



**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

CITIZENS PLAZA BUILDING  
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**BILL HASLAM**  
GOVERNOR

**DANIELLE W. BARNES**  
COMMISSIONER

November 3, 2017

Diana Motton, Chairman of the Board  
Blessed Beginnings  
9009 Carothers Parkway  
Franklin, Tennessee 37067

Dear Ms. Motton:

The Department of Human Services (DHS) - Audit Services Division staff conducted an on-site unannounced monitoring review of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) at Blessed Beginnings (Sponsor), Application Agreement 00-164, on October 10, 2017. Additional information was received on October 12, 2017 to complete the review. The purpose of this review was to determine if the Sponsor complied with the *Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) applicable parts, application agreement, and applicable Federal and State regulations.

Background

CACFP sponsors utilize meal count sheets to record the number of meals served for breakfast, lunch, supper and supplements meals served. Meals served by participating sponsors must meet the minimum guidelines set by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and DHS to be eligible for reimbursement. The CACFP sponsor reports the number of meals served through the DHS Tennessee Information Payment System (TIPS) system to seek reimbursement. We inspected meal counts sheets for our test period and reconciled the meals claimed to the meals reported as served for each meal service. We also assessed compliance with civil rights requirements. In addition, we observed a meal service during our unannounced visit to the Sponsor on September 14, 2017.

Our review of the Sponsor's records for September 2017 disclosed the following:

**1. There were menus that did not meet USDA meal pattern requirements.**

Condition

Pizza was a meal component listed for two dates. There was no CN label or Product Formulation Statement for these products and no documentation to indicate additional protein had been added to the menu items. Also, the Sponsor could not support the purchase of pizza with any receipts.

Our review of the Sponsor menus disclosed the following:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meal Component and Reason for Disallowance</b>	<b>Disallowed Meals</b>
9-6-17	Pepperoni pizza, No CN label, No receipt	24 Lunches
9-13-17	Sausage pizza, No CN label, No Receipt	24 Lunches

As a result, 48 lunch meals were disallowed. (See Exhibit)

Criteria

Title 7 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Section 226.17 (b)(4) states, "Each child care center participating in the Program shall claim only the meal types specified in its approved application in accordance with the meal pattern requirements specified in §226.20 ..."

The USDA Crediting Foods in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Revised 2014, page 62, states, in part, "When crediting such products as chili-macs, pizzas, pot pies, sloppy Joes, and raviolis toward the meat/meat alternate component, the amount of meat/meat alternate per serving (not the total portion size) is the determining factor for crediting purposes. Because of the uncertainty of the actual amount of meat/meat alternate contained in these products, they should not be used unless (1) they are CN-labeled; or (2) you obtain a Product Formulation Statement signed by an official of the manufacturer (not a sales person) that shows how the crediting has been determined. ..."

Recommendation

The Sponsor should review menus to confirm meals contain all required components and eligible for reimbursement. The Sponsor should keep records of all CN labels and receipts pertaining to meal components.

**2. Freezer was not maintained at acceptable temperature**

Condition

During the site visit conducted on September 14, 2017 DHS staff observed the thermometer in the freezer was 4 degrees.

Criteria

Title 7 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Section 226.20 (l) states, "Institutions and facilities must ensure that in storing, preparing, and serving food proper sanitation and health standards are met which conform with all applicable State and local laws and regulations. Institutions and facilities must ensure that adequate facilities are available to store food or hold meals."

The USDA *Refrigeration and Food Safety Guide*, page 2, states, "Refrigerators should be set to maintain a temperature of 40 °F or below. Some refrigerators have built-in thermometers to measure their internal temperature. For those refrigerators without this feature, keep an appliance thermometer in the refrigerator to monitor the temperature. This can be critical in the event of a power outage. When the power goes back on, if the refrigerator is still 40 °F, the food is safe. Foods held at temperatures above 40 °F for more than 2 hours should not be consumed."

#### Recommendation

The Sponsor should ensure food items are properly stored.

#### Technical Assistance Provided

During our Sponsor visit on October 24, 2017, we referred the Sponsor to Program staff for technical assistance regarding availability of funds for fiscal year 2018.

