



Roundtable news

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



MARCH 2008

LEGISLATIVE ACTION PLAN 2008

We are asking **ALL** Roundtable members to visit their Congressperson in 2008. The best time to try to do so is while they are back in their districts. The House recess schedule is as follows: May 26-30, June 30-July 4 and August 11-Sep 5. The August recess seems like the best timeframe as it is longer and it is still a few months away – giving us time to plan our strategy. While priority is given to members of the House Ed & Labor Committee your visit is still important even if your member is not on it. Your member will certainly let the appropriate committees know of your concern. What is important in our efforts is the numbers we can get out their in the district offices at one time! Letters are important too. You should consider getting your providers and parents involved in writing letters (we hope to have a sample letter on our web site soon).

We have a number of members of the House Ed & Labor Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education here in CA. Even though responsibility for Child Nutrition Programs has recently been moved to the Subcommittee on Healthy Families & Communities they will still play an important role due to their experience with the programs. We also have Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi here in San Francisco. The Roundtable Advisory Committee will be taking the lead. We are planning a district office visit or event in the San Diego area for Congresswoman Susan Davis with AC members Child Development Associates and CN Programs of Southern CA and possibly

Roundtable member Chicano Federation. We are planning a district office visit in the LA area for Congresswoman Linda Sanchez with AC member Options and possibly Roundtable member International Institute of Los Angeles (other Roundtable members in Ms. Sanchez's district might want to join in). We are planning a follow-up visit with Congressman Howard McKeon by AC members Ventura County Day Care Association and San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools. In the Bay Area we are considering a media event for Committee Chair George Miller and Speaker Nancy Pelosi with AC member Contra Costa Child Care Council and Roundtable member San Francisco Children's Council. Our out of state members are also strongly encouraged to make visits too, especially in

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districts of the new members of the Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities (see story below under “Report from FRAC/Forum Conference”). Ed has state by state statistics on the drop if you want to modify the talking points for your state.

We have been talking about this for a long time now. Hopefully you have gotten used to the idea. No one is going to do this for us. If we want to see change then we need to take action! The materials and the guidance you need are there for you on the Roundtable’s web site www.ccfproundtable.org under Legislation & Advocacy. Find there a number of useful guides and publications including the “**Legislative Kit**” – which includes a brief talking points summary page, charts and graphs showing the tremendous drop off in providers and sponsors in CA, testimonials from sponsors who have dropped as well as our recommendations for improving the program during reauthorization. It is complete. You just need to print it out and take it along. Add to it some materials on your specific sponsorship – what we have been calling “take a picture tell a story,” and you will have everything you need. Two other helpful documents include “**Visiting Your Member of Congress for Dummies**” – a wonderful and humorous guide written by two of your peers in Michigan, and “**Five Easy Steps to a Successful Legislative Visit.**” In addition, I am available by phone to talk you through it. Seriously!

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 CCFP.

One more thing, some of us on the National CACFP Forum have been using “**Kid’s Stakes**” as a helpful tool to put a face on the program for our legislative visits. Jerry Bowers and I used them when we visited with Denise Forte and Sharon Lewis. They love this kind of thing. And it is a way to involve your providers. Find out more on our web site under Legislation & Advocacy.

We will be talking more about the visits at the May Roundtable meeting in San Jose. Come out to the meeting and practice your presentation skills with your peers. Bring your “take a picture tell a story” to share. Its fun, its safe, its not scary ☺

San Diego, March 20, 2008

CHAIR REPORT

Paula James welcomed the Roundtable and gave the following brief introductory remarks and announcements.

Gilbert & Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grants Update: Paula briefly mentioned the subject grants addressed in the CFPA Report below. She alerted members that CFPA will be sending out an alert on the upcoming child care nutrition study associated with the latter statewide grant. A survey instrument will be going out to providers in April 2008 and she would like sponsors to advise their staffs and providers that it is important and should be completed. While it is long it is not too difficult. Paula further advised that we are trying to get additional funds to provide a financial incentive to providers that participate. The hope is that the survey will give us important information we need to support the CACFP, that it will show that meal quality is better on the CACFP.

