



Roundtable news

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

NOVEMBER 2004

TIME TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP

The Roundtable membership year ends on December 31. Thank you for your membership this year. Continue to receive uninterrupted membership benefits such as the Roundtable News and legislative action alerts by renewing early. A few of you have renewed already as part of your registration for this year's conference. Thanks; that is a good way to remember. The vast majority of you however need to do so now. Please complete the attached membership form, updating your information for our database, and send it along with your check to the address listed on the form. Please advise your fiscal departments to be sure to include the membership form with the check. This saves us a great deal of time. Each year we get many checks without forms. Please be sure also to include your email address, printed clearly, on the form ■

Santa Barbara, September 17, 2004

CHAIR REPORT

Paula James welcomed the Roundtable and gave the following brief introductory remarks and announcements. She thanked the Santa Barbara Co. Office of Education for providing the refreshments and the nice meeting room and especially Maria Pacheco for all her hard work setting things up.

Marketing the CACFP: Paula briefly shared with members our ongoing concern for the visibility of and need to market the CACFP. This issue was most recently brought to our attention again this year while seeking corporate sponsorship for the

See **Chair Report**, Page 2, Column 1

THANKS AGAIN TO OUR 2004 CONFERENCE SPONSORS:

Gold Level

CDE Nutrition Services Division



Supporter Level

MCT Technology

INSIDE THIS EDITION

REPORTS

Advisory Committee	6
CFPA	9
Conference	8
Membership	8
Nutrition Services Division	5
Roundtable	8
USDA	2

HOT TOPICS

Child Nutrition Reauthorization	2
Second Interim Rule	3
Serious Deficiency Task Group	6
CACFP-TALK	7
Advisory Committee for 2005	8
Next Meeting in January	11
Membership Form	12

Chair Report, continued from page 1

annual conference. Outside of the immediate circle of administrators, independent centers, sponsoring organizations and their family child care providers and/or centers, the program is not well known or understood. We have worked in the past with our child care partners at the Resource and Referral Network, the CDE Child Development Division, the DSS Child Care Licensing Division, and CAEYC to increase our visibility; it remains a work in progress. Members are admonished to look for opportunities, such as at Local Planning Council Meetings, to get the word out. Paula suggested perhaps it is a matter of the name; would “child care meals program” or “child care nutrition” better describe what we do and help establish a brand/identity? It is not just a concern for corporate sponsorship of the conference; it is much bigger. The general public needs to know and support what we do as we enter a future of great fiscal uncertainty with skyrocketing deficits. These and related issues will continue to be discussed at future Advisory Committee meetings. Members with ideas to share in this area, or who have had successful efforts in their state, are asked to please contact Ed or Paula.

Spending Administrative Dollars: Some sponsors, Paula exclaimed, apparently are not reporting all of their administrative costs or spending all of their potential reimbursement. She found the prospect hard to believe as she and many others are finding it extremely difficult

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 633, San Francisco, CA 94105.

Editor
Edward Mattson

Membership is from Jan 1 to Dec 31 every year. For more information please contact Ed at 530-677-9410 or mred94523@earthlink.net

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 CACFP.

these days to make ends meet. Sponsors are being asked to do more and more with the same limited administrative dollars yet some sponsors, according to data cited by Carolyn Brown, are not spending all that they have earned. Paula wondered how that could be. Are sponsors doing training, monitoring and nutrition education? Are sponsors forgetting to revise their budgets in July when the rates increase? She was incredulous. Paula asked how the advocacy community can ask for an increase in administrative dollars if sponsors are not using all the funds available. There seems to be a large disparity between sponsors. While some cannot make ends meet others are in effect turning back funds. Paula asked sponsors to take a look at their operations and be sure they are doing an adequate job of training and monitoring and at least remembering to revise their budgets after the July rate increase.

USDA

Joshline McLean and John Kirwan from the Western Regional Office attended the meeting and Joshline gave the following report. She summarized (*and the editor has expanded upon*) the major changes to the CACFP in the following:

Child Nutrition Reauthorization Legislation (PL 108-265):

- *Permanent Exclusion Of Privatized Military Housing Allowance* – Effective July 1, 2004, military families living in housing covered under the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, may exclude from income the housing allowance which appears on their leave and earnings statement for such privatized housing.