#### Disallowed Meals Cost

No costs will be disallowed because the amount to be disallowed falls below the TDHS threshold.

#### Corrective Action

Blessed Beginnings must complete the following actions within 30 business days from the date of this report:

- Prepare and submit a corrective action plan to address the deficiencies identified in this report. The corrective action plan template is attached. Please return the corrective action plan to:

[AuditServices.CAPS.DHS@tn.gov](mailto:AuditServices.CAPS.DHS@tn.gov)

If you have questions relative to the corrective action plan please contact:

Allette Vayda, Director  
Child and Adult Care Food Program  
8th Floor Citizens Plaza Building  
400 Deaderick Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243  
[Allette.Vayda@tn.gov](mailto:Allette.Vayda@tn.gov)  
(615) 313-3769

We appreciate the assistance provided during this review. If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Sean Baker, Audit Director 2, at 615-313-4727 or [Sean.Baker@tn.gov](mailto:Sean.Baker@tn.gov).

Sincerely,

  
Sam O. Alzoubi, CFE  
Director of Audit Services

Exhibit

cc: Yolonda Howard, Vice Chair, Blessed Beginnings  
Amos Howard, Director, Blessed Beginnings  
Allette Vayda, Director, Child and Adult Care Food Program  
Elke Moore, Administrative Services Assistant 3, Child and Adult Care Food Program  
Constance Moore, Program Specialist, Child and Adult Care Food Program  
Marty Widner, Program Specialist, Child and Adult Care Food Program  
Comptroller of the Treasury, State of Tennessee

**Exhibit**

**Sponsor: Blessed Beginnings**

**Review Month/Year: September 2017**

**Total Meal Reimbursement Received: \$1,730.51**

<b>Site Meal Service Activity and Monitor Reconciliation</b>	<b>Reported on Claim</b>	<b>Reconciled to Provided Documentation</b>
Total Number of Days Food Served	19	19
Number of Lunches Served	588	540
Number of Supplements Served	1,153	1,153
Number of Participants in Free Category	20	20
Number of Participants in Paid Category	20	20
Total Number of Participants	40	40
Total Amount of Eligible Food Costs	XXXXXXXX	\$1,456.79
Total Amount of Eligible Food and Non-Food Costs	XXXXXXXX	\$1,590.29



# Corrective Action Plan for Monitoring Findings

**Instructions:** Please print in ink or type the information to complete this document. Enter the date of birth for each Responsible Principal and/or Individual in Section B. Attach the additional documentation requested. Enter your name, title and date of signature on the last page. Please sign your name in ink. **Please return ALL pages of the completed Corrective Action Plan form.**

## Section A. Institution Information

Name of Sponsor/Agency/Site: Blessed Beginnings	Agreement No. 00-164	<input type="checkbox"/> SFSP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CACFP
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Mailing Address: 9009 Carothers Parkway Franklin, Tennessee 37067

## Section B. Responsible Principal(s) and/or Individual(s)

Name and Title: Diana Motton, Chairman of the Board	Date of Birth: / /
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## Section C. Dates of Issuance of Monitoring Report/Corrective Action Plan

Monitoring Report: 11/3/2017	Corrective Action Plan: 11/3/2017
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## Section D. Findings

Findings:

1. There were menus that did not meet USDA meal pattern requirements
2. Freezer was not maintained at acceptable temperature

The following measures will be completed within **30 calendar days** of my institution's receipt of this corrective action plan:

### Measure No. 1: There were menus that did not meet USDA meal pattern requirements

The finding will be fully and permanently corrected.

Identify the name(s) and position title(s) of the employee(s) who will be responsible for ensuring that the finding is fully and permanently corrected:

Name:

Position Title:

Name:

Position Title:

Describe below the **step-by-step** procedures that will be implemented to correct the finding:

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When will the procedures for addressing the finding be implemented? Provide a timeline below for implementing the procedures (i.e., will the procedures be done daily, weekly, monthly, or annually, and when will they begin?):

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Where will the Corrective Action Plan documentation be retained? Please identify below:

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How will new and current staff be informed of the new policies and procedures to address the finding (e.g., Handbook, training, etc.)? Please describe below:

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**Measure No.2: Freezer was not maintained at acceptable temperature**

The finding will be fully and permanently corrected.

Identify the name(s) and position title(s) of the employee(s) who will be responsible for ensuring that the finding is fully and permanently corrected:

Name:

Position Title:

Name:

Position Title:

Describe below the **step-by-step** procedures that will be implemented to correct the finding:

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When will the procedures for addressing the finding be implemented? Provide a timeline below for implementing the procedures (i.e., will the procedures be done daily, weekly, monthly, or annually, and when will they begin?):

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Where will the Corrective Action Plan documentation be retained? Please identify below:

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How will new and current staff be informed of the new policies and procedures to address the finding (e.g., Handbook, training, etc.)? Please describe below:

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I certify by my signature below that I am authorized by the institution to sign this document. As an authorized representative of the institution, I fully understand the corrective measures identified above and agree to fully implement these measures within the required time frame. I also understand that failure to fully and permanently correct the findings in my institution's CACFP or SFSP will result in its termination from the program, and the placement of the institution and its responsible principals on the National Disqualified List maintained by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Printed Name of Authorized Institution Official:

Position:

Signature of Authorized Institution Official: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: / /

Signature of Authorized TDHS Official: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: / /

- (xi) The institution, one of its sponsored facilities, or one of the principals of the institution or its facilities has been convicted for any activity that indicates a lack of business integrity;

(c) Administrative review is also available if the State agency notifies the institution and responsible principal or responsible individual of the following actions: proposed disqualification of a responsible principal or responsible individual, denial of a budget, denial of a line item within a budget, downward adjustment of the amount approved in a budget, suspension of an institution's participation, denial of start-up or expansion funds, denial of a request for advanced payment, recovery of an advance in excess of a claim, denial of a claim for reimbursement (except for late submission), decision not to forward an exception request for payment of a late claim, overpayment demand, denial of a new or renewing institution's application for participation, denial of sponsored facility application, notice of proposed termination, claim denial, claim deadline exceptions and requests for upward adjustments to a claim, or any other action affecting an institutions participation or claim for payment.

3. All appeal requests must be presented in writing to the TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings not later than 15 calendar days after the date the institution or sponsoring agency receives the notice of adverse administrative action.

4. The date of an institution's or sponsoring agency's receipt of a notice of suspension and/or proposed termination and disqualification will be governed by the federal regulation at 7 CFR Part 226.2. The notice must specify the action being proposed or taken and the basis for the action, and is considered to be received by the institution or day care home when it is delivered, sent by facsimile, or sent by email. If the notice is undeliverable, it is considered to be received by the institution, responsible principal or responsible individual, or day care home five days after being sent to the addressee's last known mailing address, facsimile number, or email address.

5. The TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings will acknowledge the receipt of the appeal request within 10 calendar days of the receipt of the institution's or sponsoring agency's request for review. The written request for review should state if a fair hearing is requested or if a review of written information in lieu of a fair hearing is requested. If the appeal request from the institution or sponsoring agency does not specifically request a hearing, a review of written information in lieu of a hearing will occur. If a fair hearing is requested and the institution or sponsoring agency's representative fails to appear, the right to a personal appearance is waived.

6. If an institution or sponsoring agency does not request a fair hearing or a review of written information in lieu of the hearing within 15 calendar days from the date the institution or sponsoring agency receives a Notice of Proposed Termination, the TDHS will issue a letter advising the institution or sponsoring agency that it is terminated from the CACFP effective on the 16<sup>th</sup> calendar day following the institution's or sponsoring agency's receipt of the notice, and that the responsible principals and individuals of the institution or sponsoring agency are disqualified from participation.

7. To be considered for a fair hearing or for a review of written information in lieu of a fair

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Revised March 2017

hearing, all written documents must be submitted to the TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings not later than 30 days after receipt of the notice of adverse administrative action.

8. The action of the TDHS must remain in effect during the administrative review. The effect of this requirement on particular actions by TDHS is as follows:

(i) *Overpayment demand.* During the period of the administrative review, TDHS is prohibited from taking action to collect or offset the overpayment. However TDHS must assess interest beginning with the initial demand for remittance of the overpayment and continuing through the period of administrative review unless the administrative review official overturns the TDHS's action.

