



## CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM

### EMERGENCY SHELTERS

#### What is CACFP?

**C**ACFP is the Child and Adult Care Food Program, a federally funded nutrition assistance program that provides healthy meals and snacks to 2.6 million young children in day care settings. The program also serves 62,500 adults who receive care in nonresidential adult day care centers. In 1999, CACFP reached even further by providing snacks to youths participating in after school care programs, and meals and snacks to children residing in homeless shelters or domestic abuse shelters.

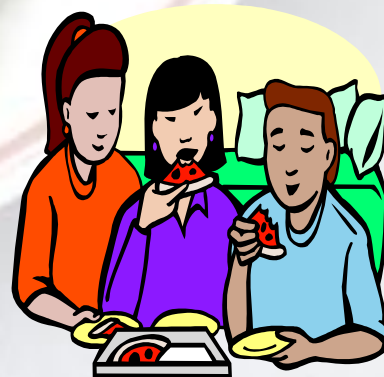
#### Which shelters can participate?

**A**pplying to the Child and Adult Care Food Program, an emergency shelter must provide residential and food services to homeless children and their parents or guardians. Some shelters in New Jersey may need to be licensed. If not, a shelter must meet any health and safety codes that are required by state or local law.

A homeless shelter or a temporary residential site sponsored by a shelter, or another public or private nonprofit agency, is eligible to participate in CACFP. A shelter operated by a proprietary organization may also be eligible. A shelter may complete an application and sign an agreement with the state administering agency, or it may participate as a facility under an existing CACFP sponsoring organization.

#### Who is eligible for CACFP meals and snacks?

**C**hildren 18 years of age and younger, and residents of any age who have disabilities, in residential emergency facilities may receive up to three reimbursable meals each day, on weekdays and weekends. Residential children who receive their meals at the shelter are automatically eligible for free meals and snacks. There are no application forms for their parents or guardians to complete. All reimbursable meals and snacks are served in group settings, at no cost to the child or to the child's parents or guardians.



## How are shelters reimbursed?



Homeless shelters receive payments for serving meals and snacks, which meet Federal nutritional guidelines, to eligible children. The maximum payment rates are based on the numbers of meals and snacks served at the free rate for day care centers. Shelters also receive commodities or cash-in-lieu of commodities for each CACFP lunch or supper they serve.

## Where can you get more information?

**P**articipation and additional information regarding the CACFP may be obtained by contacting the Child and Adult Care Food Program office.



### If You Have Questions, Contact:

N.J. Department of Agriculture  
Division of Food and Nutrition  
**Child and Adult Food Program**

P.O. Box 334  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0334  
(609) 984-1250

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