- *Permanent Sponsor-Provider Agreements* – Effective June 30, 2004, this provision allows permanent agreements between sponsoring organizations and their family child care providers. Sponsors do not, however, “need to revise currently valid agreements, but must make all agreements permanent as they are updated or revised. All day care homes must have a permanent agreement in place no later than July 1, 2005.”
 - *Age Limits Raised in Emergency Shelters from 12 to 18* – This took effect on October 1, 2004.
 - *Proprietary Center Eligibility Made Permanent* – Effective upon enactment, this provision makes permanent proprietary center eligibility based on 25% free or reduced price enrollment, in addition to 25% Title XX.
 - *Audit/Review Disregard Made Consistent with Other Child Nutrition Programs* – Effective October 1, 2004 this provision raises the audit disregard to be consistent with that used in the National School Lunch Program – currently \$600.
 - *Paperwork Reduction Task Force* – Effective July 1, 2004, this provision directs the Department to convene a paperwork reduction task force, which is targeted for the Fall of 2004.
 - *Duration of Tier I Eligibility* – Effective June 30, 2004, this provision requires sponsoring organizations of day care homes to re-determine their tiering status based on school data every five years instead of every three. The tiering status of newly participating homes, with signed agreements as of June 30, 2004, will be re-determined in five years (2009). The tiering status of currently participating homes, whose tiering status is based on a three-year re-determination cycle, may be extended by two years for a total of five years.
- Assistant Director Debbie Meeker pointed out that NSD would be getting fact sheets out on these changes soon.
- New Second Interim Rule:**
- The information in this section either directly quotes from or paraphrases a recent USDA policy memorandum addressed to state agencies on implementation of the rule.
- *Application Renewal Process Simplification* – The second interim rule included a number of provisions to allow state agencies greater flexibility in managing the renewal application process. The goal was to allow state agencies to concentrate more efforts on determining the continuing viability, capability and accountability of larger sponsors. State agencies were given flexibility in taking renewal applications anywhere between 12 and 36 months since the last application. The number of items required in the renewal application was reduced and the rule clarified that items required to be submitted annually could be done so outside of the normal application process. The rule also permits permanent agreements in the CACFP.
 - *Household Contacts* – In response to public comment that the proposed requirements were too complex and would prohibit the use of effective systems already in place, the new interim rule requires state agencies (SAs) to establish household contact systems for use by sponsors in their review of facilities, and by the SA in its review of independent centers or in its review of facilities as part of a sponsor review. These systems must be implemented by April 1, 2005 (four months from now).
 - *Enrollment Forms* – The interim rule requires that enrollment forms be updated

annually and signed by a parent or guardian, and that the enrollment forms indicate the “normal” days in care and meals to be received by each enrolled child. Annual updates to the enrollment form, signed by a parent or guardian and indicating the child’s normal schedule, must be implemented by April 1, 2005. This means that any new enrollment form, collected on or after that date, will need to comply with the new requirements. For enrollment forms that are already collected annually, the changes must be in place next time on or after April 1, 2005, that the forms are collected. For all other enrollment forms, the changes must be in place by September 30, 2005.

- *Standard Review Elements for Sponsors* – The interim rule requires that, as part of each review of a facility, the sponsor must assess the facility’s compliance with the regulatory requirements pertaining to:
 - The meal pattern;
 - Licensing or approval;
 - Participation in or attendance at sponsor training;
 - Meal Counts;
 - Menu and meal records; and
 - Annually updated enrollment forms.

In addition, each facility review is required to:

- Assess whether the facility has corrected problems noted on previous reviews; and
- Include a five-day reconciliation of meal counts with enrollment and attendance records.

The health and safety review element in the proposed rule was removed based on comments received, but SAs and sponsors are reminded that the law and regulations nevertheless require sponsors conducting facility reviews to take appropriate action

when they encounter conduct or conditions that pose an imminent threat to children’s health or safety.

Finally, the interim rule clarifies that SAs have the authority to require meal counts more frequently than daily in family day care homes (i.e., point-of-service), but only if there are a total of 12 or more children enrolled in the home (i.e., in group day care homes or in homes providing shift care to 12 or more children).

- *Meal Claim Edit Checks/Block Claims* – The interim rule requires that, by October 1, 2005, SAs and sponsors have monthly edit checks in place to ensure that: 1) facilities or institutions have been approved to serve the meal types being claimed, and 2) the number of meals claimed does not exceed the number derived by multiplying approved meal types times days of operation times enrollment. In addition, sponsors are required to have in place, by October 1, 2005, an edit check to detect block claims and to take required follow-up action when a block claim is detected.

