



# Roundtable news

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

AUGUST 2002

## INTERIM RULE PUBLISHED JUNE 27

The Interim Regulations implementing changes to the program promulgated in the Agricultural Risk Protection Act (ARPA) were published in the Federal Register on June 27. Most provisions are to be implemented by July 29, 2002, however state agencies out West will not be trained until December. Several of the program changes are controversial and actual implementation may take longer. The biggest three include: 1) setting monitor to provider ratios of 1 to 50-150 at state agency's discretion, 2) requiring 2 of 3 visits to be unannounced, and 3) requiring providers to report in when they will be away from home and cannot be visited unannounced.

**Monitor to provider ratio:** This could be the most onerous to implement especially for larger sponsors. State agencies have discretion to set some parameters here based on such things as rural/urban, English/another language, literacy, etc. But the highest ratio allowed will be 1 to 150. The question is what functions to include under "monitoring" in the calculation? Thank goodness this provision is not effective until 2003, for existing sponsors, to allow state agencies time to work with the advocacy community and set the parameters. We will be watching this one closely and working with states to set reasonable standards.

**Unannounced visits:** The law gives the Department discretion here, only specifically requiring unannounced site visits to homes at not less than three year intervals. However, USDA has decided to require two unannounced visits per year. We are hoping for waiver options for sponsors with good records to allow for providing scheduled nutrition education.

See **Interim Rule**, page 2, column 1

South Lake Tahoe, July 19, 2002

### CHAIR REPORT

Paula James welcomed the Roundtable and gave the following brief introductory remarks and announcements. She thanked Carol Ledesma, from Choices for Children, for arranging the refreshments and nice meeting room. Thanks also to Harrah's for donating both.

**Childhood Obesity Still Topic Number One:** Paula took the opportunity to touch on a recurring theme, the fight against childhood obesity that has risen to terrifying levels in recent years and has become a hot topic in the media. Recent articles in the Christian Science Monitor and the New York Times were highlighted. The Monitor admonished us to "[s]top marketing 'yummy food' to children," citing as an example the \$750 million

See **Chair Report**, Page 2, column 2

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**Provider notification:** The law does not mention this provision; it was added to “enable sponsoring organizations to plan their unannounced reviews in the most cost-effective manner possible.” We are hoping this can be implemented in a manner that is the least disruptive.

Other issues of concern include:

- Clarification of the whole “seriously deficient” section of the rules setting out specific procedures for corrective action, suspension, termination and disqualification of new, renewing or participating institutions (sponsors) and facilities (providers). It distinguishes between suspension and termination and also clarifies the “administrative review” (appeal) process for sponsors as well as providers. Sponsors will have to set up such an administrative review procedure with a “hearing official,” if they have not already done so. Sponsors abusing the termination for convenience clause to circumvent the rules will be declared seriously deficient.
- Provider transfers are limited to once per year.
- New sponsors must document the “need” for their services.
- The sponsor-provider agreement must be modified including a request for date of birth of the provider. For sponsors existing as of July 29, 2002 these changes are to take effect by August 29, 2002 (see below).
- Limits on outside employment by sponsor staff. For sponsors participating on July 29, 2002, they must submit their outside employment policy to their state agency not later than September 27, 2002 (this and the provision above on modifying the agreement with

providers are still subject to actual notification by the state of the requirement and the provision of guidance).

- Parents must be notified of participation of their home or center in the CACFP.
- Administrative costs of sponsors of centers and centers with multiple sites are capped at 15% of reimbursement, but with waiver ability.
- Lowers from 200 to 100 the size of FDCH sponsors requiring a review every other year.

**Chair Report**, continued from page 1

“spent annually selling snacks and processed foods in schools,” and the “worrisome trend” of the food industry and toy manufacturers joining “to create toys that advertise food.”

