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## DATES TO REMEMBER

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Distance Learning Nov 7

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Distance Learning Dec 5

Verification Collection Report Due Dec 16

Distance Learning Dec 5

## Wanda Shockey Retires from CNU

Wanda Shockey said farewell to colleagues and friends during a retirement reception Friday, August 30, 2013, at the Victory Building in Little Rock. She was



recognized for her 23 years of dedication and love for the Child Nutrition Programs of Arkansas.

Miguel Hernandez, Assistant Commissioner of Fiscal and Administrative Services, presented



Ms. Wanda with a Certificate of Appreciation from the State of Arkansas and a Capitol Citation from the Office of the Governor.

The Child Nutrition Unit showed their love and appreciation with a set of wind chimes for Ms. Wanda to enjoy while spending time

in her garden. Special guests at the reception included Ms. Wanda's 94 year old mother Dean Sanders, her husband Lucian Shockey, and her son Hugh Shockey.



Wanda says the first items on her to-do list for retirement are making new memories with her husband and visiting her mother in Louisiana. We have received a post card from South Dakota so far!

## Suzanne Davidson Named New CNU Director

Suzanne Davidson has been promoted to Director of the Child Nutrition Unit, ADE Education Associate Director. Ms. Davidson joined the Child Nutrition Unit as an Area Specialist in April 1992. She was promoted to Associate Director of Program Operations in March 2009, a position she held until being named the Education Associate Director of Child Nutrition. Prior to joining ADE, Ms. Davidson was employed by the

Marvell School District for 18 years.

Ms. Davidson states: "I look forward to providing the leadership for the Child Nutrition Unit as we continue to provide agency support to local school districts. Our goal is to promote a positive image for the Child Nutrition Program by partnering with allied groups and participating in professional organizations."

*Adapted from Sept 19 Memo from Miguel Hernandez*



## Outreach Opportunity



### Recruit kid BAC Fighters for Franken BAC's Monster Mash Drawing Contest.

Kids love monsters - why not teach them about the invisible ones that might be lurking in food and making them sick?

This year, Franken BAC is hosting a party and he's invited his germie friends, the 10 Least Wanted Pathogens. Kids need to learn how to recognize and fight them off so they don't get sick. They'll draw their spooky interpretations of one of the 10 Least Wanted Pathogens and answer a few questions about how to fight them off using the food safety concepts they've learned from Perfect Picnic.

Three eligible entries will win a raffle for \$50 gift cards. Don't wait - visit <http://www.fightbac.org/kids/halloween-drawing-contest> for complete rules and instructions.

**Deadline is October 31st, 2013.**

**USE  
NATIONAL  
SCHOOL  
LUNCH WEEK  
AS AN  
OPPORTUNITY  
TO MARKET  
YOUR  
PROGRAMS!**

## Administrative Review Update

The Arkansas Child Nutrition Staff have attended a second round of USDA training on the new Administrative Review guidelines. Please remember that for SY 2013-14, your Area Specialists will be conducting the Coordinated Review Effort but will include some changes that are required for moving toward the Administrative Review. Those changes will

include things like noting all findings on the letter back to the district whether or not those findings were corrected during the review, looking closer at financial documentation, and reviewing breakfast.

Administrative Reviews are scheduled to begin the first of November. Your Area Specialist will be sending a letter to your Superintendent notify-

ing the district of the exact dates of the review. Instructions for preparing for the review will also be included with that letter.

Remember a review of any kind by the Child Nutrition Unit is an opportunity for your program to grow and improve. We look forward to working with you all this year!



Marketing at Dardanelle

## Marketing Strategies Workshop

A one-day workshop is scheduled for Friday, October 25, 2013, in Little Rock at the Arkansas 4-H Center – Cabe Hall. Registration starts at 9:00 am. The meeting begins at 10:00 am, and the meeting concludes at 3:30 pm.

In an effort to encourage chil-

dren to accept whole grains, more fruits and vegetables, and other changes in the new meal pattern, this workshop is designed to provide Child Nutrition Directors and Managers with the tools they need to increase participation through creating and implementing a marketing plan. The

Registration Fee is \$15 per person. The deadline for registration is Wednesday, October 23, 2013. Limited seating is available, so registration will be offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. See the Child Nutrition Website for more information.

# Seamless Summer Option

The following is an article written by Margie Bowers at the Rogers School District detailing the successes of her Seamless Summer Program.