The block claim definition was changed from the proposed rule. It is now defined as “a claim on which the number of meals claimed by a facility for one or more meal types is identical for 15 consecutive days within the claiming period (change underlined for emphasis).” It had been 10 or more days for all meal types (*Editor’s note: there was considerable discussion about the difference between “one or more meal types” and what had been our understanding from the proposed rule, at the Roundtable conference. USDA is considering its position on this and may clarify further*). USDA guidance on the matter suggests that block claiming constitutes a red flag and must trigger follow-up action by the sponsor. In the interim rule, the required follow-up action

is that the sponsor must conduct an unannounced review of the facility within 60 days of receiving the claim (the SA may grant an extension for 30 additional days on a case-by-case basis). If on the follow-up review it is determined that there was a legitimate reason for the block claim the sponsor may document that fact and not have to continuously follow-up with that facility each time it submits a block claim. Such a follow-up unannounced review will count towards the required three reviews per year; providers submitting a block claim, even one proven to be legitimate, must receive a minimum of the three reviews per year

- *Review Cycle for Sponsored Facilities* – The interim rule permits sponsors, at their discretion, to average their reviews of facilities. The intent is to permit sponsors to focus their efforts on facilities more likely to commit errors. Sponsors may elect to implement review averaging for the review year beginning October 1, 2004 (FY '05). To do so they must inform their SA and describe how they plan to implement their plan. Sponsors electing this option may not reduce the total number of reviews conducted per year and may not conduct less than two unannounced reviews per year per facility. Facilities submitting a block claim must be reviewed three times per year.
- *Tier I Eligibility Based on Food Stamps* – The interim rule requires sponsors to provide to the SA a list of family day care homes claiming eligibility for Tier I reimbursement on the basis of the provider's participation in the Food Stamp Program (FSP), as well as providers in eligible areas using FSP participation to claim their own child(ren). The SA is required to pass the list to the SA responsible for administering the FSP. USDA is expected to issue further

guidance on this provision in the near future.

- *Training* – The interim rule requires mandatory training for key staff (defined by the SA) of all facilities, both before Program participation and annually thereafter.
- *Meal Service Times* – The interim rule provides SAs with regulatory authority to specify the length of meal services and the time that elapses between meal services.

NUTRITION SERVICES DIVISION

Assistant Director Debbie Meeker and Carolyn Brown attended the meeting. Ms. Meeker welcomed the participants and gave the state report. She introduced herself and said she had only been at the Division for nine months. She advised that she would like to get more involved with implementation of the new rules and regulations. She stated that she saw her role and that of the sponsors having a lot in common. Both do monitoring and are monitored; both have field staffs with large geographic areas and a concern for consistency. She advised that her field staff is coming in for annual training the week of September 20. She went on to say that it is her desire to help programs be successful through training; she respects the job we do, she said, and the value it has.

Ms. Meeker was pleased to report that they have been able to fill some vacancies. They are going forward to hire new CNCs allowing them to shrink each's geographic area. Shirley Hazlett was hired to fill the Nutrition Education Administrator's position. She will oversee training programs. She is a credentialed teacher and has a great deal of experience planning and delivering training. Also Sandip Kaur has been hired recently to oversee the claims process. Debbie said they are getting their management team together. Carolyn Brown offered how excited she is to have Debbie on board and glad she could come to the meeting and hear our message. Other than the new managers and CNCs, Debbie admitted that the

reorganization has stalled. Members asked if we might get at least an interim organization chart.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Ed Mattson briefed members on the key topics discussed at the Advisory Committee (AC) meeting on September 16.

School List Discrepancies: Some of our AC members have noted large discrepancies between school data this year and last and wondered what recourse they had. The NSD advised that sponsors could no longer contact the schools directly to obtain updated data but could try census information. Schools reporting bad data need to go through the regular process to update it. David Lawhorn at NSD is working on this issue. Debbie Meeker asked that sponsors fax any egregious examples to her at 916-327-0503.

Recent Self-Termination of Three Additional FCCH Sponsors: The AC has worked with NSD over the past few years to try to make the transition process, when sponsors are terminated or self-terminate, easier. Progress has been made. Three sponsors recently self-terminated and the transition went well except for CCIS in Pasadena. In that case the sponsor apparently let a number of providers go a month earlier than expected catching some area sponsors and NSD unawares. The Roundtable asked NSD to make an effort in the future to more closely monitor the process and avoid last minute panics. NSD agreed.