Paula advised that she has recently been invited to be a part of the Strategic Alliance for Prevention of Childhood Obesity. And she was pleased to report their recent focus on the pre-school environment of CACFP and WIC. She has also been discussing collaboration with Laurie True from the California WIC Association, including such ideas as a pre-school nutrition institute and a combined WIC/Roundtable Conference in 2004. She suggested members get involved, become a part of the solution. You can start by contacting your county WIC director (find them at the following web site: [www.calwic.org](http://www.calwic.org)). Or you can participate in the Obesity Conference in San Diego, January 6-8, 2003. Or listen to Marion Nestle, from NYU, author of *Food Politics*, who will be speaking in Oakland on August 14<sup>th</sup> and in Los Angeles on August 15<sup>th</sup> (for more information go to [www.preventioninstitute.org/nestle.html](http://www.preventioninstitute.org/nestle.html)).

**Quarterly Meeting of Child Care Outcomes Group:**

The Child Care Outcomes Group is composed of members from the Roundtable management team, CFPA, and the various California state agencies involved with child care (CDE NSD & CDD, DSS CCL). We meet on a quarterly basis to resolve administrative issues and to work cooperatively to promote quality child care and the role of the Child and Adult Care Food Program in that effort. We focus on customer service issues, outreach to non-participating homes (licensed and exempt) and centers (for and non-profit), and getting out the word

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.

Editor  
Edward Mattson

Membership is from Jan 1 to Dec 31 every year. For more information on Roundtable membership, contact Ed at: 530-274-4490 or [mred94523@earthlink.net](mailto:mred94523@earthlink.net).

on the CACFP. At the last meeting on May 23 we clarified an issue with center certificates of operation; they are acceptable in lieu of a license in cases where ownership changes hands if time frames are met. We continue to work on ways to identify the universe of licensed and unlicensed providers and those participating on the program to facilitate outreach. We are working with NSD to issue written guidance on enrolling Trustline exempt providers on the program. The NSD has agreed to work with CCL to train their new staff on the program. Child Care Licensing has agreed to run CACFP articles in their regular newsletter, resulting in several calls to Roundtable staff regarding the program.

### **BREAKOUT SESSION**

During the breakout session this time, members were asked to break into three groups and discuss current issues, concerns and questions for NSD. Many asked questions related to implementation of the new Interim Regulations, others asked questions related to application renewals (due August 15) while still others dealt with general policy questions. See all the questions and answers in the NSD Report Q & A's below.

### **NUTRITION SERVICES DIVISION**

Angelo Queirolo, Manager of the Resources & Information Management Unit, welcomed the participants and along with John Copley gave the state report.

**Field Services Update:** Angelo briefed members on what's been happening in the Field Services Unit. Perhaps the most significant thing is the vacancy of two area managers; there should be five and there are now only three. Because of the state budget shortfall, there has been a freeze on positions impacting some 6,000 staff statewide. They are unable to fill vacancies. In addition to the managers the unit is down 5 staff and others are considering retirement. They are shifting duties and responsibilities to try to cope with the problem but he asked

#### **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.*

for our patience. The Division has 26 current vacancies. None have been filled since March.

### **Q & A:**

Questions/concerns from the July breakout session are grouped by category below (they include some comments that arose during discussion of the questions) :

**INTERIM REGULATIONS** (published 6/27/02 implementing provisions of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act (ARPA))

NSD staff advised that they will be receiving training on the Interim Regulations from USDA in December. In the interim they attempted to answer the following questions based on guidance received to date:

1. **Q.** Sponsors expressed concern for the whole issue of appeals for providers including, what kinds of problems or severity of problems would lead to a finding of seriously deficient, corrective action procedures and time frames, how to write seriously deficient notices with correct appeal procedures, the administrative review process itself and who is to hear the appeal, and the suspension process for fraudulent claims and/or health and safety threats. **A.** John Copley advised that the rules require NSD to decide by September 25, 2002, and notify USDA how "administrative reviews" (*new term in regulations for appeal hearings to distinguish them from suspension hearings*) will be handled in California. He recommended that until further guidance is issued sponsors should refer to the 4 Management Bulletins implementing ARPA. (*Editor's note: those would be MB's 00-210, 00-212, 01-200 & ? The Roundtable will make itself available to provide feedback and assistance to NSD in the development of further guidance in this area. Some preliminary recommendations were made and recorded in the June 9, 1999 edition of the Roundtable News as well as a follow-up letter to NSD on August 16, 1999.*)
2. **Q.** Sponsors expressed concern about the new requirement to facilitate unannounced visits in which providers taking their children out on a field trip must contact the sponsor. **Discussion:** This is an area that the CACFP advocacy community (FRAC, Forum, Roundtable) has some concerns with as it was not specifically in ARPA; state agency plans should al-