The Rogers summer meal program was very successful, growing almost two and a half times from the previous year by providing a mobile meals program. We operated five sites serving 400-600 congregate meals and served four low income areas in the city of Rogers with our Mobile Meals program. We served over 400 meals everyday directly from our truck to children at apartment complexes and at the Center for Non-Profits parking lot. We served only two cold meals during the week, focusing on kid-favorite hot meals.

We had a visit from the Governor's office and the "No Kid Hungry" campaign representatives and received a letter of commendation from Governor Beebe for our innovative approach to serving more children during the summer.

We operated the mobile program beginning one week after school

was out until one week before school resumed, assuring that our most needy children were receiving meals during all but two weeks of the summer break.

We also partnered with Samaritan House and handed out snack packs on Fridays to help with food during the week-ends.

My staff were both humbled and motivated to see children waiting for the meal truck daily. We even had children climbing a fence from an adjacent complex, so we began bringing the truck to them and served 60 to 80 children at that particular site.

We often see the faces of hungry children on television residing in 3rd world countries, but we don't expect to see them in our local communities. But when our truck appears in the driveway, they unashamedly line up to receive a meal day after day. Many parents and the operators of the apartment complexes have thanked us for offering this service each day. One mother of five came up to me and told me how very grateful she was

for the program. She said she was receiving SNAP benefits but during the summer it was not enough to feed her children everyday since they did not get breakfast and lunch at school.

We plan to expand the program next year to at least two more sites.

*When children receive adequate nutrition in the summer months, they return to school in the fall healthy and ready to learn.*

The Child Nutrition Unit encourages every school to get involved! You can help start a new meal site at a location where children spend time during the summer and provide nutritious meals to children during the summer months.

Contact Patricia Winders (501) 324-9502 at the Arkansas Department of Education, Child Nutrition Unit for information on Seamless Summer meal program or Vickie Stewart (501) 320-8968 at the Department of Human Services, Special Nutrition for Summer Food Service Program.

***"My staff were both humbled and motivated to see children waiting for the meal truck daily."***

***- Margie Bowers***

# Verification Update

The Verification Collection Report form is still under construction at the time of this article. Information will be released to school districts once it is available.

Stay tuned to the Child Nutrition Website and watch for Commissioner's Memos for instructions.

Important Dates to remember:

- November 15—school district deadline for collecting Verification documentation from households
- December 16—deadline for submitting the Verification Collection Report to the Child Nutrition Unit

**NATIONAL  
SCHOOL LUNCH  
WEEK  
OCTOBER  
14-18, 2013**

The Child Nutrition Unit welcomes all team members to their new positions!

## Milestones—Elaine Paulette

All the way from Fort Smith, Elaine Paulette has moved to Little Rock and joined the Child Nutrition Unit! You will recognize her new voice when you call the Unit, and you may hear from her about issues or concerns related to your Claims for Reimbursement. Elaine has worked for the Fort Smith School District in Human Resources. She was raised in Bauxite, but moved away for 25 years.

She is back now to enjoy family including her parents, 2 brothers, 2 sisters, and many nieces and nephews.

Elaine's daughter Cati will graduate from nursing school in December, and Cati is engaged to Brent with a wedding planned for May. Oh, and we are happy to say that mom loves him too! She also has a son, John, who lives in Fort Smith.

Elaine has two dogs, a golden retriever named Bailey and a

Chihuahua named Luke.

She works at Arkansas Children's Hospital on the weekends, and Elaine enjoys reading and making crafts like wooden Christmas ornaments.



## Milestones—Laura Jill Richmond

In September 2012, the Child Nutrition Unit welcomed Laura Jill Richmond. She worked as an Area Specialist for the central part of the state until this September (2013) when she was promoted to Assistant Director Program Support. Laura Jill is a registered dietitian and lives in Little Rock. She was raised in East Arkansas. She has previ-

ously worked in Child Nutrition for a school district in Texas, and Laura has also worked in restaurant food service and management. She obtained her undergraduate degree from the University of Arkansas in 2008 and a Master's of Science from UAMS in 2011. Laura Jill completed a distance dietetic internship with an emphasis in child nutri-

tion programs and school food service systems management from Utah State University. Laura's hobbies include cooking, traveling, working out, and spending time with her family and friends, and her dog. She is happy to be working in Child Nutrition because of the importance in educating future generations on how to be healthy and physically active.