Setting Up Serious Deficiency Task Group: One area where sponsors have felt the need for more guidance, to insure compliance and consistency, is in determining a provider to be seriously deficient. Most sponsors of course have a system in place as the rule mandating the process has been in place for nearly 2 years. But discussion at Roundtable meetings and Roundtable regional meetings indicates a real concern for more guidance. Sponsors want to know that what they are doing will pass muster during a review and want assurance that they are not being more restrictive than their competitors. Consistency is sought. This concern is shared nationwide and several

state agencies have worked with their sponsors to draw up guidance packages. The NSD has recently notified the Roundtable that it would be interested in forming a task group to work on a similar guidance piece. An ad hoc group of AC members was formed at the September meeting and a first meeting with NSD has been tentatively scheduled for November 15. If any Roundtable members have developed written guidelines for their organization/state that are effective please feel free to share them with Ed or Paula (we have guidance from WA and NE and are expecting some from KS).

Recent Letters to NSD: At the July meeting we were advised that NSD would like the Roundtable to use more formal methods of communication, letters rather than emails, for important issues and concerns. We agreed and on July 22 and 27 a series of three letters were sent to NSD. The first recounted the 27 year history of the relationship between NSD and the Roundtable and asked that it continue. The second addressed the desire to reestablish quarterly meetings between NSD, the Roundtable, the CDE Child Development Division, and the Department of Social Services, Child Care Licensing Division. These meetings between members of the “Interagency Child Care Outcomes Group,” as it was known, had as their goal improved inter-agency communications and customer service and expanded participation in the CACFP. We have a current issue concerning license revocations that needs to be addressed in just such a meeting. The final letter addressed a long overdue Management Bulletin clarifying eligibility of Trustline providers in the CACFP.

Next Regional Meeting Planned for Los Angeles Area: The next Roundtable Regional Meeting will be in the Los Angeles area. Advisory Committee member Terry Talavera has agreed to help facilitate the meeting. You may recall we began the regional meeting process about a year ago to provide a local opportunity for sponsors to send more of their staffs than can attend a regular Roundtable meeting. The format is also different in that it is less about reports and more about an opportunity to dialogue on program

issues and best practices. Past meetings have focused on implementing the first interim rule with an emphasis on the serious deficiency/administrative review process. Depending upon the timing of the LA meeting, the topic will remain the same but perhaps focus more on what any prospective guidance form NSD should look like (i.e., how proscriptive).

Renewal Budget Spreadsheet Problem Heads Up:

It is no doubt too late now, we apologize for the lateness of this newsletter, but AC members had a concern for a budget spreadsheet adopted by NSD for the 2004-05 renewal that contained some formula errors (incorrect reimbursement rates). We pointed out the errors and they were corrected. Hopefully all sponsors found them and took appropriate corrective action.

Cal-Pro-Net Feedback: The Roundtable has been working with NSD to insure that training meets the needs of our members in California. One of our concerns was that contracted Cal-Pro-Net trainers know enough about the program to answer policy questions that will inevitably come up during the training. The NSD and Cal-Pro-Net have worked with us to hire experienced trainers. We appreciate it. Advisory members attending the training had good things to say about sessions they attended. Other members from CA are asked for their feedback.

CACFP Talk: The Advisory Committee thought it was time we re-publish information on "CACFP- Talk." This piece is from the creator of the listserv: CACFP-TALK is an online, interactive discussion group created in response to a need for sharing among State agencies and institutions participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program. This service is intended to enable State and local CACFP administrators to share ideas about feeding children nutritious meals.

CACFP-TALK is not designed to provide direct discussion for Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) program matters. Institutions should consult their State agencies and States should contact their

Regional Offices when questions about compliance with program regulations arise.

Membership in CACFP-TALK is limited to personnel with State agencies and child care institutions (i.e., sponsoring organizations and independent child care centers) participating in the CACFP. Day care providers in family and group day care homes and sponsored child care centers are not eligible to join.

To use this listserv there are THREE important addresses, each has a specific function in the operation of CACFP-TALK.

1 - Subscribe and unsubscribe:

Majordomo is a computer that keeps track of members. This address is used for subscribing and unsubscribing only.

