

tasty times

important updates for success and more resources from the child care healthy food program

Dear Child Care Provider,

As we begin a new year, the Healthy Food Program would like to express our gratitude for a great year. We would be nothing without our fantastic providers! We look forward to another great year working together with you to help the children you care for develop healthy habits they can carry forward for the rest of their lives!

John R. Gadiant, RD LDN, Healthy Food Program Supervisor

As always it's a pleasure working with you and being able to support you in the work you do.

MARIA GONZALEZ
Program Generalist

Thank you to all providers in the food program who feed the children healthy foods and help them establish healthier life styles!

MARLYN TORRES
CCR Facilitator

I want to give a big thanks to our providers for working so hard to provide excellent care to the children in their communities. We know how challenging and rewarding this work can be, and I'm thankful that you chose our Healthy Food Program to be a part of your business. Whether you're new to the program or have years of experience, I enjoy getting to know all of you, and I look forward to everything 2016 has in store for us!

ERIN COLEMAN
Program Generalist

Hello to all the providers in the healthy food program. It has been my absolute pleasure to work with many of you. I have learned so much about your dedication to providing superior care to children. It is also a real treat being able to come into your homes and see your hard work in action. I know the state's budget cuts makes your work very hard, however I am so glad many of you have stayed committed to still working with children and have an amazing optimistic view for the future. Again thank you for an outstanding year and for providing your time, home and healthy foods to children in your care.

ASHONTI JACKSON
CCR Facilitator

As the newest member of the Healthy Food Program team I would like to say hello and also thank you for all the hard work you do throughout the year. As an early childhood education major I understand and appreciate the hard

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HAPPY NEW YEAR! – FROM THE HEALTHY FOOD PROGRAM STAFF

Thank you so much for giving me such a delightful year. It has been a real pleasure working with you. May your holidays be amazing!!!

LUZ LOPEZ
Nutrition Advocate

Congratulations on another year of doing the most important work there is to do—caring for children! We are happy and grateful you have chosen to take on the task, especially in regard to the Healthy Food Program. Every meal you serve which meets USDA requirements is an accomplishment that you should be proud of. You are helping children build a life-long foundation of health and good choices.

On a personal level, I want to thank you for making my work



interesting every day. Whether through phone conversations or home visits, I have been awed over and over by the things you do and say that clearly show your level of dedication.

Happy New Year and best wishes to you and all your loved ones.

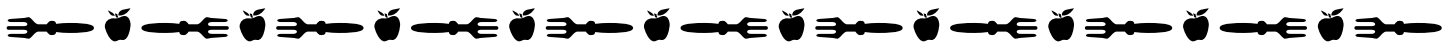
RUBY FLORES
Enrollment & Support Supervisor

I want to thank the providers for allowing me to service them and assist them in their needs during these past three years.

Thank you for opening your homes and hearts not just to the children but to the parents and to me as well.

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Welcome New Providers:

Tracy Jenkins
Magnolia Londono
Yvonne Southern
Bernadine E. Sutton
Jacqueline Warford

Important Healthy Food Program Numbers

Out-of-home voice mail phone number: **(773) 564-8862**

If you are closed, going to be out of your home during a scheduled meal service or the children are not present—state regulations require you to inform us.



Payment release dates call: **(773) 564-8860**

To speak to a customer service representative call: **(773) 564-8861**

January claims are due in our office by **February 6th!**

Warning! Late claims WILL result in late payment!



Illinois Action for Children,
4753 N. Broadway, Suite 1200,
Chicago, IL 60640
main: 312-823-1100
direct: 773-564-8861
fax: 773-564-8721
web: www.actforchildren.org

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Thank You Messages *Continued*

work that is needed to enhance the lives of the children you care for. Keep up the good work and Happy Holidays to all of you. #2016

NATALIE HOWARD
Program Clerk

Wow! It's that time a year again, the special time when we honor the providers whom make our program possible. Without you all there would be no Childhood Nutrition Wellness team. I want to thank you all personally for putting forth your best efforts at serving healthy meals, submitting timely paper work and working diligently with Children!!

TEKEYLA TATE
CCR Facilitator

Happy New Year to all our hardworking, faithful providers who participate in the Healthy Food Program! I hope the joys and laughter you shared with the children last year continues into 2016 and all of you will be healthy and happy throughout the whole year!

In Cook County, we continue to struggle with families who are food insecure or hungry. At the same time, obesity rates remain high in children from low income families causing all sorts of health issues now and into the future. As parents continue to struggle day to day, to have you as an anchor in their lives helps them to be better parents. You offer new healthy food to the children in your care and structured meal times with proper portion sizes. Children learn healthy habits early and help their parents eat healthy too.

Every day I keep you in mind thinking you are so valuable in raising our children to be the best they can be, keeping them safe and healthy, sharing new experiences with them to help their minds grow. You tirelessly work for our better future. Thank You! You truly are remarkable.

TOM BROWNING
Director of Childhood Nutrition & Wellness

Wishing everyone a wonderful Holiday Season and prosperous New Year...May we all be healthier, wealthier & wiser!

GEANNINE HARRIS
Nutrition Advocate

Happy New Years—Feliz Año Nuevo to all our providers in the Healthy Food program.

JAMES CALLAN
Nutrition Advocate

Hello to all of our providers current and new! I thank you for being a part of this wonderful Healthy Food Program. I really appreciate all of the work that you do for the children that are in your care. Every day you make a difference when you serve the children healthy nutritious meals with the help of our program. You truly are the Best!! Keep up the Great work that you do!!

ARMELLA DOYLE
Nutrition Advocate

This time of year gets me in a reflecting kind of mood. And as I reflect on the providers that I have had the privilege to meet, work with, visit and train, I just want to say that I am in awe of what you all do every day. You are up at the crack of dawn to meet and greet all of the children that you care for. You are endlessly preparing meals and snacks. You are educating our youth and keeping them safe in these difficult times. I commend all that you do! I am so glad that our future is in good hands, in your hands! I know that you may not get the accolades that a Noble Peace Prize would bring, but please know that in my book you are my idols! Thank you, Thank you, THANK YOU! For all that you do each and every day!

YVETTE ALVARADO
Provider Child Care Development and Training Specialist

Child nutrition is something that I have devoted my life to. I firmly believe that the habits and practices that are learned by a child are carried forward throughout their entire life. It fills me with great joy to work with all of our providers to instill the lessons of proper nutrition so that the children of today do not have to fight the battles of obesity and nutrition related disease tomorrow. I hope for nothing but the best for all of you in 2016, and I look forward to working with all of you!

JOHN R. GADIENT
RD LDN, Claim Processing and Reimbursement Supervisor

THANK YOU FROM ALL OF US!

The Healthy Food Program has a new phone system!

Now you only need to call one number to reach the Healthy Food Program.

Call **(773) 564-8861** and follow the prompts to: report being out of home, check your payment or leave a general message in English or Spanish!

