



# Roundtable news

A bimonthly newsletter on nutrition policy and legislation concerning the child and adult care food program

June 12, 2001

## ROUNDTABLE NEWS GOES ONLINE

The Roundtable Advisory Committee decided at its May 17 meeting to try posting the Roundtable News on our web page beginning with the July/August newsletter. The decision, not made lightly, was reached after the most recent problems faxing the last newsletter. Concern for non-paid access to the newsletter has been the issue ever since the Roundtable web page was put up. Advisory members felt, however, that it was time to try to fix ongoing problems with transmission through the fax system. Members without an email address currently listed on the membership database will receive a hard copy in the mail. Even though that will increase the number of hard copies mailed, it was felt the entire process will be improved.

The newsletter will be posted on the [www.ccfproundtable.org](http://www.ccfproundtable.org) web page at a secret directory that members will be asked to keep secret. It will be available in "pdf" format which gives good clear quality but members will need a copy of the free shareware *Adobe Acrobat Reader* to download. We chose this alternative rather than emailing it out to members for two reasons: 1) member emails change too frequently to keep up with, and 2) the newsletter is in Pagemaker which not all members have and it is too large to send as an attachment unless it is zipped, which poses other problems for some readers. This will be the last newsletter faxed in the old manner but as a test it is also available at the web page. The private directory members must type in to have access is: [www.ccfproundtable.org/RTNEWS](http://www.ccfproundtable.org/RTNEWS). Members are asked not to share this directory with non-members. From time to time the directory will be changed for security. If paid membership drops off we will have to reconsider our decision. Eventually, we will also begin maintaining an archive of past newsletters in an open area of the web site. ■

### San Francisco, May 18, 2001

#### **CHAIR REPORT**

Paula James was absent so Ed Mattson welcomed the Roundtable and gave the following brief introductory remarks and announcements. He thanked Magda McDonald and staff, from the Children's Council of San Francisco for providing the refreshments and USDA for the nice meeting room. Further announcements were put off until after the breakout session.

#### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

In keeping with the new meeting format, members went right into the breakout phase of the meeting to allow maximum time for interaction with peers and discussion of the topics. Family day care home sponsors discussed effective use of technology in general and were specifically asked to consider electronic menu systems and any Roundtable recom-

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mendations or questions regarding their use. Center sponsors were asked to consider the same or any other center issues.

**Effective Use of Technology - FDCH's:** FDCH sponsors broke into three small groups to discuss their concerns. A majority in all three groups opposed the idea of scanned menus or number coded menus. They felt it was necessary for providers to actually write down the menu served as a training tool. But there were a few sponsors currently using software now that has menu scans. All three groups favored some kind of software relief for the burden of attendance and meal counts. Staff time saved, they felt, could be redirected to provider support. One group mentioned specifically their discussion in favor of electronic funds transfer for sponsor claims, as long as a remittance document of some kind was sent to advise sponsors of the particulars (federal or state funds, original or adjusted claim, etc.). In the discussion following the breakouts all three groups supported that as a goal. One group brought up a concern for provider electronic claim submission as many low-income providers do not have computers. One question raised by the group was about provider's signature requirements on claim forms (electronic or otherwise) and menus or meal counts. The regulations require a penalty statement and signature on claims but not on menus (this could be a consistency issue among CDE Field staff). Carolyn briefly mentioned that electronic signature was possible now. Obviously, we have just begun to explore the issues and questions of this new (for many sponsors) medium. The Roundtable will encourage further discussion at future meetings.

### **HEALTHY KIDS RESOURCE CENTER**

Liane Tomich, from the Healthy Kids Resource Center in Hayward, made a brief presentation on the center to the group. She pointed out that the center has over 1,000 reviewed instructional materials available to be loaned out, covering topics as diverse as: nutrition, food service education, alcohol and other drugs, comprehensive health, devel-

opmental assets, health services, injury prevention, tobacco use prevention and others. She pointed out that members can search a database of the instructional materials and order online for 4-week loans anywhere in California. The web address is: www.californiahealthykids.org. Materials may also be ordered for loan by fax at 510-670-4582, by phone at 510-670-4583 or through the mail at 313 W. Winton Ave., Hayward, CA 94544. To request a catalogue write to the above address or access the information online.

### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT**

**April 26 Meeting with CDE/NSD & CDD and DSS/CCL:** On April 26, Paula, Ed and April met first with Carolyn Brown and Marilyn Briggs and then were joined by Eloise Bradrick-Talk of CDD followed by Linda Nissen, Manager of the Child Care Advocates for DSS, CCL. It was a very effective and productive meeting. The right operational staff were finally gathered to have some real commitments for working together. Broad themes discussed centered on outreach, especially to Trustline providers, as well as Title XX centers, promoting CCFP to the broader child care community, communication issues.

Carolyn and Marilyn agreed that they saw no reason why Trustline providers, those that meet the basic program requirements of taking care of children in the provider's home and completing the full Trustline process (*editor's note: relatives have a shortened process that is not program eligible as is; they need to complete the entire process*), could not participate in the CCFP. They are willing to drop the old concern about going through R & R Network. Carolyn agreed to issue a letter and corrected Management Manual section on the change. But first an ad hoc committee was formed to explore issues and outreach options with the R & R Network.

Jerry Bowers had asked us to see if review reports with new expiration dates were acceptable documentation in lieu of the actual license. Linda Nissen said she had had this discussion with Jo Russ but could not recall the agency's official position. She would have to get back to us. She confirmed shortly thereafter that the only document acceptable in lieu of a license (in state administered licensing jurisdictions) is the "facility profile." Review reports - that Jerry asked about - are not acceptable. There are still problems with the local jurisdictions due to the long delays in issuing licenses. An ad hoc committee was formed to investigate further if any document could be used in lieu of an actual license in those cases.

**The CCFP Roundtable News** is a bimonthly publication for members of the Child Care Food Program Roundtable, an affiliate organization of the California Food Policy Advocates, 116 New Montgomery Street, Suite 530, San Francisco, CA 94105 (for more information contact Ed at 925-686-0522; if you have had newsletter fax transmission problems contact staff at 415-777-4422).

Editor  
Edward Mattson

For information on Roundtable membership, contact Ed who is temporarily doing membership at 925-686-0522.

**Meeting with DHS:** During the week of May 14, Paula and Maria Boyle of CFPA attended the Department of Health Services nutrition strategic planning meeting. Also in attendance were several of the major child care stakeholders in California, namely the R & R Network, WIC, Prop 10, CEWAER. Paula was pleased to report that our efforts may be paying off; several people at the meeting actually mentioned the importance of child care. The purpose of the meeting was to see how DHS could work with groups to improve the health of low-income children, to deal with the ever widening threat of childhood obesity. Paula said she saw this and the meeting below in the broader context of building a child care constituency. Child Nutrition Reauthorization is just on the horizon and these contacts are vital.

**CCCan Meeting:** In the above context, Paula announced her selection to and attendance at the CCCan (California Coalition for Child Activity & Nutrition ) governing board meeting. She advised that there is a coalition forming now to prevent childhood obesity. We need to participate in the discussion; we need to partner with other stakeholders such as 5- A Day. California's Deputy Secretary of Agriculture attended the meeting and suggested partnering with the agricultural community. Southwest states represent a large percentage of the population as well as the agricultural community. How can we use that fact to our advantage? Perhaps NSD could assist in this area. Marilyn Briggs is the President of SNE this year. Their conference theme is agriculture, nutrition and health. A panel including Paula, Geri Henchy, Lynn Parker and Doris Fredericks will be doing a session on the CCFP at the SNE conference.

**NFSMI Survey:** Ed briefly mentioned a recent NFSMI survey some sponsors have received on sponsor monitors, their job duties, perceived training needs and characteristics. Sponsors that did receive it are encouraged to complete and return it timely. The information requested is important. It will be used for development of educational and training materials.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

*The mission of the Child Care Food Program Roundtable is to promote health and well-being of children in child care through providing leadership and advocating for enhanced and expanded CCFP.*