low flexibility for sponsors to design effective systems that are user friendly for providers and minimize recordkeeping burdens. **A.** NSD had not responded to question by publication date.

3. **Q.** The interim regulations require changes to the standard sponsor-home agreement including collection of date of birth (DOB) of each provider not later than August 29, 2002. When will the agreement and site application be reissued with DOB on it? Will Change Requests and Schedule A's be changed to add DOB? **A.** NSD had not responded to question by publication date.
4. **Q.** When sponsors drop a provider for cause, do they have to take corrective action - or what is the corrective action - for fraudulent provider claims? **A.** NSD had not responded to question by publication date.

#### APPLICATION RENEWAL

Angelo reported that this year the Resources and Information Management (RIM) Unit will review the bulk of the application renewals for centers and center sponsors. Because of the more detailed budgets Field Staff will review family child care home sponsor application renewals. If you have budget questions, be sure to call your NSD Representative.

1. **Q.** When will the new census data be available and how do we implement using it? **A.** NSD would like to see information on the web page. The Department is revising the web page and will be presented next year (*this is the answer as written out on the sheet. I do not quite understand it*).
2. **Q.** Are other sponsors using census data and if so how? **A.** Since data is old it has been discouraged - but it is acceptable. Demographics are changing. (*Editor's note: there is great guidance on when and when not to use census data in the "Consolidated Tiering Q & A" document. However I am not certain when and if that was ever mailed out to sponsors as a Management Bulletin and I did not find it in the Management Manual. It might be a good idea to reissue the guidance when and if 2000 census data becomes available*).
3. **Q.** The school data was very late this year. Will that situation change? **A.** The NSD is dependent upon

another state agency to input data. Staffing this year was a problem. March and April are still target release dates.

4. **Q.** How should sponsors coordinate a school list that becomes available in the Spring and school boundary changes that happen in the Fall? (*Editors note: This was asked in June 13, 2000 Roundtable News and never answered. Let's set up a hypothetical to help explain the dilemma: School X is 52% F & R to start the new 1999 school year in September 1999 based on previous May (1999) data; the school list that comes out in May 2000 shows it as Tier I eligible still. Provider A resides in School X's area and begins CACFP operations in September 1999. She is therefore Tier I until September 2002. But what happens if in September 2001 School X changes its boundary and provider A is now in School Y's area? School Y is not eligible. Does the three years still pertain or does the fact that the boundary changed matter? And what if Provider C begins CACFP in School A area in June 2001, is therefore Tier I but the boundary changes three months later in September 2001? Does she still have three years?*). **A.** NSD did not respond to question at this time.
5. **Q.** There was a concern expressed by Head Start programs working with school vendors. They are having trouble completing the renewal application in the short time frame allotted. Will the application due date change? **A.** NSD had not responded to question by publication date.
6. **Q.** Could NSD develop a check list to accompany the budget that provides direction on what is needed for leases, equipment, etc.? **A.** NSD had not responded to question by publication date.
7. **Q.** Are NSD forms going to be developed in Spanish or other languages? **A.** NSD had not responded to question by publication date.

#### GENERAL POLICY

1. **Q.** There was a general discussion of policies related to providers determined to be Tier I based on school data. May a sponsor re-determine eligibility every year for a provider in an area where the school data changes in and out of eligibility regularly? **A.** Yes, if done consistently for all.

