6/27/12

Disaster Feeding

Everyone,

Please see the message below from Jane Brand, CDE OSN Director.

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The CDE Office of School Nutrition has received several calls this morning concerning disaster feeding in light of the many wildfires in Colorado.  We have researched federal guidance for schools that help/serve in disaster situations and have included a link to these resources below.

We understand that Care and Share is coordinating food donations in the Colorado Springs area, for example.  If your school chooses to donate USDA Foods to them or to another organization in your area, it is important to document the type and amount for your records.   Please contact the coordinating organization if you have any specific questions regarding this process.  Generally you cannot donate non-USDA Foods items and pay for their replacement from federal funds.

If you are requested to open your kitchens/cafeterias as disaster feeding sites, generally the Red Cross or other coordinating agency will operate out of your kitchen.  You may not need to provide anything but space and utilities.  If school food is used, you will need to document the amounts used and prepare an agreement with the coordinating agency to allow the district to be reimbursed for these costs.

If you are requested to feed evacuated families, there are some additional steps you will need to take to document the children for claiming.  Contact the CDE Office of School Nutrition if you have questions regarding this process.

These two references cover some of the options for schools in disaster situations.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/programs/fd-disasters/FDDDisasterManual.pdf>

and

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/Policy-Memos/2012/SP25_CACFP12_SFSP10-2012os.pdf>

Our thoughts go out to the many families affected in these areas.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Thank you.

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