

## Breaking NEWS!!!! USDA Announces Reimbursement Rate Waiver for CACFP

Beginning July 1, 2021 all licensed family child care providers participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) will receive Tier 1 reimbursement for meals served to all children (except the provider's own, as we are awaiting clarification on this aspect) each month through June 30, 2022.

Reimbursement rates are updated each year by the USDA. Rates for 2021-2022 have not yet been released, but Wildwood will share them as soon as the information becomes available.

Note: This waiver does not include child care centers.



## Happy Father's Day!

Sending our appreciation to all the fathers in our lives, particularly those who care for the children of other people in addition to their own. You are important, you are essential, you are loved beyond measure.

**Father's Day is June 20<sup>th</sup>**



Ideas for helping children create a keepsake card for Dad.

## Wind Chime Craft Ideas

Help school-age children create a wind chime using a stick, dowel or paper towel tube as the top hanger with recycled, leftover craft supplies, beads, or natural items.

The photos below can be your inspiration.



## WIN A FREE TABLET!!!

If you have switched to online claiming as part of our contest, be sure to file your monthly food program claim by the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month in KidKare.

Contest Rules: Promotion runs January 1, 2021 through April 1, 2021 and is open to all actively claiming providers on Wildwood's food program. To be eligible, participants must switch to online claiming (or already claim online) using KidKare by April 1<sup>st</sup> AND submit at least two consecutive, monthly claims before the drawing date.

**LIVE prize drawing will be held on Tuesday June 15, 2021!**

## Did you know that meals need to be recorded at the point of service in order to be reimbursed?

It's True! Whether your records are digital (using KidKare software) or on paper, it is important that the menu (including all food components) and children served at each meal be recorded when they are served. This is a USDA requirement.

Occasionally Wildwood receives a claim before the final meals service for the month would have been served. When this happens, we must deduct any meals that were not recorded at the point of service. While we understand that providers want to get their claim in on time, it is required that meals not be marked until they have been served.

If you're concerned about getting your manual claim to Wildwood by the deadline (the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month) using the United States Postal Service, we encourage online claiming as an alternative. When using Kidkare, do not submit your claim until the final meal of the day has been served.



## CORNER

# CLAIMS

We want you to receive the most money possible each month. Claims Corner has useful reminders and hints to help you do just that.

- **Reminder:** Child Enrollment Forms (CEF) must be renewed annually for each child in care to reflect any changes in service hours or meals served and/ or when there is a change of address or phone of parent/guardian. Enrollment renewals are a USDA requirement for all participants.
- **Reminder:** Training on the Food Program requirements, Nutrition, and Civil Rights are required for all food program participants each year. Wildwood staff also complete annual training as required to stay current with changes that impact CACFP regulations.

**\*The last day we can receive original WY & CO April claims for processing is June 25, 2021.**

**\*The last day we can receive original WY & CO May claims for processing is July 23, 2021.**

### Experiencing a Food Shortage?

If the grocery store does not have the correct fat content of milk or other food components available, please add notes to your claim to document any food shortage items and list what was served instead of the required item. You may be reimbursed for the meals that otherwise would not be creditable if shortages are documented. If you have any questions about what details to include about food shortages, call the office staff before you submit your claim. There is currently a meal pattern waiver in place from USDA.

### Heroes Act 2.0 Emergency Funding

In December of 2020, the Heros Act, which included emergency funding for children care providers, was passed.

The emergency funding of the Heros Act was intended to help replace lost income for child care providers due to forced reduction in capacity or complete closure of child care programs during the pandemic. Recognition of the essential nature of child care to the success of the workforce and economy emphasizes the need for both home and center-based care services across the nation.

The great news about the Heros Act is that providers do not need to apply for or take any action what-so-ever to receive these funds. Detailed formulas were created to determine the eligibility of each program in addition to the amount of the payment that will be made to each provider. Eligible homes and centers will automatically receive a payment from Wildwood after the funds have been disbursed by the state. Funds are expected later this summer.

**Child Care is an Essential Service!**



When school ends, please communicate with Wildwood staff to ensure that meals served to school-age children will not be disallowed. We need to know the date of the last day of the school year and there are too many school calendars for our staff to verify without your help.

### USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

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