

TCAD Nutrition Program Update



TCAD Nutrition Program

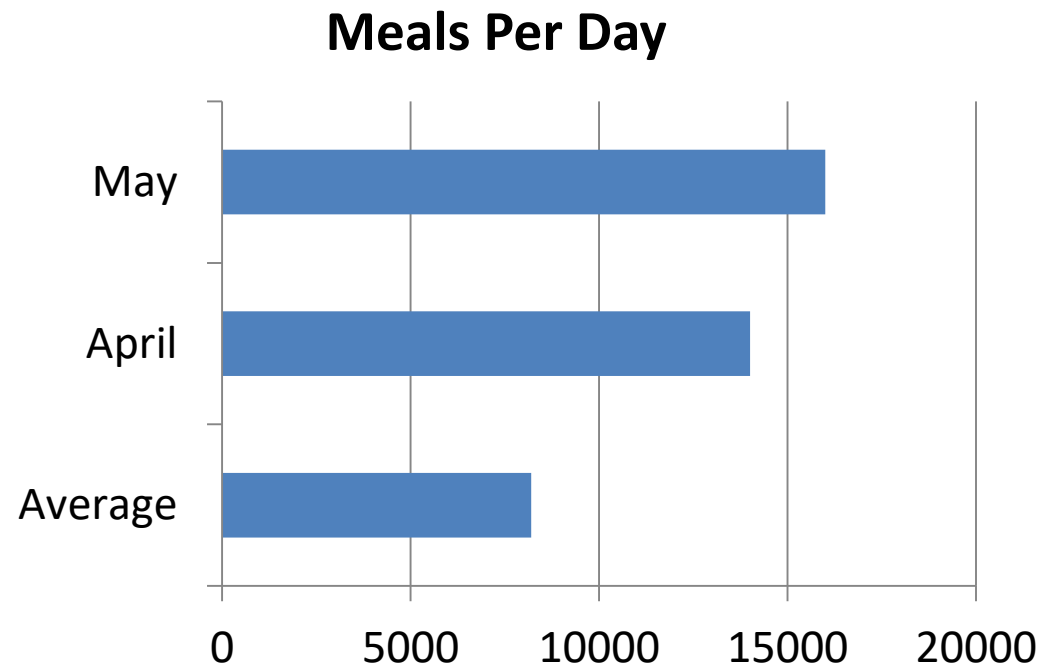
As you may expect, the nutrition program at TCAD has been heavily impacted by the increased needs as a result of the CoVid-19 Pandemic.

The Nutrition program is the largest program here at TCAD and has experienced unprecedented growth in a very short period of time.




Impact on Program Capacity

- Nutrition program serves 8,200 meals/day on average
- Now up to 15,226 meals per day
 - Additional 35,000 meals per week
- 85% Growth in meals served




How Did We Prepare?


TCAD call with AAADs to discuss Covid-19 Developments

- Review of emergency plans
 - Possible model changes that could be made once closures started
 - Directive to push out extra emergency meals (frozen or shelf stable) to all Home Delivered Meal clients
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Program Changes Due to Covid - 19

- All congregate sites closed as of March 17th
 - All meals became “Home Delivered Meals” by ACL definition
 - Nutrition sites begin operating as meal pickup sites
 - For Daily hot meals; OR
 - Weekly Frozen Meal pickup
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Program Changes Due to Covid - 19

- Meal Delivery was able to be expanded by
 - switching to a once per week/twice per week
 - using more frozen meals
 - All sites added extra safety precautions
 - Social distancing
 - No contact delivery
 - Screening of staff and volunteers for illness
 - Extra focus on hand sanitizer between deliveries
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Program Changes Due to Covid - 19

As the sites closed:

All congregate participants


- Were offered the opportunity to switch to pick up meals or receive HDM
- And given telephone reassurance to ensure their nutrition and other needs continue to be met

All HDM Clients

- Continued to receive meals

Nutrition Program Calls began to be held weekly so the added technical assistance and resources could be shared

Covid-19 Related Federal Nutrition Funding Considerations

- Families First ACT – First Wave of Additional nutrition funding (\$4.8 Million)
 - CARES ACT – Second Wave of Additional nutrition funding (\$16Million Overall)
 - ADRC Grant – One of the priorities is Grocery Delivery Services (\$1 Million)
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Small Business Nutrition Initiative


- Increased demand concerns
 - Capacity of current meal providers and delivery models to meet the growing need
 - Finding ways to serve underserved populations or communities
 - Possibility of food supply shortages in established channels
- Jim's idea
 - utilize some of those new dollars to contract with small, independent restaurants that are being hit dramatically hard by the “safer at home” requirements.

“They need the business and we need the meals.”