**Parental Notification:** NSD recently issued Management Bulletin 01-200. It deals with the parental notification requirements of the ARPA (PL 106-225). The bulletin included a flier, *Building for the Future*, that could be used to meet the requirement. It also included a letter from Shirley Watkins which it asked sponsors to send out. Advisory members asked just what is required by the new rules? Should sponsors send out the information to parents themselves or to the providers only? The Management Bulletin was unclear, perhaps because the regulations are not out yet. Section 243(b)(3) of the law states, "(A) In General - on enrollment of a child in a sponsored child care center or family or group day care home participating in the program, the center or home (or its sponsoring organization) shall provide to the child's parents or guardians (i) information that describes the program and its benefits; and (ii) the name and telephone number of the sponsoring organization of the center or home and the state agency involved in the operation of the program. (B) Form - the information described in subparagraph (A) shall be in a form and, to the maximum extent practicable, language easily understandable by the child's parents or guardians..." Though this seems clear it is not certain who or how to notify parents of existing children. The NSD agreed to consider issuing more guidance with examples. This is one of several examples of provisions in the law requiring immediate implementation without the benefit of the clarity of regulations.

**Provider Hearings:** A second similar circumstance applies to provider hearings. The law requires implementation; USDA has issued guidance to the states but sponsors are stuck without clear guidance on how to proceed. The latest guidance from USDA just came out as a Q & A on April 25. Advisory members are waiting patiently for the definitive word and asked, once again, to participate with NSD in crafting the final Management Bulletin on the process.

**Crystal Stairs Announcement:** Andrea Howlett made the official announcement that Crystal Stairs will be cutting back its homes to just its immediate R & R service area. They will have about 783 homes (a 65% cut back); they hope to stay under 1,000 in the future. The change is effective July 1. She said she wanted to make the announcement official to avoid rumors. This action is not the result of any sanction by NSD, USDA or OIG. They are cutting back because the administrative reimbursement for large sponsors is not adequate to do the job. The new regulations require so much more administrative time. In a recent study they found they were losing money each month. To make ends meet they had to do fund raising. To insure a smooth transition they

have proceeded with the action in an orderly fashion meeting with NSD staff and other area sponsors. Letters to the providers were mailed the night before her announcement.

**PSA Update:** The Advisory Committee felt that some members might be interested in using the PSA's in their own local outreach efforts. Accordingly, Andrea Howlett inquired with the original producer, the cost of redoing both the video and the audio to take out CFPA's old 800# and replace it with a sponsor name and/or phone number. The cost would be \$100 for each tape (English or Spanish, parent or provider emphasis). For \$100 sponsors would receive both a Beta master and a VHS copy. To receive that price a minimum of 10 orders must be received. If you think you might be interested contact Ed ASAP. If we get at least 10 we will proceed to pull together an order.

**FRAC/Forum Meeting:** Jerry and Paula attended and briefed Advisory members. Here are the salient points from their report. Jerry attended the management improvement track. He said he heard nothing particularly new. He said the new provider appeal piece was discussed at length. There were no clear cut guidelines on the appeal process itself. We will have to wait for the interim regulations. Paula advised that the marketing workshop that Lorena Kennedy gave was great. She brought away from the conference the following: OIG is still actively involved in the CCFP; CA will not be surveyed by USDA, ERS in their cost study; the technology piece is gaining attention. Electronic submission of provider and sponsor claims is the hot topic. The NSD and Roundtable Technology Committee may meet to discuss further. We will report.

After the meeting members visited their representatives. Maria Boyle, Paula and others met with George Miller's staff. He is one of, if not the senior, Democrat on the House Ed & Workforce Committee. They will be key to the Reauthorization of CNP's in 2003. Maria felt the meeting was quite productive.

**Nutrition Ed Booklet:** Cacf-p-talk recently carried the following announcement we thought we would share with members. The University of Maryland Cooperative Extension has a new publication available entitled, "Healthy Eating for 2-5 year old Children." It is a 20-page, full color booklet, written at the 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade level and might be a useful in working with child care providers. For more information contact Doreen Merica at 301-403-4263 or dm34@umail.umd.edu.

**SIDS Brochures Available:** DSS has recently announced the availability of a brochure on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. It is in English and Spanish and available for free. Orders can be mailed or faxed to: CDSS Warehouse, PO Box 980788, West Sacramento CA 95798-0788 or fax to 916-371-3518. Be sure to include your name, telephone number, address where you want the brochures mailed, the quantity requested and the name and number of the publication - Sudden Infant Death Syndrome brochure, PUB 300. It would be a great thing to share with your providers and their parents with infants.