2. **Q.** At what point or under what circumstances must a sponsor conduct a follow-up review of a provider when the paperwork is not up-to-date on the review? How many days must be missing to trigger the follow-up? Two days? One week? There is inconsistency among Field Staff and as this is an issue of sponsor competitiveness in some urban areas a written policy or more guidance should be issued (*editor's note: we have asked for guidance on this in the past*). **Discussion:** We discussed the fact that it can be difficult to set a certain number of days for all cases as each provider's situation and history of noncompliance may be different. **A.** NSD had not responded to question by publication date.
3. **Q.** In a center, what are acceptable meal counting methods, especially in school-age snack programs where children do not sit down and eat in the traditional family-style method? What are some best practices? Must children sit down to be served and counted? **A.** NSD had not responded to question by publication date.
4. **Q.** If a provider is vegetarian, does the sponsor need prior approval of the NSD Division Representative? What approvals/ conditions are necessary for a provider to serve strict vegetarian meals? **A.** NSD had not responded to question by publication date.
4. **Q.** When are meal reimbursements for centers going to be released/increased? (*Editor not sure what exactly this means? Rates -published 7/05/02- did increase for 2002-2003 except for paid rates (due to several factors including the smallness of the original rate as well as the rate of CPI increase and the rounding methodology)*). **A.** NSD had not responded to question by publication date.
5. **Q.** Could CACFP Q & A's from past years be scanned and put on the NSD web site? **A.** Angelo advised that they would look into it.
6. **Q.** Along with the Field Staff contact list can sponsors have a list of all unit staff (RIM, Finance, etc.) with name, position, telephone number, email? **Discussion:** Sponsors are especially concerned about whom to call in RIM, for instance, on issues concerning application renewals, change requests, etc., and whom to call in Finance concerning claims payment. This is a customer service issue. **A.** NSD had not responded to question by publication date.
7. **Q.** Sponsors expressed concern for level of program knowledge of some NSD staff serving as "officer of the day" and asked if analysts (NSD Division representatives) could have beepers? **A.** NSD had not responded to question by publication date.

## MISCELLANEOUS

John reported that the cash-in-lieu reimbursement rate (which centers receive for all lunches and suppers, went down in this year's calculation ¼ cent to \$0.1525. Angelo reported that the state meal reimbursement rate had not yet been set for the new year.

1. **Q.** Is there center-based software? **A.** The Roundtable has prepared a fairly comprehensive list of software manufacturers that it has made available in the past and is updated and included at the end of this newsletter.
2. **Q.** There was a concern expressed that Department of Finance Audit staff lack comprehensive knowledge of issues related to sponsor leases and technology. Could a panel of such staff review budgets? **A.** NSD had not responded to question by publication date.
3. **Q.** There was a concern that the Administrative Manuals contain an updated staff contact list. There was

## CONFERENCE REPORT

### Have You Signed Up Yet for the Roundtable's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, "CCFP: Taste the Magic?"

It is time to sign up for the conference! Early bird discounted registration rates are only available through **September 2**. However you may still register up to September 28 by mail, and in-person at the hotel after that date (please let Joanie know if registering on-site). You need to also call the hotel (714-778-1700) soon to book a room. They will only hold the group discounted rate until **September 22** or until the rooms are sold out!

Registration brochures were mailed out in early July. You should have received one by now. If not contact Ed Mattson immediately at mred94523@earthlink.net, call and leave a message at 530-274-4490 or download one off our website at [www.ccfproundtable.org](http://www.ccfproundtable.org).

We have a terrific conference, next to Disneyland, planned for this year! We have 48 workshops scheduled under the following eight tracks:

*Frontierland: Center & Head Start Issues*

*Climbing the Matterhorn to Professional Growth*

*At Last, Good News About CACFP!*

*Skills for Wizards, um...Monitors*

*Tasting the Magic*

*It's a Small World: Childhood Obesity Prevention*

*Jungleland: Those Pesky Program Issues*

*Adventureland: Sponsor Administrative Issues*

And Friday is SPA Day. Stay, take a load off. Enjoy a rousing yoga morning exercise period followed by a spa breakfast. Then join the others for relaxed sessions on aroma therapy, fitness at your desk, applying yoga principles to your daily life, a fashion show from Chico's, and wrap up the morning with "Cooking Healthy with Costco and Trader Joe's."