Strategic Assessment: Paula reported that she and Genevieve Pyeatt, from CDI/Choices for Children, represented CACFP on the recent California Strategic Assessment task force. The work is wrapping up and a report is coming out. One of the more controversial policy recommendations ties child care subsidy funding to CACFP participation – a long term goal of the Roundtable’s since our Summit in 1997. She said there was a lot of support from non-CACFP stakeholders for it but it is still controversial. People are talking about the value of the program and pointing to all the federal dollars that will be coming into California. The recommendation is that all licensed and Trustline providers (except in-home care) be on the food program. There is also language included that promotes the CACFP. Paula pointed to opportunities to work with local WIC agencies but we will have to reach out to them. This effort is coming from the highest levels of the state government and is similar to the “School Nutrition by Design” effort a few years ago that led to SB 965. A secondary committee will look at the CACFP meal pattern and come up with nutrition standards.

BREAKOUT SESSION – Provider Paperwork Best Practices

The breakout session built upon the session at the last meeting in Sacramento in January. Members shared their best practices, many of which are listed below:

- Terry said she is sending out a lot more mail now. She is sending reminders to providers to keep their paperwork up daily. During her workshops she asks providers to share what is working for them.
- Paula said that her staffs have encouraged providers to call one another and brag that “I have my paperwork up to date do you?”
- Cary said that she has changed her initial orientation visits to point out to prospective providers that the program may not be for everyone; if you cannot do the paperwork daily the program may not be for you.
- Lorraine said that her staff, when scheduling reviews, remind the provider to do their

paperwork. They also send out “great job” and “remember paperwork daily” stickies with their checks.

- Diana said that whenever providers call in they ask do you have your paperwork up-to-date.
- Dave said that he has a similar message on his voicemail.
- Lorraine said she has developed a “program integrity commitment letter.” Dave said he uses it too. Everything in the letter is in the Sponsor-Provider Agreement.
- Veronica said they stress in warning letters, workshops and newsletters “taking pride in your work” and “checks from heaven.” They also designate a provider of the month and quarter and use certificates of paperwork up-to-date.
- Jerry and Terry said they both find that they are now doing more reviews in the first and second weeks of the month.
- Debbie shared that she and Lorraine are doing unpredictable reviews when providers least expect them, even just a few days or weeks after the first one. Their regular monitors have begun to warn providers that Debbie and Lorraine can be expected at any time. They have also economized by having monitors do site visits after conducting sign-up visits in the area.
- One member stated that automated claims processing has freed up time to do more visits.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Report from the FRAC/Forum Conference in Washington, DC: As usual Ed attended this year’s FRAC/Forum National Leadership Conference. There were a number of interesting speakers and workshops but we will highlight the following:

- **Forum Board Meeting** – One of the key tasks of the board meeting this year was to review and finalize recommendations for improving the CACFP during Child Nutrition Reauthorization. As you may recall this document began life last year based on recommendations made during a January Roundtable meeting; it was modified during various FRAC/Forum “Hope Surveys,” fleshed out recently by Ed with a lot of feedback (including that from TSA) and finalized at this

year's Forum Board meeting. Ed included the fleshed out recommendations in his legislative briefing packet for this year's Hill visits (a copy has been put up the Roundtable web site for you to use on your own legislative visits – see "Legislative Kit").

- Ed Cooney, Executive Director of the Congressional Hunger Center – Ed Cooney was formerly at FRAC and always has interesting things to share, pearls of wisdom. This year he reminded us that "local office folks like visits too." You do not have to come to Washington, DC to visit your Congressional Representative; you can visit them in their district offices. This is an important message for our members who cannot afford to come back to Washington.

Equally as important, Ed shared with us that the House Education & Labor Committee has shifted oversight for Child Nutrition Programs from the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education to a new Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities. All of these new subcommittee members need to be educated on Child Nutrition Programs! For our members from states other than CA this is a heads up; most of the members of the subcommittee are not from here (except H. "Buck" McKeon). The new Chair is Carolyn McCarthy from NY. Other majority members include: Kucinich – OH, Grijalva – AZ, Sarbanes – MD, Altmire – PA, Yarmuth – KY, Clarke – NY, Shea-Porter – NH (find the minority members at <http://edlabor.house.gov/about/members.shtml>).