(ii) *Recovery of advances.* During the administrative review, TDHS must continue its efforts to recover advances in excess of the claim for reimbursement for the applicable period. The recovery may be through a demand for full repayment or an adjustment of subsequent payments.

(iii) *Program payments.* The availability of Program payments during an administrative review of the denial of a new institution's application, denial of a renewing institution's application, proposed termination of a participating institution's agreement, and suspension of an institution are addressed in paragraphs (c)(1)(iii)(D), (c)(2)(iii)(D), (c)(3)(iii)(D), (c)(5)(i)(D), and (c)(5)(ii)(E), respectively, of 7 CFR §226.6.

9. The institution or sponsoring agency must refute the charges contained in the notice during the fair hearing or in the written information that is provided in lieu of the hearing.

10. The institution and the responsible principals and responsible individuals may retain legal counsel, or may be represented by another person.

11. If a fair hearing is requested, the institution or sponsoring agency will be notified in writing of the time, date and place of the fair hearing at least 10 calendar days in advance.

12. Any information which supports an adverse administrative action taken by the TDHS shall be available to the institution or sponsoring agency for inspection from the date of the receipt of the request for a fair hearing or a review of written information in lieu of the hearing.

13. In accordance with 7 CFR Part 226.6 (k)(8), the TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings must conduct the administrative review of the proposed disqualification of the responsible principals and responsible individuals as part of the administrative review of the application denial, proposed termination, and/or proposed disqualification of the institution with which the responsible principals or responsible individuals are associated. However, at the administrative review official's discretion, separate administrative reviews may be held if the institution does not request an administrative review or if either the institution or the responsible principal or responsible individual demonstrates that their interests conflict.

14. The procedures contained in the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act found at TCA 4-5-301 et seq. shall be followed in rendering a decision on all appeals. The decision of the hearing officer is the final administrative determination to be afforded to the institution or sponsoring agency, and shall be rendered in a timely manner not to exceed 60 calendar days from the date of the receipt of the request for a fair hearing.

15. The processing limits for administrative appeals MUST be met. In the event a continuance is requested by a party, one continuance may be granted at the Hearing Official's discretion. This

**Appeal Procedures for Child and Adult Care Food Program-Institutions**  
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continuance shall not be for a period longer than ten (10) calendar days unless there are exceptional circumstances. Exceptional circumstances must be detailed in the order of continuance and the order must contain a date certain for the hearing, to be set as soon as possible. A report of pending CACFP desk review and fair hearing requests will be generated and reviewed daily by the Clerk's Office and the Legal Director for Appeals and Hearings who will monitor the dates for timeliness. In the event a decision has not been rendered within forty-five (45) calendar days of the date of receipt of the request for fair hearing or desk review, the Legal Director for Appeals and Hearings or their back-up shall notify the hearing official to take appropriate action.

16. All requests for a fair hearing or for a review of written information in lieu of a hearing must be submitted to:

**Tennessee Department of Human Services**  
**Division of Appeals and Hearings**  
**PO Box 198996, Clerk's Office**  
**Nashville, TN 37219-8996**  
**Fax: (615) 248-7013 or (866) 355-6136**  
**E-mail: [AppealsClerksOffice.DHS@tn.gov](mailto:AppealsClerksOffice.DHS@tn.gov)**

17. If a termination action is upheld by the hearing officer, the TDHS will issue a letter to the institution or sponsoring agency and its responsible principals and individuals advising that the termination and disqualification are effective on the date of the ruling issued by the hearing officer. The agency maintains searchable records of all administrative reviews and their dispositions for a period of five (5) years.

18. As required by 7 CFR Part 226.6 (c)(7), each disqualified institution, sponsoring agency, principal and individual will be placed on the National Disqualified List maintained by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Once included on the National Disqualified List, an institution, sponsoring agency, principal and individual shall remain on the list until such time as the USDA, in consultation with the TDHS, determines that the serious deficiencies that led to their placement on the list have been corrected, or until seven years have elapsed since they were disqualified from participation. However, if the institution, sponsoring agency, principal or individual has failed to repay debts owed under the program, they will remain on the list until the debt has been paid.