To SUBSCRIBE via e-mail send a message to: majordomo@nal.usda.gov . In the body, type: subscribe cacfp-talk. Do not use the subject line.

2 - Messages to the other Members:

Send a message to: cacfp-talk@nal.usda.gov . Subject line: Always used to let others know the topic you are addressing.

Body of message: The text of your information, question, etc. If a conversation has been on-going, restating the topic you are addressing is very helpful. A signature (name & agency) at the end of the message is a courtesy to the other members.

3 - Administrative difficulties

Send a message to: jgladsto@nal.usda.gov . Subject line: topic of problem.

Body of message: Details of the problem, your name and telephone number or alternate e-mail if the first one does not work.

ROUNDTABLE REPORT

Ed made the following brief announcements:

- Grant Funds* - Ed reported that in the latest (August 2004) on-line *CCLD Update* grant funding was announced for day care centers. The Department of Personnel Administration through the Work and Family Program, is offering grants for the start-up of new child care facilities, or the expansion of existing facilities. The grants are available to facilities whose intent is to provide care for dependents of state employees. Find out more at www.dpa.ca.gov/workingfamilies or by contacting Rosanne McHenry at rosannemchenry@dpa.ca.gov.
- Recent Study* – Ed reported on a recent study published in the September issue of the American Journal of Public Health entitled “Changes in Diet Quality of American Preschoolers Between 1977 and 1998.” The study does not specifically mention the CACFP. It concluded, “Although our index indicates more healthy food choices, overall energy consumption has increased, which might be a contributor to the increasing prevalence of childhood obesity.” It goes on to note that “Targeting diet quality to improve childhood obesity might entail messages to limit intake of certain foods and food groups rather than focusing solely on increasing consumption of certain nutrients.” Limits on fruit juices and added sugar might “represent a potential target for improvement, especially since other researchers have found that increased intake of juice puts children at risk of deficiency of milk, yogurt, and cheese.”
- Dietary Guidelines* – It’s too late now (and again we apologize for the lateness of this newsletter) but Ed reported that interested parties had until September 27 to comment

on the new 2005 Dietary Guidelines. Information is still available at the CNPP website: <http://www.usda.gov/cnpp/>.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Advisory Committee for 2005: Friends the results are in and there were no hanging chads, no red or blue states, no popular vs. electoral vote counts. Your new Advisory Committee for 2005 is:

TERM 2003-5
Lorraine Bergendorf-Clark
Diane Butler-Joyner
Cary Steen
Terry Talavera
-vacant-
TERM 2004-6
Jerry Bowers
Doris Fredericks
Paula James
Karen Kiernan
Mary Straw
TERM 2005-7 (confirmed in this election)
Marcia Cagigas
Stephanie Clarke
Sandra Lerma-Martinez
David Paillette
Jennifer Teer

Congratulations and thanks for agreeing to serve!

CONFERENCE REPORT

The Roundtable’s 13th Annual Conference, “CCFP: A Fresh Attitude” was another huge success. Nearly 450 presenters and conferees, as well as 16 exhibitors, attended the October 24-27 event in San Diego. In all there were 45 workshops, 2 great pre-conference sessions with Ellyn Satter and 2 noteworthy keynotes by Dr. Antronette Yancey and Connie Evers. Recent analysis of the conference evaluations revealed that participants rated their overall satisfaction and conference value in the mid 4’s on a scale of 1-5. Keynotes were rated in the mid to high 4’s. Highly rated workshops included: “Brain Development” with Jocelyn Tucker, “Spice Up

Your Provider Training” with a panel of experts led by Lorraine Bergendorf-Clark, “The Second Interim Rule” with Ed Morawetz, “Preparing for a Audit” with Bob Gray, “Low Carb Diets” with Shirley Zuorski, “Distance Learning” with Kelly Rosenleaf, “Infant Feeding” with Kelley Knapp, “Have Fun Be Healthy” with Patty Kimbrell, “Combining Music, Movement and Activity for Children” with Angela Russ and two workshops by Tina Wade. The list goes on and on. We wish to thank these and all presenters, panelists and keynote speakers for a job well done. Further, we want to take this opportunity to thank once again the Roundtable Advisory Committee and their staffs, the National CACFP Forum Board, Joan LaRocque, Geri Henchy, Carolyn Brown and others that helped plan and carryout the conference

Know that we take your evaluation comments seriously and will try to include or take into account as many of your suggestions and recommendations for 2005 as we can. We are currently working on a location and will let you know as soon as one is finalized. *(If you would like to be involved in the planning process, have ideas for speakers, especially for centers, please let me know.)*

The Roundtable also gratefully acknowledges our sponsors for 2004, without whose financial support the conference would not have happened:

Gold Level: CA Department of Education, Nutrition Services Division.