### **CONFERENCE 2001 REPORT**

The Roundtable's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, *CCFP: Fuel for Early Learning* is preparing to kick off October 23-26, 2001, in beautiful Palm Springs, California. The registration brochures should go out this month. If you do not receive one by the end of June please notify Ed immediately at: 925-686-0522 or mred@slip.net. We are really excited about this year's conference. Patty Kimbrell, Barbara Mayfield and Dr. Carl Winter are three of the featured speakers. Susan Johnson is also likely for Friday morning. More information on the workshops and keynote speakers planned is available at the Roundtable's web site: [www.ccfproundtable.org](http://www.ccfproundtable.org). Please register early! You'll love Palm Springs in October.

### **CONFERENCE 2002 REPORT**

Because of conflicts with the R & R conference and that of the American Dietetics Association, as well as possible conflicts with Halloween, the Roundtable's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual CCFP Sponsors' Conference will be held the week of October 14<sup>th</sup> rather than the usual 21<sup>st</sup> or October 28<sup>th</sup>. Recently we surveyed members and received a very good response rate thank you. Approximately 45% of you responded that Halloween week would be a problem for you or some of your staff, thus we decided upon the week of the 14<sup>th</sup>. We also asked whether Lake Tahoe was acceptable and a great majority said it would be okay to great. However, we did not receive an acceptable offer for the week of the 14<sup>th</sup>. We did receive a great offer from the Anaheim Sheraton, so the 2002 conference will probably be at Disneyland, well okay, nearby in Anaheim.

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Ed reported that we have 176 paid members as of today. Thanks for renewing. There is strength in numbers. Remember, this year renewals are not until the end of the calendar year; watch for them sometime in November.

## **NUTRITION SERVICES DIVISION**

Carolyn Brown welcomed the participants and gave the state report. She introduced the state staff in attendance, Louise Casias and Janice Hunt, Regional Managers, Field Services Unit.

**Staffing & Organizational Updates:** There have been several recent staff and some organizational changes at the Division. Valerie Fong, Manager of the Nutrition Program Management Unit has accepted a position elsewhere in the Department. Sally Livingston, Administrator of the Education and Training Unit will be moving to a half-time nutrition education position within the Division, effective in July. The two units are being combined into a new Nutrition Program Education & Training Unit, and a new administrator will be recruited.

Angelo Queirolo has been selected to fill the position of Manager, Resources and Information Management Unit. He has a strong background in information management, and will be working on electronic reporting and streamlining of application processes.

As reported at the last meeting, Lorenzo Hines, Manager of the Field Services Unit, has also accepted a position in another state department. The position is being filled as quickly as possible. In the interim, Carolyn reported that she is covering the position, with the Field Services Unit Regional Managers taking on most of the administrative responsibilities.

A new Program Integrity Unit is being created. It will report to Chila Silva-Martin, the Assistant Division Director. The unit will consolidate the review and audit closure process, working with sponsors that are seriously deficient in their program administration, and administrative appeal functions. Janice Kirwan and Evonne Morrissey are among the staff assigned to the new unit.

Loretta Palaca, Manager of the Administrative Management Section has accepted another position within the Department. Some of the functions assigned to that unit have been realigned, but many of them remain under the leadership of Elsie Plaskett, formerly Manager of the Financial Management Unit.

Finally, Janice Hunt announced some staff changes in the Field Services Unit: Debbie Dillon-Adams has accepted the position of Regional Manager of the Northern Region; George

Schaedler has retired; the new analyst for Alameda County is Monique Moton; the two new child nutrition consultants are Priscilla Pariel, Alameda County and Laura Penafiel, San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties.

**Licensing Issues:** Carolyn reported that as a result of recent audits of the Department by the Bureau of State Audits, the Division has developed a system to track and report to sponsors day care home license revocations. She reminded sponsors that ultimately they are responsible to insure that all of their sponsored providers (or centers) are licensed or Trustlined and eligible for CACFP reimbursement. Coordination with the Department of Social Services (DSS) Community Care Licensing (CCL) was accomplished over the past years. It has been more difficult to coordinate with the nine local licensing jurisdictions. With the assistance of Bill Jordan from DSS, CCL, contacts have been developed, and the Division now has a spreadsheet listing family child care provider license revocations from the counties involved. They have a list of about 75-100 names going back to February 2000. This information will be shared soon with all appropriate sponsors. The Roundtable expressed its concern for guidance on how to terminate unlicensed providers in light of the hearing regulations proposed in the Agricultural Risk Protection Act (PL 106-224). In addition, input was provided to NSD as to the on-going process of notification that would best meet the needs of sponsors.