-Jim Shulman



Small Business Nutrition Initiative


- Using Families First Funding
 - Allocated to the AAADs using the funding formula
 - AAADs were given the following parameters:
 - 55% of funding for meals from small local restaurants
 - 45% of funding could go to increase meals through their traditional providers
 - Spend 10% of total funding within the first month (April)
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Small Business Nutrition Initiative


- Allowed flexibility to AAADs to choose restaurants
 - Existing maximum meal rate of \$7.00/meal
 - Delivery fee up to \$3.00/meal
 - User Friendly Vendor Contracts
 - MDD and the CARES Act allowed the traditional nutrition requirements to be waived
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Major Disaster Declaration

Tennessee was granted a MDD which drastically relieved traditional program and fiscal policies including:

- Funds can now be transferred between categories without requests or waivers to ACL
 - **Nutrition requirements or RDA/RDI's were waived**
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Small Business Nutrition Initiative

- Up to 95 small businesses statewide
 - restaurants
 - catering companies
 - meal prep businesses
 - Our first restaurant to start serving was SueBob's Diner in Powell's Crossroads which fed over 100 clients using their drive thru on April 12th. (SE AAAD)
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Small Business Nutrition Initiative



Small Business Nutrition Initiative



Weather Related Emergencies

- March 3rd Tornado – Did affect Davidson and Wilson county nutrition operations but frozen meals were made available to participants at sites that were affected.
 - MSS and GNRC office locations were affected by the tornado
 - Upper Cumberland nutrition operations were not affected
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Weather Related Emergencies

- April 12th Tornadoes – Greater Chattanooga Area: nutrition operations were not affected
- SE AAAD had their first very successful senior nutrition restaurant opening the Monday after

TCAD Partnerships - TEMA

Unified Command Feeding Task Force

Feeding Taskforce Purpose: Ensure successful expansion of feeding efforts to all populations during Covid-19 emergency


- Work group consisting of
 - Private sector & Non Profit partners
 - Red Cross, Food Banks, Grocer Association, Restaurant Association, Hospitality Association, as well
 - Other state agencies
 - DHS, Dept. of Education, Department of Agriculture, Department of Environment and Conservation, and TCAD.

TCAD Partnerships - TEMA


Priority considerations:

- Support restaurants and jobs where possible
- Utilize already existing resources before incurring expenses
- Support existing organizations/networks


TCAD has been able to

- Offer meal packaging solutions
 - Begin talks with Food Banks about larger statewide projects
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ACL and Other States

- Tennessee was first to develop SBI
 - Florida was soon to follow
 - Jim presented the initiative on a national ACL call which sparked even more interest from other states.
 - Mississippi, South Carolina, Maryland, Ohio, and Iowa have all reached out to us for assistance in implementing in their states.
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ACL and Other States

- When we look to compare and share ideas with the other southeastern states, we have found that we are doing some things really well:
 - Tennessee has continued to supply Hot and Frozen meals, while many other states started serving mostly shelf stable meals.
 - Tennessee has done a good job at being expedient with relaxing policy in favor of meeting community needs faster
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Lessons Learned.....So Far


- It is much easier to operate with less regulation
 - In home assessments are waived temporarily
 - RDI's waived temporarily
 - Nutrition Screens and signatures waived temporarily
- Our countless local partners, and volunteers are the backbone of this program

Lessons Learned.....So Far

- Our community specific design makes us capable of the following:
 - expanding capacity quickly;
 - creating safe solutions for all clients and ;
 - making swift changes that actually work
- As we begin to look to opening back up congregate services, we will have to require a lot more from our nutrition site

Work of the AAAD's

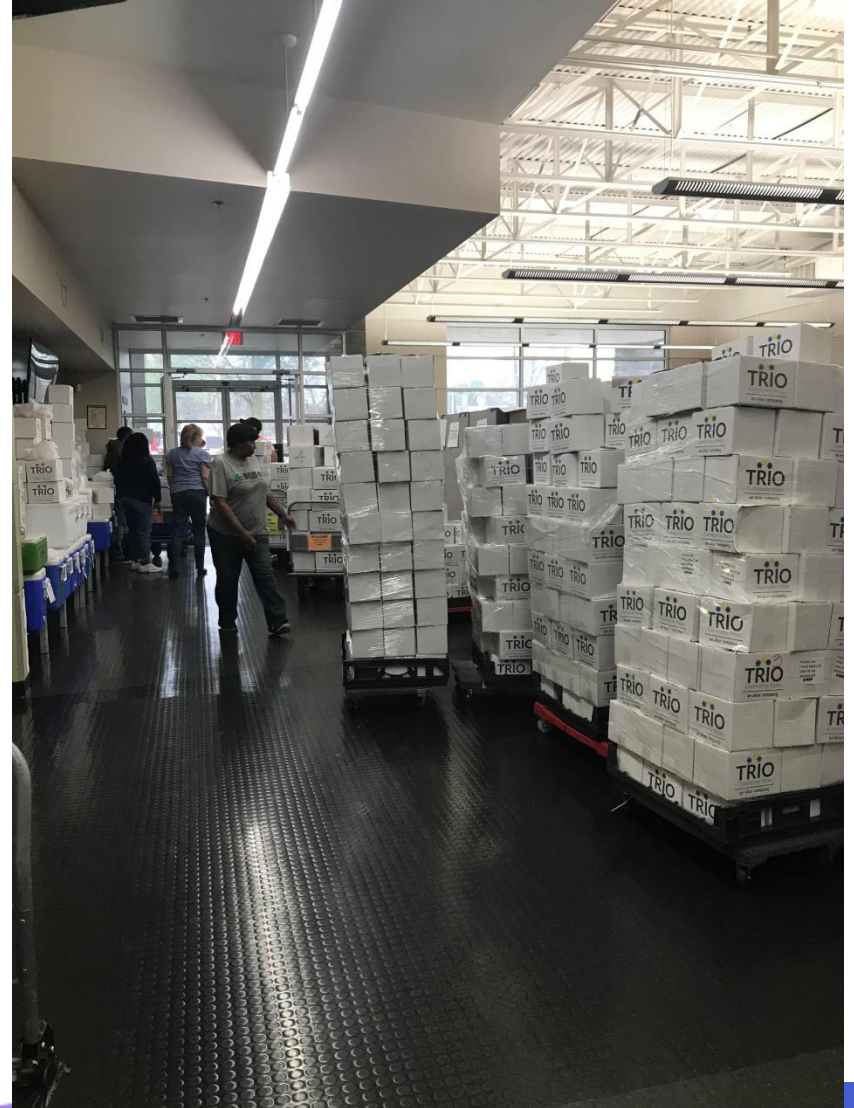
Directors and staff

- Tremendous amount of work
 - Expanded services
 - Staffs working from home
 - New initiatives
 - Meeting the needs of their specific communities
 - Weather Emergencies
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Work of the AAAD's

ACMS: Was able to open several restaurants in their area that operate as congregate pickup locations.

They also used part of their funding to continue the “No Hungry Senior” Program which was a locally funded effort that was due to end for lack of funding. This included 450 seniors in Shelby County receiving home delivered meals.



Work of the AAAD's

ET: Have the assistance of some of their in home service providers in expanding grocery shopping and delivery efforts. One of the programs named the effort “SOS” for Supporting Our Seniors.

They also have 10 restaurants, one serving each of the counties in their region.



Work of the AAAD's

FT: Contracted with 15 restaurants, including Bristol Bakery who told them that this initiative was helping them keep all of their employees. They were able to get 150 people off their waitlist and served by these restaurants.

Restaurant Owner Quote;


Lynn Garden Restaurant - rural part of Kingsport near Virginia line - "Thank you again for the opportunity to participate in providing meals for seniors. It's been a Blessing for our business and personally to help during this crisis. Everyone has been so appreciative.



Work of the AAAD's

GNRC: 22 restaurants serving the region, including a food truck. Michael Skipper the Executive Director of Greater Nashville Regional Council created a CoVid 19 Meals web page that made it easier for restaurants to report their meals, and it provides almost real time data on number of meals being served by these small businesses.

NW: From mid-March, the nutrition program has added 893 new people to meals. 328 to traditional meals through the HRA and 565 to restaurant meals.



Work of the AAAD's

SC: The nutrition program was able to immediately pull 90 people off their HDM waitlist with FF Funding, and they have a restaurant delivering meals in every single county in their region.

One of these restaurants, the Video Corner Café in Perry County, recently got a visit from Governor Bill Lee who was interested in seeing how restaurants were doing with following re-opening guidelines.

Work of the AAAD's

SW: Used their restaurant contracts to deliver and serve meals to the residents of low income senior housing facilities in each of their counties.

They also worked very quickly to get mini-food pantries set up at each of their senior centers.



Work of the AAAD's

UC: Has 8 restaurants, and has been able to bring on several senior centers who prepare hot meals on site and provide pickup and delivery.

Warren County Home Delivery is cooking and delivering 210 meals per day to the homes of seniors with all meals being delivered by volunteers.

Upper Cumberland gets extra credit for being the only AAAD in the state to have already brought on a restaurant as a food provider prior to CoVid-19/Families First Funding. Hollie Williams and her team helped us by providing many tools and resources for our Small Business initiative

TCAD Nutrition Program Update

Questions?

If you do have question or need more info,
you can contact:

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