This does not mean that sponsors from CA are off the hook when it comes to our efforts to educate Congress about the CACFP! The CA delegation on the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education (Woolsey, Davis, and Sanchez) will still have an important role in sharing their program knowledge with the new subcommittee members.

- Geri Henchy, FRAC – On policy issues Geri reminded us that we still have work to do on paperwork reduction and helping to craft the final integrity regulations. We need effective communication. She highlighted sponsor – state partnerships like we have here in CA with the Roundtable. This effort needs to be encouraged in all states.

On the Administration Geri pointed out that the President's budget includes \$1 million to continue management improvement initiatives. She reminded us that OMB's PART Analysis is still very much alive (see discussion of PART in *Roundtable News*, Mar 07, p. 4). She said as advocates we need to make friends, meaning we need to continue to work with our legislators, state leaders and providers to build partnerships and open minds about CACFP. We need to tell them that the integrity problems of old are now gone.

On the Congress Geri pointed out to us that people are really beginning to pay attention to obesity and little kids. Maybe the CACFP really is important. There are more working mothers in Congress today, she advised; even Nancy Pelosi has 5 children! The immediate need is to get language into agriculture appropriations bills to fund an Institute of Medicine study to recommend CACFP meal pattern revisions and reimbursement rates needed to serve meals and snacks consistent with the Dietary Guidelines. Efforts last year to get this done bogged down and led to an IOM study on school meals only; we need our own study.

- Ellen Teller, FRAC – Ellen Teller is the guru of legislative advocacy. She shared a wealth of information and in detail beyond what you need to know. Suffice it to say that the Child Nutrition Reauthorization bill is due to take effect October 1, 2009. We will have a new President, political appointees including a new Secretary of Agriculture, and new Congress members. Thirty are retiring this year. There will be a whole new cast to educate about the

CACFP! She pointed out that Congressional members are younger, more female and have their own child care issues. Their staffs probably grew up in child care. She said in the past we have been good about putting a face on the kids; now we need to put a face on the families!

She said for a number of reasons she expects the new Administration and the new Congress to push back Child Nutrition Reauthorization beyond October 2009. She told us not to get discouraged if it happens. This will allow us more time to “get them into our homes back home.” She said we need to plan events in our family child care homes and centers and invite our Representative and some parents too. She advised us to partner with our anti-hunger networks back home. She also pointed out that some states are planning a summit on Child Nutrition Reauthorization; if so we need to be sure to be a part. Because this is an election year our Representatives will be spending more time in their districts – more time for us to visit them.

- **Ed’s Speech** – Ed is Vice President of the National CACFP Forum. As our President was going to come late to the conference Ed was asked to deliver the welcome message for the Forum. As 90% of the conferees were not CACFP folks Ed used the time to do a little lobbying for the program in his speech. He tried in a short 5 minutes to give the conferees “the message” about CACFP - the message about it’s important role in combating childhood obesity and it’s proven importance as a key indicator of quality child care; the message that CACFP reimbursement helps keep child care costs down and that the family child care component is in trouble. In essence the message he delivered is the one we use when educating Congress or the public about CACFP. Take a look and feel free to use it as a framework for your own advocacy efforts (see the end of the newsletter for the speech in its entirety).

- **Ed’s Hill Visits** – For Ed the most important part about attending the FRAC conference is the Hill visits on the last day. It was a little harder to get appointments this year as the folks we wanted to see were also attending a hearing on the School Lunch Program and being visited by members of the School Nutrition Association. Be that as it may Ed was still able to contact three CA Representatives. Ed, Jerry and Karen Bowers were able to spend the most time with Denise Forte and Sharon Lewis, of the “child nutrition committee,” on staff at the House Ed & Labor Committee (Chaired by George Miller (D-CA). Ed met briefly with Lisa Sherman, Chief of Staff for Congresswoman Susan Davis and he dropped off a packet for Celeste Drake of Congresswoman Linda Sanchez’s office. Ed has done what he can now it is your turn!