**Outside School Hours Care Centers Review Requirement Clarified:** Ed and Carolyn clarified policy on OSHCC reviews. There had been a question, and it has been determined that the NSD CACFP Center Management Manual is incorrect. According to USDA, school-operated OSHCC's must be reviewed by the sponsor (school) three times per year. All other sponsors (non-school) must review their sponsored centers at least six times per year. The requirements are for a calendar year. Reviews may not be prorated for centers operating for periods of less than 12 months in any calendar year. Centers approved mid-fiscal year do not have to complete all the reviews by the end of that fiscal year but would have to by the end of one calendar year from their approval date.

**Mileage Reimbursement:** Carolyn noted that changes can be expected in guidance related to mileage reimbursement. The policy is related to the revision of USDA FNS Instruction 796-2 *Financial Management - CACFP*. The instruction is currently being revised, with state agencies scheduled to be trained in June. It seems the instruction delegates

authority for setting mileage reimbursement policy to the governing board of each sponsoring organization. Sponsors will have to set a reasonable policy that applies equally across the board for all agency staff, not just those working in the CCFP. A caution was given that if sponsors decide to reimburse staff at a higher per mile rate than the IRS rate, it is important to determine the tax consequences. NSD is planning to issue a Management Bulletin on this after the training by USDA.

**School List Issues:** There were a series of questions related to the listing of school data regarding the percentage of enrollment, by school, eligible for free/reduced price school meals. Carolyn did confirm that some of the questions relate to the fact that the Division, in an effort to quickly release the data, did not separate the elementary attendance area schools from non-eligible schools, i.e. high schools, community day schools, charter schools and the like. She pointed out that sponsors have the responsibility to ensure they are using only data from eligible schools. The issue of greatest concern to everyone had to do with the use of middle school data. At some point during the initial training in 1997 for tiering, CACFP sponsors, as well as some program administrators and advocates, were lead to believe that middle school data could be used for tiering eligibility determination. It had to do with the issue of definition of “elementary school” in California. USDA guidance including bulletins 97-7 and 97-14 as well as page 5 of *Eligibility Guidance for Family Day Care Homes* gave examples of states that defined elementary school as K-8. At the time California’s CACFP Manager stated that “elementary school” in CA was K-8. Carolyn stated that that policy may be incorrect. Upon closer examination of the USDA guidance, it appears that middle school grades may only be considered when they are combined, usually in some rural areas, into K-8 schools. NSD is exploring the issue right now and will issue additional guidance.

Charter and community day schools often fit the situation described in the above USDA guidance on page 7, “the local elementary school does not reflect the surrounding area’s socioeconomic condition due to the use of busing or other non-neighborhood bases (e.g. ‘magnet schools,’ ‘charter schools,’ etc.) for defining elementary school attendance areas. This is the only instance in which census data may be consulted first, **instead** of school data.”

**Society for Nutrition Education Annual Conference:** The 34<sup>th</sup> annual conference, *Full Circle: Agriculture, Nutrition and Health*, is July 20-24 in Oakland. The

Roundtable as well as FRAC and NSD will share a panel discussion, at the conference, on the CACFP. For more information contact 202-452-8534 or www.sne.org.

**CDE Training at Roundtable Conference Planned:** Carolyn advised that NSD is working with the Roundtable to present two sessions in conjunction with our conference in Palm Springs. They plan to conduct financial management training for family child care sponsors, in cooperation with USDA National Office, on Tuesday, October 23rd, as a pre-conference session. A day of workshop sessions for centers is planned for Friday, October 26. The center training would include sessions on menu planning and required documentation, safe food handling and other recordkeeping requirements. This post-conference session will expand the options for centers to receive needed information, as required by a recent Office of Inspector General audit.

**Thanks to Child Development Resources:** Carolyn circulated a letter CDE has recently sent out thanking Julie Irving, Child Development Resources (CDR) of Ventura County, for their assistance this past year. CDR was willing to step in and, on an interim basis, administer the food program for providers sponsored by Fine Day Care during their administrative hearing process. Thanks again.

