4/18/13

Thursday Update

Dear Districts,

**We Have a New Addition to Our Team!**

As many of you know, Program Supervisor Bre Riley was due to give birth in April. So, last Thursday 4/11 at 8:56am, Mr. Finnegan Dutch Riley made his grand entrance into the world, at 20.5 inches and 8 lb, 14.5 oz. Several of you requested a cute picture of Finn, so we have one attached to this email for you. If you were not already in a good mood today, you will be after seeing his picture!

**Messages from Jane Brand**

* After serving the CDE for ­­18+ years, Senior Consultant Jeanne Aiello has decided to retire. During her career, Jeanne has worked with most of the programs the OSN oversees, and she has formed many strong relationships with district staff. As such, Jeanne has provided our team and state with a wealth of knowledge and experience that has been invaluable. On behalf of my entire staff, I would like to thank Jeanne for all of her dedication over the years, and we wish her the best in her future endeavors. Jeanne’s last day is not until 30 April, so please join me in thanking and congratulating her before then.
* Jeanne’s vacant position will be posted within the next few weeks; we will keep you informed of when it is listed. Also, we will let you know whom to contact for the various programs Jeanne oversees, during the period of time this position is vacant. Right now, we do know that Heather Schoen will be assisting with the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program.

**A Message from Jeanne Aiello**

Dear Partners in Child Nutrition,

Many of you may not know that I will be retiring as of May 1, 2013. I could not retire without expressing my appreciation and admiration to each of you. I have enjoyed every minute working in Child Nutrition, both at the district and state level.

One of my most cherished memories is sharing school meals with you and our students. Children are so open and honest over meals. They tell you how much they like you and the school meals, and sometimes they tell you that they ate out of a backpack in a pick-up truck over the weekend.  I have always felt I worked with great people. You work very hard for very little – but know that what you do for children is priceless and does not go unnoticed.

I will cherish the relationships we’ve developed over the last 27 years, and I wish you all the very best. If you would like to contact me on a personal level, my cell phone number is 303-475-2191.

Always,

**Jeanne**

**New Trainings (Breakfast & Production Records)**

* Webinar: Update on the **School Breakfast Program Requirements**
	+ Summary: During this one hour webinar, the CDE OSN will review the changes for the School Breakfast Program effective July 2013.
	+ When:  04/30/2013 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM MST.
	+ To join the meeting: <http://connect.enetcolorado.org/r8im7kaix85/>.
	+ If you have never attended an Adobe Connect meeting before, test your connection: <http://connect.enetcolorado.org/common/help/en/support/meeting_test.htm> and get a quick overview: <http://www.adobe.com/products/adobeconnect.html>.
* The OSN has also just released a **Menu Production Record** online training. This training is optional but highly encouraged—and it can be viewed at any time at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/nutritrainings.htm>.

**Free & Reduced**

* Annual Mandatory Training—Information on the *regional* trainings was emailed 4/17 to all F&R contacts. Details can be found at [http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/nutriF&R-RegionalTraining.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/nutriF%26R-RegionalTraining.htm). *Online* training info will be sent out within a couple of weeks. At least one staff person from each SFA must complete the training, but it is up to each SFA whether to attend in-person or to take the training online.
* F&R Forms in Spanish—The Letter to Parents, Instructions for Applying, Application, Notification Letter, & Information Release have been translated into Spanish and are posted on our website at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/nutriformsbook.htm>.
* USDA Memo—The USDA recently released a memo on the Categorical Eligibility of Children in Foster Care, which provides some good reminders. Please take a moment to read through this memo, which is posted at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/nutriUSDA-memos.htm>.

**Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) 2013-2014 Application**

On 4/12, the FFVP application for 13-14 was sent to all SFAs with at least one school with 50% or higher F&R eligibility, as schools with higher F&R %s are more likely to be awarded funds for the program. Details on applying can be found at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/nutriFFVPP.htm>. Please note that either the original form or the revised one sent on 4/16 may be used to apply; changes to the form affected only the functionality, to make it easier to use. The application deadline is Thursday 9 May. For questions, please contact Jeanne Aiello at Aiello\_j@cde.state.co.us or 303-866-6659 (until 30 April) and Heather Schoen at schoen\_h@cde.state.co.us or 303-866-6871 (after 30 April).

**USDA Farm to School Grant Program Seeks Volunteer Grant Reviewers**
USDA’s Farm to School Grant Program is designed to increase the availability of local foods in schools and help give children a sense of where their food comes from. Last year the USDA received over 400 proposals; this year they expect at least that many, if not more. The success of this popular grant program is dependent on having a robust team of reviewers to help score and rank proposals. If you have farm to school experience and a little time to lend to the program, please consider joining as volunteer reviewer. For more information and to request a volunteer application, please [click here](http://links.govdelivery.com:80/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTMwNDE2LjE3NzY3NDcxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREItUFJELUJVTC0yMDEzMDQxNi4xNzc2NzQ3MSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE3NTEzMzkwJmVtYWlsaWQ9Ym9kbmFyX2pAY2RlLnN0YXRlLmNvLnVzJnVzZXJpZD1ib2RuYXJfakBjZGUuc3RhdGUuY28udXMmZmw9JmV4dHJhPU11bHRpdmFyaWF0ZUlkPSYmJg==&&&100&&&http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/F2S/pdf/External_Reviewer.pdf).

**Reminders**

Just a few reminders about some important upcoming deadlines & events.

* Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Application: If you would like to apply for the SFSP, don’t forget that the application is due by **3 May** (the deadline has been extended). This SFSP module is open in our claim system and is working smoothly!
* USDA Farm to School Grant Application Period: The open period for applying for USDA Farm to School Grants will come to a close on **24 April**. To learn more about the program and the Request for Applications, please see <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/F2S/f2_2013_grant_program.htm>.
* USDA Farm to School Census: Thank you to everyone who has completed this survey. In fact, Colorado is leading the pack nationally, as we have an 82% response rate so far. Let’s go for 100%! If you have not yet completed this survey, please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/F2S> before **3 May**.
* School Breakfast Program 13-14 Webinars: Stay tuned for further information on the last two webinars on **5/10 & 5/29** (1-2pm). For now, be sure to mark your calendars for any one of these date options; all webinars (including the one on 4/30) will feature the same information.
* 2013 CSNA Summer Conference & Exhibit, **17-19 June**: We hope to see everyone at this conference (which is combined with the CDE summer workshop) in Denver this summer! Full details & registration info can be found at <https://colosna.com/summer-conference-2013.php>.
* New Directors’ Orientation, **22-26 July**, in Aurora: Registration is still open for this orientation for all new food service directors. To reserve your spot and for more info, visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/nutridirector.htm>.

**Certified!**Congratulations to the following districts that were certified during this past week for compliance with the new meal patterns: Huerfano, Synergy, Compass, Kim 88, McClave, Manitou Springs, Clear Creek, and Colorado Mental Health Institute in Pueblo. Terrific work!

Flash drives received: 175 (95.1%). *Just a friendly reminder that the OSN has up to 60 days to approve Certification materials for an SFA once a completed flash drive is received.*



Thank you,

**Jennifer**

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~Thursday Updates (TU) are brought to you by the CDE Office of School Nutrition (OSN) & are provided to

Main Nutrition Contacts, F&R Contacts, Certification Contacts, Claim System Users, & our additional TU List.~

If today’s TU contains information pertinent to a different staff person in your district, please forward this information to that person. | To access the TU archives, click [here](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/nutriEmails.htm).