Supporter Level: MCT Technology.
Thank You!

CALIFORNIA FOOD POLICY ADVOCATES

The following written report on California issues was submitted by George Manalo-LeClair, CFPA’s Director of Legislation:

The Governor has until the end of [September] to act on legislation, so there are a few open items. But for the most part we can say that the 2004 session was not one where significant new

investments in nutrition were made; nor was it a session where monumental nutrition policy changes found their way into law. Instead, efforts were largely focused on maintaining existing investments in nutrition, such as efforts to keep recent food stamp improvements in place and to protect cash assistance programs like CalWORKs and SSI/SSP from severe budget cuts. Here are some of the high and low lights:

State Budget:

Nutrition Programs

The final budget fully funded all the Food Stamp reforms from last year's AB 231 (transitional benefits, the auto-resource rule), restored Senior Brown Bag program funding, and continued the California Food Assistance Program for immigrants, without block grants, cuts, or caps.

This represents a sharp about-face for the Schwarzenegger Administration, which had earlier threatened repeal or funding cuts for these programs. Thanks to the work of advocates, legislators, and to considerable media attention these issues were funded without having to "cut a deal" with the Governor on future cuts. This advocacy has been so successful, that Transitional Food Stamps are now called "high-priority" items in the Gov's budget (*Keep in my mind that the Governor tried to block implementation of this item during his first weeks in office*). While it's fabulous to see these important programs getting the respect they deserve, they should never have been threatened in the first place. As Senate President Pro Tem John Burton (D-San Francisco) said, "It's nice he didn't do what shouldn't have been done before, but he doesn't get a lot of props from me. It's like thanking people for not robbing a bank."

Cash Assistance and Childcare (from WCLP)

Despite the lengthy and unexpected budget deadlock, programs like CalWORKs, SSI and child care avoided the deep cuts proposed by the Governor. But the Legislature and the Governor did agree to significant changes to the CalWORKs work requirements that will have positive and

negative consequences for recipients. The budget rejects most of the Governor's January and May human service proposals. Most significantly, CalWORKs recipients will not receive an across the board five percent grant cut nor will they have to absorb 25 percent cuts to households where the adult has timed off aid or is in sanction status. The budget assumes the savings from not paying the October 2003 COLA which became due when the Governor reduced the vehicle license fee and delays the July, 2004 CalWORKs COLA until November, 2004. The budget passes through the federal COLA for SSI in January, 2005 but delays the state SSP COLA until April, 2005. The budget maintains the basic child care system (no elimination of Stage 3 eligibility child care or child care for 12 year old children).

State Legislation:

AB 2686 on the Governor's Desk

Governor Schwarzenegger, whose commitment to fitness and a healthy diet is well known, has the opportunity to give parents and students valuable nutrition tools by signing AB2686 (Jackson). This bill would let families know if their school district will (a) provide them with nutrition information for the school lunch program and (b) make sure lunch entrées don't have excessive amounts of fat or saturated fat. The bill received bipartisan support in both the Assembly and Senate, and more than 500 parents, health care providers, nutrition advocates and others logged onto CFPA's Web site to find out how to participate in the AB2686 Call-In Day in August. We have heard from local advocates across the state that they are eager for AB2686 to pass, since they agree it will help them improve their local school lunch program.

SB 1566

However, the Governor will not have the opportunity to weigh in on SB1566 (Escutia). This bill would have set nutrition standards for snack foods in K-12; the original version also eliminated sodas from high schools (SB677 eliminated sodas from elementary and middle schools starting July 1, 2004.). SB1566 died in the Assembly, six votes

short of passage. Opposition included the California School Food Service Association, the Grocery Manufacturers Association and other industry groups.

AB 2013

AB 2013, the bill to end finger imaging for food stamps and welfare, failed to make it out of the Senate. Fierce opposition from the CA District Attorney's Association, LA County and the Schwarzenegger Administration led to the bill's demise. So, for now, the wasteful and burdensome finger-imaging system will remain in place. But given the preponderance of evidence that the system should be eliminated, we should expect the Governor to reverse his position in the near future.