#### Q & A:

The following questions were from last month’s newsletter:

1. **Q.** How can CDE make the school list effective prior to the date received (by the sponsor)? Why can’t CDE make the new list effective later after sponsors receive it? **Discussion:** There was considerable discussion of this topic at the meeting and the Roundtable clarified that it would be preferable to have some lead time between release of the information and its effective date. An example was used of a sponsor that approves new providers for Tier I effective April 1 and then has to tell them they are Tier II sometime in mid to late April when the data is released. One proposal was to make the data effective the day of its release. This might work if in the above example the provider(s) approved April 1 would have the customary 3 year eligibility. What ever is decided sponsors would prefer not having to convert providers to a new category just days or weeks after an initial determination. **A.** CDE is researching the issue with USDA.
2. **Q.** What is the status of the Abt Study on tiering? **A.** The interim report has been released. It is available at:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publication/fanrr3/>. The final report is now in Division clearance at ERS and is expected to be published in August.

3. **Q.** Are parent sign-in and out sheets required by regulations? **A.** In and out records must be maintained for shift care to clearly document that at no time was the home (or center) over license capacity. The form used does not have to be signed by the parent, as far as the CCFP regulations are concerned.
4. **Q.** This question is concerning CDE Management Bulletin 00-212 which requires that provider appeals be heard by “an independent and impartial appeal official.” Please define what constitutes an independent and impartial official for large and small sponsors as well as sponsors that are or are not part of a larger organization. **A.** USDA has recently issued further guidance in this area that CDE still needs to review before it can answer any questions regarding provider appeal procedures.
5. **Q.** This question is concerning CDE Management Bulletin 00-212 which states that a family day care home (FDCH) may transfer from one sponsor to another only once a year. Will this rule also apply to providers that drop from one sponsor and then join another three months later? How will CDE track providers to insure the requirement is met? **A.** CDE is researching the answer.
6. **Q.** This question is concerning CDE Management Bulletin 00-212 with respect to staffing standards. Will such standards consider the differences between agencies? Some agencies have monitors that only visit homes; in other agencies the monitor spends several days each month in the office performing edit checks on provider claims or other administrative duties. How can we compare apples and oranges? **A.** CDE is waiting to answer this question after issuance of the Interim rule.
7. **Q.** This question is concerning CDE Management Bulletin 00-220 concerning the 45 day limit for providers to report an income after reporting zero income. With only 45 days a provider will not have received its first program reimbursement. How can it accurately report income under these circumstances? **A.** Sponsors and providers must do the best that they can; 45 days is a USDA requirement (page 35, *Eligibility Guidance for Family Day Care Homes*).

The following questions are from the May meeting:

1. **Q.** When the NSD site monitor training is developed, will all monitors of FDCH’s be required to attend? **A.** In the planning of the training, it has been determined that sponsors will be required to attend, but each sponsor is also required to train monitoring staff. The goal is to have this training be so valuable that sponsors will wish to have all their monitoring staff participate. As you participate in developing this training, you are invited to express your opinions of how the training should be structured to best meet your needs.
2. **Q.** When can we expect to receive the annual renewal packet? **A.** CDE is beginning work on it now; summer and school packets must be completed first. Day care home packets are expected out July 9 with an August 1 due date.
3. **Q.** Recently there has been an increase in the number of grandparents becoming parents again. Grandchildren are left by their parents and the grandmother, who has been a provider on the program, now takes them so they do not go to foster care. Are such children Tier I? They are receiving cash aid by the county; the court has granted temporary custody to the grandparent. **A.** These children are not “foster children.” They would be considered “provider’s own” and would be eligible for Tier I if the provider herself is Tier I, based in income, and if other day care children are in attendance.
4. **Q.** With respect to new computerized systems, will sponsors now have a budget line item for the purchase of software and/or technical assistance to providers who need it to implement such systems? **A.** CDE is researching this one.
5. **Q.** How do sponsors categorize children of foster children? Are they also foster children? **A.** The child of a foster child would be considered a foster child also.
6. **Q.** When will the 2000 Census be available and when will it be available on Landview? **A.** We don’t know. It usually takes 2-3 years to get data in the detail necessary to have it be useful for tiering determinations based on our experience with the 1990 Census.