Roundtable Provider “Certificate of Program Excellence” and Provider of the Year: The Advisory Committee has agreed to the eligibility criteria for the provider certificate we addressed at the last meeting and put up on our web site. To be eligible a family child care provider must go through one review year with no program findings - 3 perfect reviews. We encourage you to start promoting the certificate and awarding them as providers meet the requirements. We hope to make this into a big deal. Remember to sign your name on the certificate too.

We are still working on the provider of the year which is the ultimate end of the entire certificate process. One provider from those receiving a “Certificate of Program Excellence” will be awarded provider of the year honors. Sponsors will be asked to nominate one provider from those that received a certificate and send their name forward along with a nominating form. A committee, suggested to include Tim Thole of USDA, Ronna Jakobitz of NSD and Ed Mattson, will review the nominees and select the annual winner. We are still working on the award. Our latest thoughts are recognition at a state family child care association conference and possibly other financial incentives. More later.

NUTRITION SERVICES DIVISION

Ronna Jakobitz welcomed the participants and gave the state report.

Training on Serious Deficiency Process Planned:

Working with the Roundtable Advisory Committee NSD has planned training for family day care home sponsors on the serious deficiency process for providers. The training will cover four areas: 1) the federal rules, 2) recommendations from NSD for meeting legal requirements, 3) table-top discussion and case study, and 4) Q & A. The trainers will be Michelle Vasquez (who is attending a train the trainer class), David Jang and Ronna (or a staff member). The first session will be on June 17 in Redding; the second will be in Concord (Contra Costa Child Care Council) on June 24 and the final session will be June 26 in Baldwin Park (at Options). Ronna also advised that there will be training in August and September for those that missed the 2008 mandatory training at the Roundtable Conference. Once these sessions are completed they will do spot training as needed.

Management Bulletin/Info Alert Update: Ronna briefed members on three new Management Bulletins and an Info Alert in development.

1. **Day Care Home Provider Transfer Policy** – this one is the closest to going out. It addresses concerns expressed by the Roundtable Advisory Committee at recent meetings about providers clearing their serious deficiency for paperwork and immediately transferring to a new sponsor before permanent corrective action can be proven. This memo will impose a 180 day timeframe before a provider can transfer after a rescission, even if they drop out first.
2. **The Administrative Cash Advance and Financial Viability** – this one deals with Roundtable concerns over NSD practice of recovering administrative advances from sponsors determined to be seriously deficient. Ronna pointed out that USDA directed NSD to recover advance payments from sponsors found seriously deficient because they were not

financially viable. This bulletin is holding for final comment.

3. **Monitoring Visit Finding: Over Capacity** – this is a proposed Management Bulletin that clarifies USDA policy that a provider can be determined to be seriously deficient if they do not permanently correct review findings of over license capacity. And further, a sponsoring organization can be found seriously deficient if they allow providers to consistently be overcapacity and not take corrective action. Ronna stated that this bulletin is holding for written confirmation from USDA.
4. **Share Our Strength Great American Bake Sale Grant** – Ronna stated that an Info Alert will be coming out on this grant opportunity shortly. These grants are for Summer Food Service, National School Lunch and after school Child and Adult Care Food Programs. Find out more at www.greatamericanbakesale.org/grants

Schedule A License Reconciliation Process:

Ronna reported that NSD will be sending out Schedule A's for annual review in the next week or two. She noted that they have found 191 instances where day care home license numbers do not match DSS data. She suspects that 90% are probably due to data input errors. These discrepancies need to be cleared up before CNIPS comes online and before NSD can send out the list of licensed non-participating homes we asked for in a prior meeting. If the problem is a typo the sponsor can provide a copy of the license; if the problem is more significant sponsors may have to have the provider clear them up with Child Care Licensing (CCLD). In some instances CCLD may not have sent out new licenses to some providers. This summer NSD will deal with discrepancies with license-exempt providers and those licensed by agencies other than CCLD.

