

Volume 22 Issue 7 July 2022

Nutrition Nuggets

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We have a few announcements that we would like to share that will be going into effect this month. Some of these announcements are big victories for participants of the Food Program and we are very excited to share the news.

- **Tiering-** A lot of you are aware that last year all providers were eligible to qualify under Tier 1 and get the same reimbursement rate regardless of their tiering status. Great news! There will be an additional year of Tier 1 reimbursements for all providers starting this month through June 30th, 2023. This change is automatic, with no action needed from you. You will still need to complete a Meal Benefit Form if you want to claim your own or residential children.
- **Reimbursement Rates-** Starting this month, there will also be an increase of 10 cents for all meals and snacks per child. You will see this increase on the reimbursement you receive in September (for July).
- **Remote Visits-** The waiver that was set in place for remote visits has been extended through June 30th, 2023. We currently have been doing 3 visits per fiscal year over the phone. This fiscal year, we will try to incorporate one of those visits to be face to face, virtually. We may have to use different methods, such as Zoom or Facetime, depending on what providers have access to. When we find the best system to achieve this goal, we will let providers know.
- **Annual Training-** We will be posting our annual training on our website this month for providers to complete by September 30th, 2022. We will send a link through KidKare Messages and a Constant Contact notice with the link. Please be on the lookout for that.
- Whole Grain Measurements- As many of you know, the regulations for whole grain measurements were proposed to change last year. It was postponed, but the change will be implemented July 1, 2022. Providers can find measurement information in this year's annual training packet.

There are a lot of exciting announcements and some changes for providers on the Food Program this month. If you have any questions regarding any of these changes, please contact us.





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Grilled Blackberry, Strawberry, Basil and Brie Pizza Crisps

1/2 of a pound of pizza dough16 leaves basil, chopped and divided1 1/2 cup strawberries, chopped1/2 cup balsamic vinegar

1/4 cup olive oil 8-12 ounces brie, sliced 3/4 cup blackberries 3 tablespoons honey

Remove pizza dough from fridge. Add the balsamic vinegar and honey to small saucepan and simmer until it is reduced in half. This should take about 10-15 mins. Remove from heat and set aside until ready to use. Set the grill to a high heat. Add blackberries and half of the basil to a bowl and lightly mash together. Divide pizza dough in half. Roll thinly. Cut the dough into

12 to 16 squares. Brush both sides with olive oil and place on baking sheet. Grill the pizza squares for about two minutes until bubbles start to form. Remove and turn heat down to medium. Top the grilled side of the pizza with brie, mashed blackberries/basil and strawberries. Return them to the grill for another 3-5 minutes until cheese has melted. Remove and top with remaining fresh basil and drizzle with honey balsamic glaze. www.halfedbakedharvest.com

Festive Yard Bowling

One way to keep children entertained at a 4th of July party is to have games for them to play. An extra step to make it even more exciting, is to have them help make and assemble the game. Yard bowling is not only a fun activity but they get to help use their creativity by crafting the pieces first!

Breathe new life into old soup cans with a few coats of red, white, and blue paint or strips of duct tape. Create a fun 4th of July craft station and let the kids decorate their own. Then set up decorated cans in pyramid form for a fun game of yard bowling! You can use a small ball or bean bag to knock over the cans. This DIY 4th of July game can be made for only a few dollars, but it will bring hours of fun to your party.