### **USDA**

Reese Payton, Child Nutrition Programs Section Chief, gave the USDA report. He began by recapping the CCFP regu-

lation situation. The Department started work on a program integrity rule several years ago but for a number of reasons the rule was never issued. Then in June 2000 the Agricultural Risk Protection Act, a.k.a. ARPA or PL 106-224, was promulgated. As a result, the Department had to go back to the integrity rule and pull overlapping sections out for inclusion in an interim rule containing the provisions of the ARPA. Then in September 2000 the integrity rule was finally published as a proposed rule with the overlapping sections removed. The interim rule, according to Reese, has gone through the general counsel's office (OGC) twice and has to go through Departmental clearance. The new administration may make additional changes. Then it has to go to OMB. Bottom line, the interim rule is due out in the Fall with a possible final issued in April 2002. Meanwhile the integrity rule is still being worked on. The Department would like to issue just one final combined CCFP rule but it may not be possible.

Reese followed with several bullet points:

- Phase II of the Management Improvement Guide and associated training may have to be tweaked after the new rule comes out.
- A new Q & A will be issued shortly on miscellaneous issues in the ARPA.
- In June state agencies and regional offices will receive training on the new 796-2 Financial Management Instruction. They anticipate that the new instruction will be much clearer on allowable costs (*editor's note: it is that new instruction that NSD hopes to offer training on this Fall including a session at our Roundtable pre-conference on October 23*).
- The list of seriously deficient sponsors and staff should be up on the USDA web site soon.
- The OIG is continuing it's audit presence in CCFP, working on large sponsor payment systems (Crystal Stairs is the only sponsor impacted in CA).

## **CALIFORNIA FOOD POLICY ADVOCATES**

**April Kirk Has Left CFFPA:** For those that had not heard, April Kirk's last day was May 15. She is moving to New York to be with her new fiancée. She will be missed. Ken's highest priority is to find a replacement. The job description was sent out on CACFP- Talk as well as to all RT members. If you know someone interested please let them know.

**Organizational Effectiveness Grant Update:** The contract was finally signed on the May 16<sup>th</sup>. Work should begin soon.

**State Legislative Report & Budget Update:** Ed briefed members on the Governor's "May Revise" budget. It has some cuts and a \$1 billion reserve. The legislature is now talking about a \$4 billion reserve due to the energy crisis. That will mean even more cuts and will make passage of any new spending proposals difficult. Marilyn Briggs warned Advisory members that it will mean freezes at the Department, even though they receive their funding from the Federal Government. She said all state agencies are expected to take a 2 ½ % cut. COLAs will also be trimmed from 3.9% to possibly 3.87%.

It is under this general cloud that we offer recent state legislation that warrants your support. **SB 19**, the Escutia Bill, which will increase state meal funding for school meals and impose restrictions on competitive food sales is projected out until 2004 due to the fiscal crunch in Sacramento. On June 6 SB 19 passed in Senate; now its off to Assembly. Members were also asked to support **AB 144** which would raise the ridiculously low Food Stamp vehicle limit of \$4,650 in California. On June 6 AB 144 passed in Assembly; now its off to Senate. **AB 767** would restore food assistance to individuals in drug recovery programs. Find out more about these critical proposals at CFFPA's web site: [www.cffpa.org](http://www.cffpa.org).

**Federal Legislative Update:** members were briefed on three items which we will now give you the very latest on: Eric Bost from Texas has been confirmed as the new Under Secretary of Food, Nutrition & Consumer Services at USDA. He will replace Shirley Watkins. Congress finished work on HR 1836, the Tax Cut legislation on May 26 and sent it to the President for signature. It included a refundable Child Tax Credit that everyone has been watching closely. According to CDF, "For the first time, the Child Tax Credit will be available for all low income working families earning \$10,000 or more. The new refundable child tax credit improvements will be phased-in over time. In the first year, for example, a family with one child earning \$15,000 a year would receive a Child Tax Credit refund of \$500." By 2005 it would increase to approximately \$700.

Finally, FRAC and the advocacy community urges you to support S. 583, the Kennedy-Specter Nutrition Assistance for Working Families & Seniors Act. Amongst other things it will restore Food Stamp eligibility for certain low-income legal immigrants, improve benefit allotments especially for

some elderly and it will enhance funding for the TEFAP program. Get involved; support this legislation.

#### WEB SITES FOR MAY 2001:

- **goldmine.cde.ca.gov/nsd/ca\_facts.pdf** - Find some interesting and valuable facts and statistics on Child Nutrition Programs in CA here.
- **www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/lunch/governance/notices/01-02.iegs.pdf** - Find the latest income eligibility guidelines at this site.
- **www.engr.unl.edu/eeshop/rsi.html** - This is a great site for information and stretches to help you avoid repetitive stress injuries from long hours at the computer.
- **www.foodandhealth.com/handout.shtml** - Find several FREE nutrition education handouts at this site including: "Magical Steps to Weight Management," "10 Best Reasons Low-Carb Diets are Wrong," "Produce Power Crossword Puzzle," "Lower Your Cholesterol: 7 Top Strategies...", "Build a Healthy Lifestyle."
- **www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Summer/AboutSFSP/default.htm** - Find some good information on the Summer Program at this site including facts, reimbursement rates and tips for success.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR  
THE NEXT TWO ROUNDTABLE MEETINGS**

**FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2001, 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM**  
**Harrah's Lake Tahoe, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Convention Area**  
Stateline, NV

**LODGING INFORMATION :** You are encouraged to stay at Harrah's as they have graciously donated the meeting space. Their number is 1-800-427-7247. Other hotels in the area include:

Embassy Suites 1-800-362-2779  
Forest Inn Suites 1-800-822-5950  
Lakeland Village 1-800-822-5969  
Station House Inn 1-800-822-5953  
Lake Tahoe Inn 1-800-972-8557  
Holiday Inn Express 1-800-544-5288  
Motel 6 1-530-542-1400

**DIRECTIONS:** *From Sacto/Bay Area* – take Hwy 80 to Hwy 50. Follow Hwy 50 into and through So. Lake Tahoe and over the state line. Harrah's Casino is the first casino on the right (just past Embassy Suites). There is free parking around the back; valet is basically the cost of a tip. *From Reno/Tahoe Airport* – A shuttle service is available from the airport to all the casinos for a \$17 one-way/\$30 round-trip (Tahoe Casino Express 1-800-446-6128). If coming by rental car, take Hwy 395 to Carson City, then Hwy 50 up to So. Lake Tahoe. Harrah's is the last casino on your left before you cross over into California.

The **Advisory Committee Meeting** is at the El Dorado County Library on Rufus Allen Blvd. (same as last year), Thursday, July 19, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. To get there from the west, turn right onto Rufus Allen Blvd (a lighted intersection, where the road meets the water, Pizza Hut on the corner) library is on the right about 1/8 mile (before the campgrounds).



**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2001, 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM**  
**West End Educational Services Center**  
8265 Aspen Ave., Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

**LODGING INFORMATION :** The following hotels/motels are in the area:

Western Inn, 1191 E. Foothill Blvd., Upland 909-949-4800 (2 mi., \$50)  
American Inn, 755 N. Euclid, Ontario 909-984-1775 (3-4 mi., \$50)  
Americasuites, 4760 Mills Circle, Ontario 909-980-2200 (very nice, 10 min to mtg., near large mall, shuttle avail., \$109)  
Archibald Lodge, 2425 S. Archibald, Ontario 909-923-2728  
Best Western, 8179 Spruce, Rancho Cucamonga 909-466-1111 (nice, 1 block to mtg., mall near, shuttle avail., \$89 or \$84 if mention Supt. of Schools).  
Country Inn, 2359 S. Grove St., Ontario 909-923-1887  
California Inn, 1150 N. Grove, Ontario 909-467-3788

**PARKING & DIRECTIONS:** The WEESC is located just a few quick minutes from the Ontario Airport. The rental car lot is on S. Haven Avenue. Go north on S. Haven, under the 10 Freeway to N. Haven; proceed north to Foothill Blvd., turn right. Go a short distance to Aspen, turn right then first left. Drive way on the right. Park at bottom building. If coming from the west take the 10 to Haven Ave. exit and follow instructions above. If coming from the north or south take the 15 and get off on Foothill Blvd. heading west. Take Foothill about a mile or two and turn left on Aspen.

The **Advisory Committee Meeting** is at the above location, Thursday, September 20, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.