Staffing: Ronna reported that she is in the process of hiring a new Day Care Home Team analyst. She hopes to have him on board April 1. He has a CPA and has been teaching financial management

accounting and establishing a small business in the community college setting. He is a people person and does volunteer work helping nonprofits overseas establish accounting systems. Sharon Hall will help train him. Ronna also reported that she is hiring 2 permanent intermittent employees to help out across the board in CACFP, starting in centers. She has completed 30 interviews and has 3 primary and 6 alternate candidates lined up. She hopes to have them on board by the end of April.

In the interim Ronna reminded members to direct all questions and calls to her and send all budget revisions and ACQR's by email. She does not have clerical staff to process hard copies.

State Budget: Ronna reported that the state budget mess should not impact NSD; most of their funding is federal. She said that the 4 cent increase in state meal reimbursement for child care however is still in jeopardy. Like schools we may be tied to new meal standards to get state meal reimbursement. She hopes there is no direct link. She said the NSD budget for 2008-09 is very lean. Only necessary travel will be allowed. All training will be online except preapproval visits required by regulations. When CNIPS finally comes up next year it should ease the budget situation somewhat. The Summer Program should be online by October 1, 2008 and CACFP by October 1, 2009. She expects JAD (planning) sessions this fall for CACFP and would like sponsor participation. One of the things she personally hopes for is to put school October data online so when you enter a school the data will automatically pop up and you won't have to search the database for it. She also stated that there is heavy support for "site reporting" which means you will only have to make updates online.

Food Safety: Ronna reported that the CDC has found that food borne illness from leafy greens is up 60%. She stated that NSD will be putting out an Information Alert on food safety. It is important to wash hands before food preparation and to minimize use of bagged greens or at least wash them thoroughly. She handed out two fliers, one entitled *Lettuce Learn to Wash Produce Properly* (from WebMD) and another entitled *Lettuce Learn*

How to Wash Produce (find at <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=6104414>).

Q & A:

1. **Q.** Can a school-age child receive a lunch in CACFP? **A.** Ronna stated that USDA is no longer concerned about this issue. In the past NSD required sponsors to get documentation from the school if a school-age child is served a lunch. She said she will double check with USDA and send out a Management Bulletin to clarify once and for all (*Editor: I found a discussion on this topic from the May 2007 meeting –see page 8 of the Roundtable News*).

CFPA REPORT

Much attention is being paid to child care nutrition both at CFPA and around the state. One area that CFPA has focused on particularly is research into the current child care nutrition environment in California. Progress has continued on the nutrition assessment of LA licensed child care that CFPA is conducting in conjunction with the CCFP Roundtable and Public Health Foundation Enterprises-WIC. This project, funded by the Gilbert Foundation, is providing the first observation-based information for many years about the foods and beverages served to children who spend so much of their day in child care centers and family homes. With almost two thirds of the 50 visits completed, we are starting to see compelling data on the state of child care nutrition in the county.

CFPA is also working with the U.C. Berkeley Center for Weight and Health and Samuels & Associates on a statewide survey of licensed child care providers. The survey, which asks a variety of questions about nutrition and physical activity in the child care environment, has been piloted in Los Angeles and is now ready to be sent out the first week in April. **Please encourage your providers to participate** should they be randomly selected to participate. Getting a good response rate from

CACFP-participating family child care homes is essential to providing us with the reliable data we need to promote the program in California.

CFPA, along with the CCFP Roundtable, has been participating in the Strategic Assessment of Child Care Nutrition and Physical Activity convened by the California Department of Education and the Health and Human Services Agency. The development of the group's policy recommendations is in its final stages and we anticipate the report will be released in the early summer. Another statewide convening of child care nutrition stakeholders is being funded by the Network for a Healthy California. Both CFPA and the CCFP Roundtable will be participating in this project, which is just now getting underway.

In state legislative news, the 4¢ reimbursement increase for CACFP proposed in the Governor's budget has survived thus far. There have until now been no hearings on the subject.

On the federal legislative front, CFPA is gearing up for the 2009 Child Nutrition Reauthorization. We will be circulating a survey, which Paula James has reviewed on behalf of the Roundtable, to gauge the child nutrition community's priorities going into reauthorization. Expect to receive the survey in the next few weeks. We look forward to getting your input.

ROUNDTABLE REPORT

Announcements:

- The University of Nebraska has developed some food safety materials and a game that you might find useful. Take a look at their web sites:
 - <http://lancaster.unl.edu/food/keep-toss.shtml#play> – Keep or toss game.
 - <http://lancaster.unl.edu/food/myths-ss/index.htm> - Food safety myths.

- Some of us find ourselves towards the ends of our careers. Age is inevitable but our organizations must carry on. If you are looking for ideas on succession planning for your organization, one of our Forum Board members

suggests you go to www.nonprofitadvancement.org/information4812/information.htm and request a succession plan template.

CONFERENCE REPORT



CACFP: Dialogue in the Desert

Ed advised members that it is not too early to start planning to attend the Roundtable's 17th Annual Conference, October 27-29, 2008, in the Palm Springs area (at the Rancho Las Palmas Resort, Rancho Mirage, California). He thanked members for completing the recent training survey; feedback received will be used to help plan for the speakers and workshops this year. He also encouraged members to submit a workshop proposal and/or agree to participate on workshop panel when the call for presenters comes out in a few short weeks. Share your strengths!

ED'S SPEECH:

Good afternoon. My name is Ed Mattson and I'm the Vice President of the National CACFP Forum. I would like to thank our co-sponsors FRAC and America's Second Harvest for making those of us in the CACFP community welcome at your National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference. We all share a larger goal of insuring that hungry people, of all ages, have access to plentiful and nutritious foods. And we all share a sense of frustration with the difficulties of achieving that seemingly simple goal.

Let me ask you something.

- How many of you have preschool-age children?
- Do they spend any time in child care away from their home?
 - Did you know that 63% of our nation's children under age 5 (about 12 million children) are in some type of child care arrangement for an average of 36 hours per week?
- Are you concerned at all about the availability and affordability of quality child care?
 - Did you know that numerous studies have shown that participation on the CACFP is a key indicator of quality child care?
 - Have you considered that reimbursement that a child care giver receives for meals served on the food program helps reduce costs and make child care more affordable?
 - Did you know that of those 12 million children under age 5 only about 25% are currently in child care facilities on the CACFP? That seems like a waste doesn't it? They should all be on the CACFP!
- Do you worry about what your kids eat while they are in care? Whether it's nutritious?
 - Did you know that children in child care facilities on the CACFP must be served nutritious meals that follow a USDA meal pattern, that "CACFP is

Your Number 1 Candidate for Good Nutrition? [our conference theme this year]"

- According to a recent study, child care facilities provide a valuable opportunity to promote healthy eating and physical activity behaviors in children.

How many of you have your child in family child care?

The family child care component of the CACFP is in trouble and needs your help. Nationally, family child care homes on the CACFP have dropped about 27% (from 1996-2006), with states like CO, CT, NH, NJ, OR, RI & UT dropping 50% or more. In many cases the numbers are even more dramatic for non-low-income or "Tier II" homes. Sponsors of family child care homes have also dropped nationally about 25% and more in some states like CA, IN, IA, LA, OK, SC, UT & WV.

So what is happening with family child care and why does it matter?

In 1996 we had Welfare Reform which introduced a two-tier reimbursement system into the family child care component of the CACFP. Reimbursement for non-low-income so-called "Tier II" family child care homes was cut back drastically. Implementation of tiering also imposed a large workload increase on sponsoring organizations with no additional administrative funding.

Then in 2002 and 2004 USDA made extensive rule changes in an integrity initiative designed to stop program abuses documented in some highly publicized news accounts and audits from the 1990's. For the most part those problems have been fixed and now what we are seeing is that implementation of the integrity rules has been a hardship for most sponsoring organizations and their family child care homes. Large numbers have dropped out!

Conclusion

In conclusion I wanted to say that it's great to see so many young people in the audience. The future of quality affordable child care is now in your

hands. If you want to see it grow and prosper you need to take action! The moment is right!

When you to visit your Congressperson in the run up to Child Nutrition Reauthorization tell them that:

- The CACFP is not a welfare program; it is a nutrition program and as such can play an important role in our nation's battle with childhood overweight!
- The CACFP is a key indicator of quality child care!
- But the family child care component is in trouble and needs improvements.

When you visit your Congressperson on Tuesday keep in mind what Marian Wright Edelman once said:

“You just need to be a flea against injustice. Enough committed fleas biting strategically can make even the biggest dog uncomfortable and transform even the biggest nation.”

WEB SITES FOR MAR 2008

- <http://lancaster.unl.edu/food/keep-toss.shtml#play> – Keep or toss game.
- <http://lancaster.unl.edu/food/myths-ss/index.htm> - Food safety myths.
- www.greatamericanbakesale.org/grants - find info on grants here.
- www.nonprofitadvancement.org/information4812/information.htm - request a succession plan template here.

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

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2008, 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

CDI/Choices for Children

111 N. Market St., Ste 100, San Jose, CA 95113

TRAINING TOPIC: Visiting Your Legislator – Everything You Ever Wanted to Know (bring your “take a picture tell a story” to share)

LODGING INFORMATION: There are not a lot of affordable options nearby. Your best bet is near the San Jose airport.

- Holiday Inn Express – San Jose Airport, 1350 N. 4th St, 408-467-1789
- Days Inn Airport, 1280 N 4th Street, 409-437-9100
- San Jose Ramada Limited, 455 S 2nd Street, is near CSU San Jose, 408-298-3500
- The Arena Hotel, 817 The Alameda, is near the Amtrak/Caltrain Station. 408-294-6500

For a splurge you can stay at the Crown Plaza Hotel, 282 S. Almaden Blvd, 408-998-0400, which is close by.

PARKING & DIRECTIONS: The Amtrak/Caltrain Station is only about a mile from the office. If you must drive:

- From San Francisco/Marin – If you are on 280 south take Guadalupe Pkwy exit towards Exit 6B Julian Street; bear right on W. St James Street and turn right on to N. San Pedro Street parking garage. If you are on 101 South take it to 280 and follow the directions above.
- From East Bay – If you are on 680 keep going until in turns into 280 North and take Guadalupe Pkwy exit towards Exit 6B Julian Street; bear right on W. St James Street and turn right on to N. San Pedro Street to parking garage. If you are on 880 take it to the Guadalupe Parkway south and exit at W Julian Street. Follow directions above.
- Parking is in a paid garage on N San Pedro Street.

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION: The San Jose International Airport is only about 2 miles from the meeting location so a taxi is entirely possible.

The **Advisory Committee Meeting** is at the same location on Wednesday, May 21 at 10:00 AM.

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2008, 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

**Santa Barbara County Office of Education -
Auditorium**

4400 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93110

TRAINING TOPIC: To be determined

**LODGING INFORMATION (closest hotels/motels
and AAA star rating):**

- *****Holiday Inn**, 5650 Calle Real, Goleta 93117, 805-964-6241
- ****Mountain View Inn**, 3055 De La Vina St., SB 93105, 805-687-6636
- ****Sandman Inn**, 3714 State St., SB 93105, 805-687-2468
- ****Sandpiper Lodge**, 3525 State St., SB 93105, 805-687-5326
- **Motel 6**, 3505 State St., SB 93105, 805-687-5400.

PARKING & DIRECTIONS: Be sure to park in the upper lot.

From the South:

- Take 101 north;
- Take State St. Exit towards 154/Cachuma Lake;
- Turn left onto State St.;
- Turn right onto San Marcos Pass Road;
- Take the 192/Foothill Roads ramp towards Cathedral Oaks;
- Turn left onto Foothill Road/Cathedral Oaks Road/192;
- Stay straight onto Cathedral Oaks Road.

From the North:

- Take 101 south;
- Take Turnpike Road Exit;
- Turn left onto N. Turnpike Road;
- Turn right onto Cathedral Oaks Road.

The **Advisory Committee Meeting** is at the same location in the Cabinet Conference Room, Thursday, July 17, 10:00 AM.