AB 2200

AB 2200, the school breakfast bill died earlier this year in the Appropriations committee. Though it would have only cost \$1.8 million in state resources to require the 1,400 remaining schools in California to get with the program (breakfast), AB 2200 got buried in the 295 bills in the Appropriation Committee's suspense file. This is especially troubling to breakfast advocates who were looking for some progress, even small progress toward more schools to serve breakfast and to get California to utilize more of available federal funds to feed kids.

AB 2101 (from the WIC Assn.)

The California WIC Association's effort to contain food costs in WIC failed in the Assembly. Despite the failure to pass this important piece of legislation, we should be proud of the incredible support shown in the Assembly and in the Senate, where it passed with a bi-partisan vote of 31-4. This is even more noteworthy given that WIC-only store owners who opposed the bill hired 4 lobbyists to defeat AB2101. These events strengthen the point that clear policy needs to be set at the federal level since special interests have stymied our efforts to get state legislation adopted.

AB 1796 On the Governor's Desk

The bill to restore benefits to some former drug felons is on the Governor's desk. California's

citizens with prior drug felony convictions are currently subject to a lifetime ban on receiving food stamps. Across the nation, thirty-one other states have already reinstated partial or full benefits to this marginalized population. The bill before the Governor would restore benefits for those who felony was for drug possession not sale or distribution.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND MAKE
RESERVATIONS FOR
THE NEXT ROUNDTABLE MEETING**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2005

9:30 AM - 2:00 PM

**Exact Location to be Determined
Sacramento**

LODGING INFORMATION:

Hotel	Address	Phone
Crossroads Inn	221 Jibboom St.	916-442-7777
Discovery Inn	350 Bercut Dr.	916-442-6971
Fountain Suites	321 Bercut Dr.	916-441-1444
Governor's inn	210 Richards Blvd.	916-448-7224
Holiday Inn	300 J Street	916-446-0100
La Quinta Inn	200 Jibboom St.	916-448-8100
Motel 6	227 Jibboom St.	916-441-0733
Vagabond	909 3 rd St.	916-446-1481
Sandman Motel	236 Jibboom St.	916-443-6515

PARKING & DIRECTIONS: From the Bay Area take 80 east; just before the river exit on Jefferson/State Capitol. Proceed up over the freeway and the river bridge to Capitol Mall. The EDD Building is down the Mall on the right between 7th and 8th Streets. Parking is available in several locations nearby including under the mall on K Street (left at 2nd signal, through one signal then down under mall and right at signal into parking lot).

The **Advisory Committee Meeting** is on Thursday, January 20, 2005, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The location is still undetermined.

CHILD CARE FOOD PROGRAM ROUNDTABLE

MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION

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

As a member of the Roundtable there are several benefits including receiving current information on state and federal issues, legislative alerts, regular newsletters and minutes of meetings; having an opportunity for direct dialogue with state and federal administrators, and networking with experienced sponsors and state and national policy advocates; leadership opportunities, and annual conference discounts and scholarships. Membership is annual and on a calendar year basis.

To join or renew, please **complete this form and return it** with your check (made payable to the California Food Policy Advocates) to: CCFP Roundtable, c/o Ed Mattson, 4772 French Creek Road, Shingle Springs, CA 95682 (Tel: 530-677-9410).

Membership Fees			Member Information			
Check all that apply (If you check more than one category, <u>pay only the single highest fee</u>).			Org. Name:			
Fees:	Sponsors of:	Sites:	Org. Name:			
\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Center(s) or Head Start	1-5	Address:			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Homes	1-150	City, State, Zip:			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Affiliate (newsletter only)		Contact:			
\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Centers/Head Start	6-15	Tel. Number:			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Homes	151-500	Fax Number:			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Affiliate (full membership)		E-mails:			
\$75.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Centers/Head Start	16-25	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; padding: 5px;">No. of Sites/Homes:</td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; padding: 5px;">Amount Enclosed:</td> </tr> </table>		No. of Sites/Homes:	Amount Enclosed:
No. of Sites/Homes:	Amount Enclosed:					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Homes	501-1000				
\$100.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Centers/Head Start	26+				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Homes	1001+				
	<input type="checkbox"/> State Agencies					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporations					