

## STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

CITIZENS PLAZA BUILDING 400 DEADERICK STREET NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-1403

TELEPHONE: 615-313-4700

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TTY: 1-800-270-1349 www.tn.gov/humanservices

**BILL HASLAM** 

GOVERNOR

**DANIELLE W. BARNES** 

COMMISSIONER

January 19, 2018

Robin Franklin, Owner Little Lamb Child Care Center 1154 Wears Valley Road Pigeon Forge, Tennessee 37863-7708

Dear Mrs. Franklin,

The Department of Human Services (DHS) - Audit Services Division staff conducted an unannounced on-site monitoring review of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) at Little Lamb Child Care Center (Sponsor), Application Agreement number 00-389, on January 4, 2018. The purpose of this review was to determine if the Sponsor complied with *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 breakfast, lunch, supper, and supplement 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 count 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 and observed a meal service. In addition, we observed a meal service during our site visit on November 30, 2017.

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

## The Sponsor reported the number of participants in the free and paid categories incorrectly

#### Condition

The Claim for Reimbursement for the test month reported 33 participants in the free category, 5 participants in the reduced-price category, and 4 participants in the paid category. However, based on our review of the Sponsor's records, we found that there were 30 participants in the free category, 5 participants in the reduced-price category and 7 participants in the paid category.

The differences were based on the following:

There were three participants reported in the free category, but based on their applications they
should have been reported as paid. These participants were reclassified as paid.

As a result, the Sponsor over-reported the number of participants in the free category by three participants and under-reported the number of participants in the paid category by three participants.

The number of reported and validated participants in the program was 42.

#### Criteria

Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 226.10(c) states, "... In submitting a Claim for Reimbursement, each institution shall certify that the claim is correct and that records are available to support that claim. ..."

#### Recommendation

The Sponsor should ensure that each participant in the CACFP is classified and reported properly based on categorical or income eligibility.

Note: Our observation of the meal service on November 30, 2017 revealed no deficiencies.

#### **Technical Assistance Provided**

During our monitoring visit on November 30, 2017 we discussed the meal pattern revisions effective October 1, 2017. We focused on products that meet the whole grain and infant feeding requirements. During the exit conference on January 4, 2018, technical assistance was provided regarding participant eligibility determinations.

#### **Disallowed Meals Cost**

Based on our review, we determined that the Sponsor's noncompliance with the applicable Federal and State regulations that govern the CACFP resulted in a total disallowed cost of \$296.37.

#### **Corrective Action**

Little Lamb Child Care Center must complete the following actions within 30 days from the date of this report:

- Login to the Tennessee Information Payment System (TIPS) and revise the claim(s) submitted for November 2017, which contains the verified claim data from the enclosed exhibit.
- Remit a check payable to the Tennessee Department of Human Services in the amount of \$296.37 for recovery of the amounts disallowed in this report. <u>Please return</u> the attached billing notice with your check; and
- Prepare and submit a corrective action plan to address the deficiencies identified in this
  report. The corrective action plan template is attached. Please return a corrective action
  plan to:

#### 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
(615)313-3769

Please note that the amount of disallowed cost is subject to an interest charge. The interest charge will be waived if your revised claim within 30 business days from the date of this report. If the revised claim is not completed by the 30 business - day deadline, an interest charge may be billed to your institution. Please mail your check and the billing notice to:

Child and Adult Care Food Program
Fiscal Services
11th Floor, Citizens Plaza Building
400 Deaderick Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

In accordance with the federal regulation found at 7 CFR Part 226.6 (k), your institution may appeal the amount of disallowed cost identified in this monitoring report. The procedures for submitting an appeal are enclosed.

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.

