: <u>AppealsClerksOffice.DHS@tn.sov.</u>

17. If a termination action is upheld by the hearing officer, the TDHS will issue a letter to the institution or sponsoring agency and its responsible principals and individuals advising that the termination and disqualification are effective on the date of the ruling issued by the hearing officer. The agency maintains searchable records of all administrative reviews and their dispositions for a period of five (5) years.

18. As required by 7 CFR Part 226.6 (c)(7), each disqualified institution, sponsoring agency, principal and individual will be placed on the National Disqualified List maintained by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Once included on the National Disqualified List, an institution, sponsoring agency, principal and individual shall remain on the list until such time as the USDA, in consultation with the TDHS, determines that the serious deficiencies that led to their placement on the list have been corrected, or until seven years have elapsed since they were disqualified from participation. However, if the institution, sponsoring agency, principal or individual has failed to repay debts owed under the program, they will remain on the list until the debt has been paid.