**Keynote & Other Speakers Highlighted:** We have been very fortunate this year to get some fabulous and very qualified speakers including: Mr. Eric Bost, Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition & Consumer Services at USDA; Drs. Laurel Branen and Janice Fletcher, from the University of Idaho, School of Family and Consumer Sciences; Ms. Marilyn Briggs, Assistant Superintendent of Public Instruction, California Department of Education; Dr. Harold Goldstein, Executive Director for the California Center for Public Health Advocacy; Dr. Susan Johnson, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center; Ms. Barbara Storper, Director and Founder, FOODPLAY Productions; Dr. Carl Winter, University of California at Davis, Director of the FoodSafe Program and the "Elvis of E. coli;" plus about 40 other great workshop presenters!

**Don't Forget the Fun:** And we have some fun planned for you, including the optional Wednesday evening dinner and tournament at Medieval Times. Imagine stepping back in time one thousand years, as you feast on a hearty four course banquet served by your own serf. Gaze in awe as fearless knights on horseback compete in daring tournament games of skill and accuracy. We are also arranging twilight discount tickets at Disneyland for Friday evening. And there is so much more in sunny Southern California to do.

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

**State Budget Woes & NSD Staffing:** The State of California, as of August 2, does not have a budget. Negotiations between the branches and parties in the Legislature and the Governor's Office, exacerbated by the budget shortfall, have stalled. This has had draconian effects on state staffing and shortly may impact the state's ability to pay sponsor July claims for reimbursement. Unless you have been on extended vacation you know all this. During the advisory committee meeting Carolyn Brown advised members of the current situation. She said the state is doing its best to meet priorities; it has shifted some employees into critical tasks such as application/budget renewals. The Roundtable has agreed to work with NSD to identify customer service lapses and prioritize need. Members asked what was being done about sponsor reimbursement. Carolyn advised that Child Nutrition Fiscal Services has agreed to send out notification to sponsors if the budget is not signed by the second week of August. In that unlikely event, July claims will not be paid timely. Members were amazed that a notice of some kind has not already been sent.

**Why Department of Finance Audits?** Roundtable members are being audited more frequently by the Department of Finance (DOF). The advisory committee wanted to know why. Carolyn advised that yes NSD had contracted with DOF to conduct audits following A-133 criteria. Those audited or scheduled for such audit met one or more of the following indicators:

- suspicious financial records or problems identified during normal review process,
- as a result of a whistleblower,
- audit concerns from CPA firms,
- cases where provider(s) are not letting reviewers in,
- block claiming problems,
- several providers on board of directors,
- using overtime to circumvent hiring process.

**License Revocation Issue:** This was an issue brought to the advisory committee's attention by a member. Apparently not all Field Staff understand NSD's role in ensuring that only licensed providers participate in the program. We asked NSD to advise all staff that the process is that DSS, CCL notifies NSD when licenses are revoked and NSD then forwards that information on to the applicable sponsor(s). This is complicated by the

fact that sponsors that are R & R agencies get the list of revocations directly while others must rely on NSD to do the forwarding. The Roundtable will discuss this restriction at the next quarterly meeting of the Child Care Outcomes Group.

**License Capacity Issue:** Another issue brought to NSD's attention and to be further discussed at the Child Care Outcomes Group, is that of license capacity typos. Apparently on occasion a license is issued with two capacities listed. The one in the upper right hand corner does not agree with the textual description in the middle of the certificate (e.g., one say 14 the other 12). NSD RIM staff have been on occasion missing the discrepancy and/or using the lesser of the two numbers. We pointed this out to Angelo Queirolo, Manager of the RIM Unit and he will advise staff to use more caution when entering data. The Roundtable will also ask DSS to use more care in completion of certificates.

**School Data:** Everyone should know by now that NSD finally got the school data up on the web site during the first week of July. During the advisory committee meeting members discussed the fact that with staff turnover there are folks out there who may need a refresher on the use of school data, school boundaries and the whole tiering eligibility issue. We agreed to work with NSD to design a training mechanism to meet that need. If you feel that you or someone on your staff falls into that category please contact the Roundtable.

## **ROUNDTABLE REPORT**

**Downloading Those Darn Regulations & Rate Notices Off the Web - A Refresher:** Well in the past month regulations and notices have been churning out over at the Federal Register. The new integrity regulations were published June 27, the reimbursement rates on July 5 and the commodity/cash-in-lieu (CIL) rates on July 12. Have you felt helpless waiting for your state agency or someone to tell you about or send out such changes? There is no need. You can download them yourself from the Government Printing Office web site. The web site looks complicated but once you type it in you can bookmark it and save it for the next time. The address is: [http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/aces/aces140.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/aces140.html). That's all there is to it. The screen that comes up gives you some boxes to check and/or fill out and then you click on the "submit" button at the bottom of the page. The order of things on the screen is as follows:

### ***Federal Register Volume***

You will want to check "2002 Federal Register."

### ***Federal Register Sections***

You will see two columns of choices, most often you will be selecting either "Final Rules & Regulations," "Proposed Rules" or "Notices." The new integrity rules were published as "Interim" regulations which means they must be implemented upon publication but comments are still accepted; it is confusing but you would check "Final Rules." The reimbursement and CIL rates are published as "Notices."

### ***Issue Date***

Here you can choose a date range, a specific date or a "before" or "after" date. For instance, the reimbursement rates are published every year in late June or early July. If you do not know the specific publication date you can put in a range like June 15 - July 10 or an "after" date of June 15. We know the Integrity rule was published on June 27, so we will click the "On" circle and put in "06/27/2002." For the reimbursement rates we would have entered "07/05/2002."

### ***Search Terms***

Finally we have to search the data base of all Federal Register pages so we need search terms to narrow the hunt. For the regulations you cannot go wrong by putting "Child and Adult Care Food Program" in quotations in the search terms box. For the reimbursement rates you can do the same or use "National Average Payment Rates." For CIL use "Value of Donated Foods."

When the search results come up on your screen you have the option of "text," "html" or "pdf." Most people prefer PDF as the quality and formatting is the same as the printed version but you need Adobe Acrobat installed on your computer to read it. If you haven't done so after all of our suggestions to do so, don't worry you can read it with html or text. Now please try this and see how simple it really is.

**Training Survey Results:** At the May Roundtable meeting breakout session, members brainstormed topics they would like to receive training on. They were not restricted by considerations of how, where or when. They came up with a list of 31 topics that were then emailed to all members for feedback and prioritization. We assigned a value of 10 to everyone's top pick and values down to 1 for pick number 10. In this method we came up with

the group's top ten, most of which will be given at the Fall Conference.

<i>TOPIC</i>	<i>AT CONFERENCE</i>
1. Cultural Diversity: recipes...	YES
2. Nutrition Education with Kids	YES
3. Refresher on Income Eligibility Guidelines	YES
4. New Monitor 101- many monitoring issues included	
5. New Food Buying Guide	YES
6. Food Safety	YES
7. Infants	YES
8. Resource Sharing: ...other languages	NO
9. Children with Special Needs	YES
10. Newsletters	YES

**796-2 Survey:** NSD asked the Roundtable to survey its family child care home sponsor members on topics in the new 796-2 Financial Management Instruction they would most like additional training on. The state is planning four training sessions this Fall, two of which will be held in conjunction with our Fall Conference on Wednesday and Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. We sent out a survey form to the 58 sponsors for whom we have email addresses; regrettably only 15 responses were returned. We had hoped more sponsors would have participated. The topics receiving at least 5 votes are as follows (in point order): employee morale, health and welfare costs; accounting; travel; labor costs; publishing, printing and reproduction; audits; expensing equipment and other property; administrative appeals; communications; facilities and space costs; general business expenses; materials and supplies; meetings and conferences; participant training. *To help make the training better fit your needs we are asking for the rest of you to respond not later than August 30.*

**Ed's Moving:** Yes I'm moving. Please address Roundtable correspondence to me now at: 202 Fairmont Dr., Grass Valley, CA 95945 and change the Roundtable number in your files to: 530-274-4490 (effective 8/12/02). My email stays the same: mred94523@earthlink.net.