Sincerely,

Sam O. Alzoubi, CFE Director of Audit Services

#### Exhibit

cc: Allette Vayda, Director, Child and Adult Care Food Programs
Debra Pasta, Program Manager, 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
Elke Moore, Administrative Services Assistant 3, Child and Adult Care Food Program
Comptroller of the Treasury, State of Tennessee

#### **EXHIBIT**

### Verification of CACFP Independent Center Claim

Name of Agency: Little Lamb Child Care Center Review Month/Year: November 2017

Total Meal Reimbursement Received: \$4,492.13

Site Meal Service Activity and Monitor Reconciliation	Reported on Claim	Reconciled to Documentation
Number of Days that CACFP Food Service was operated	20	20
Total Attendance	831	831
Percentage of Participants in the Free or Reduced-price Category	90%	83%
Number of Breakfasts Served	805	805
Number of Lunches Served	831	831
Number of Supplements Served	831	831
Number of Participants in Free Category	33	30
Number of Participants in Reduced- Price Category	5	5
Number of Participants in Paid Category	4	7
Total Number of Participants	42	42
Total Amount of Eligible Food Costs	xxxxxxx	\$1,384.27
Total Amount of Eligible Food and Non-Food Costs	xxxxxxx	\$2,835.86



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BILL HASLAM GOVERNOR DANIELLE W. BARNES
COMMISSIONER

January 19, 2018

Robin Franklin, Owner Little Lamb Child Care Center 1154 Wears Valley Road Pigeon Forge, Tennessee 37863-7708

Notice of payment due to findings disclosed in the monitoring report dated January 19, 2018, for Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

Institution Name:	Little Lamb Child Care Center
Institution Address:	1154 Wears Valley Road
Agreement Numbers:	00-389
Amount Due:	\$296.37
Due Date:	February 19, 2018

Based on the monitoring report issued by the Audit Services Division within the Tennessee Department of Human Services, the Community and Social Services - Food Programs - CACFP & SFSP management has agreed with the finding which requires your institution to reimburse the Department of Human Services for disallowed meals cost.

Please remit a check or money order payable to the *Tennessee Department of Human Services* in the amount of \$296.37 by the due date to:

Tennessee Department of Human Services
Fiscal Services 11<sup>th</sup> Floor
Citizens Plaza Building
400 Deaderick Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1403

Please note that the disallowed cost/overpayment of the CACFP is subject to an interest charge. The interest charge will be waived if the payment is received by the due date. If payment is not received by the end of the 5th day of the due date, an interest charge may be added to the original amount due and will be billed to your entity.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please feel free to contact Allette Vayda, Director, Community and Social Services - Food Programs - CACFP & SFSP at (615) 313-3769 or Allette Vayda@tn.gov.

Thank you for your attention

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#### **Tennessee Department of Human Services**

## **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	ıΔ	Institu	ıtion	Inform	ration
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Name of Sponsor/Agency/Site: Little Lamb Child Care Center		Agreement No. 00389	☐ SFSP ☑ CACFP
Mailing Address: 1154 Wears Valley Road Pige	on Forge, Tenr	lessee 37863-7708	
Section B. Responsible Principal(s) and/or Ir	ndividual(s)		
Name and Title: Robin Franklin, Owner			Date of Birth: / /
Section C. Dates of Issuance of Monitoring F	Report/Correct	ive Action Plan	
Monitoring Report: 1/19/2018	Corrective Action Plan: 1/19/2018		
Section D. Findings			
Findings: The Sponsor reported the number of participants	s in the free and	d paid categories in	correctly
The following measures will be completed within action plan:	n <b>30 calendar</b>	days of my institution	on's receipt of this corrective
The Sponsor reported the number of partici	pants in the fr	ee and paid catego	ories incorrectly
The finding will be fully and permanently correct Identify the name(s) and position title(s) of the exist fully and permanently corrected:		o will be responsible	e for ensuring that the finding
Name:	Po	sition Title:	
Name:	sition Title:		

DHS staff should check the "Forms" section of the intranet to ensure the use of current versions. Forms may not be altered without prior approval.

Distribution: OIG and CACFP/SFSP as appropriate

RDA: 2341

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Describe below the step-by-step procedures that will be implemented to correct the finding:
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?):
Where will the Corrective Action Plan documentation be retained? Please identify below:
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:

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:	1	1	
Signature of Authorized TDHS Official:	Date:	1	1	

## Appeal Procedures for Child and Adult Care Food Program-Institutions Revised March 2017

- (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 16th 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

Appeal Procedures for Child and Adult Care Food Program-Institutions 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
Revised March 2017

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

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.