## Milestones—Karen Franklin

After serving as Wanda's secretary for two years and an Area Specialist nine years, Karen Franklin has been promoted to Assistant Director Program/Fiscal Support. Karen's achievements as an Area Specialist included building strong relationships with people at her schools, developing training resources for Child

Nutrition programs, and interpreting government language to move information through the channels. Karen's goals for her new position include moving the Child Nutrition staff toward greater continuity and strengthening financial and resource management guidance and tools. The National Food Service Management

Institute has invited Karen to participate in an Expert Panel Meeting to address School Nutrition Productivity, including topics on food and supply cost, financial management, and average daily participation. She is excited to see how other states address these common issues. Karen and her husband Keith live in Hot Springs. Their daughter Emma is in her second year at UALR studying Marine Biology.

# Milestones—Maggie Bell

Maggie Bell has accepted an Area Specialist position with the Arkansas Child Nutrition Unit. Maggie is a 24 year old Registered Dietitian from North Little Rock, Arkansas.

Maggie attended the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville (She says, “Go Hogs!”) and graduated in 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in Food, Human Nutrition, and Hospitality. She completed her dietetic internship at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and is currently a Master’s student at the University of Central Arkansas.

Before coming to the Arkansas Department of Education, Maggie worked as a Graduate Assistant (GA) in the University of Central Arkansas Graduate School and as a Nutritionist/Registered Dietitian for the Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) Program in Pine Bluff, AR. Maggie has always had a desire to work in the area of Child Nutrition and is very excited and thankful to be here!!

Maggie enjoys reading and baking. She has one brother and one niece. She is excited to say she has only one class left until completing her

Masters Degree. Unfortunately, it’s statistics! At least Maggie will be ready for Production Records in Manager’s Certification next summer!



## Distance Learning Topics

Distance Learning Topics for the upcoming months include:

**November**—Poster Contest, Weighted Nutrient Analysis, and Preparing for a Coordinated Review Effort

**December**—Marketing Strategies, including topics not previously covered in other venues

**January**—No topics scheduled at this time

**February** –Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Application Process; Severe Need; Seamless Summer Option; Community Eligibility

Please remember that directors who are working toward certification are required to attend at least

three Distance Learning Workshops. Directors working to maintain certification must obtain at least ten hours of continuing education each year.

Please visit the Child Nutrition website for more information about each month’s Distance Learning.

*Distance Learning is a great way to stay informed about the latest Child Nutrition information.*

## Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Update

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program is off to a great start this year! Schools have been purchasing fruits, vegetables, supplies, and approved equipment since the start of school. Those familiar with the program know that they have moved from Allocation 1 money into Allocation 2 money starting on October 1. In the Child Nutrition Unit, Steph-

nie Alsbrook, the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Grant Coordinator, and Dr. Wynona Bryant-Williams are approving claims for reimbursement. Debi Branscum is entering claims into the database. A few schools have taken part in FFVP Visits so far this year. All schools were successfully implementing the program, and children

and teachers were excited about the fruits and vegetables. Schools who are interested in applying for FFVP in the future should plan to attend the February Child Nutrition Distance Learning to hear more about the application process.



## ADE Commissioner's Communication Memos

The following Arkansas Department of Education Commissioner's Communication Memos relate to Child Nutrition Programs. A complete list can be accessed on the Child Nutrition Web page at <http://www.arkansaschildnutrition.org>

Number	Date	Subject
FIN-14-029	10/1/2013	Child Nutrition Marketing Strategies Workshop
FIN-14-027	9/18/2013	October 2013 Distance Learning—The New Breakfast Meal Pattern Requirements and Offer vs. Serve
LS-14-015	8/13/2013	New Submission Requirement to Identify a Foster Care Liaison to Ensure Continuity of Educational Services to Foster Children
FIN-14-025	9/5/2013	Registration of Food Service Management Companies
FIN-14-024	9/5/2013	Procurement of Food Service Management Company Services
FIN-14-022	9/3/2013	2014 Nutrition Education Poster Contest
FIN-14-020	9/4/2013	USDA Eligibility Manual for School Meals, Revised August 2013
FIN-14-015	8/12/2013	Pre-School—APSCN/eSchoolPlus Cycle 2 Reports for Enrollment & Free/Reduced Price Eligibles
FIN-14-014	8/12/2013	APSCN/eSchoolPlus Cycle 2 Child Nutrition Enrollment and Eligibles Reporting
FIN-14-009	7/30/2013	2013-14 Child Nutrition Reimbursement Rates
FIN-14-004	7/15/2013	REVISED Non-Discrimination Statement for Child Nutrition Programs
FIN-13-079	5/16/2013	Classified Employee Minimum Hourly Wage for 2013-14
FIN-13-077	4/30/2013	Crediting of Pre-portioned Fruit Cups
FIN-13-076	4/30/2013	Crediting of Tortilla Chips, Taco Shells, and Tamales in the National School Lunch Program

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