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

**Advisory Committee Nominations & Update:** The Roundtable board or advisory committee has for many years been made up of 15 members elected from the general membership to serve three year staggered terms. Five

are up for re/election each year. With funds tight and time to commit to board participation limited, the Roundtable board has seen some resignations recently. The advisory committee discussed this new reality and decided that its priority was to have fewer members that were dedicated, hard working and with the interest and ability to travel to most of the meetings, at least in the half of the state where the board member resides. Accordingly, we now have two members (Vita Sanchez and Terry Talavera) and three vacant positions whose term is up this year. Vita and Terry have asked to be considered for reelection this year. And we have one vacant position in the group of 5 whose term expires in 2004. So in total we have 6 positions open, two current board members wishing to re-up and one new applicant, Cary Steen from Valley Oak Children's Services. All three are seeking your approval to fill one of the vacancies. Ballots should be mailed/emailed by mid-August and will be due back by September 13.

## **CALIFORNIA FOOD POLICY ADVOCATES**

### **Key California Legislation - Update:**

- **AB 2395** would require schools with low test scores to offer a school breakfast program. They would receive first priority for the use of state funded start-up and expansion grants. The bill has passed in the Assembly and is coming off suspense at Senate Education Committee on August 7. This bill needs our support.
- **AB 2415** would change food stamp recipient reporting from monthly to quarterly easing the burden on needy families like those in Tier I homes.
- **SB 19** is being hit by the budget crunch. It would have provided 10 cents in additional funding for more nutritious meals in elementary schools and funded pilot projects in 8 school districts and policy projects in 3. But funding has been severely cut back Carolyn reported. The California Department of Food and Agriculture has \$3-8 million for specialty crops which has been redirected to CDE for some grants but the 10 cent supplement had to be cut.

These bills need your support. Please refer to CFPA's web site ([www.cfpa.net](http://www.cfpa.net)) for more information and be sure to let your state representatives know you support them.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR  
THE NEXT ROUNDTABLE MEETING

# Announcement

## SEPTEMBER 2002 MEETING LOCATION CORRECTION

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2002

9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

**MARINA VILLAGE CONFERENCE CENTER**

Dockside Room @ 1945 Quivira Road, San Diego

**LODGING INFORMATION:** The closest lodging is at the **Dana Inn & Marina**, 1710 West Mission Bay Drive, San Diego. Tel: (619) 222-6440. Rooms are \$109-169 and has \*\*2 stars in AAA. The Inn is very nice and right on the bay. They have free shuttle service from the airport to the Inn and Conference Center. Be sure to contact the Inn regarding pick-up times. The Inn is within walking distance to the Conference Center. Other lodging options:

Days Inn, 543 Hotel Circle, 92108, \* \* \$85-149 (619) 297-8800

Comfort Inn & Suites, 2485 Hotel Circle Pl., 92108, \* \* \$89-159 (619) 881-6200

Holiday Inn Select, 595 Hotel Circle So., 92108, \* \* \$119-139 (619) 291-5720

Holiday Inn Mission Bay, 3737 Sports Arena Blvd., 92110, \* \* \$89-169 (619) 881-6100

Ramada Plaza, 2151 Hotel Circle So., 92108, \* \* \$89-99 (619) 291-6500

Hanalei Hotel, 2270 Hotel Circle No., 92108, \* \* \$109-119 (619) 297-1101

**DIRECTIONS TO MARINA VILLAGE:** From Interstate 5 take the Sea World Drive exit. From Sea World Drive take WEST Mission Bay Drive on your right. When you see the large green sign that says Quivira Road get in the farthest left of two left turn lanes. Turn left; go one very short block and turn left again. Drive about .4 miles and Marina Village will be on your right. The Dana Inn is on West Mission Bay Drive.

Call Joan LaRocque at (619) 465-2690 for more information

The **Advisory Committee Meeting** is Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, at the Dana Inn.