



Family Childcare Home Providers Participating in the CACFP: Training and Educational Resource Needs



OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this study were to:

- identify issues related to training, education, and resource needs of family childcare home providers participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program; and
- identify family childcare home providers' preferences for training and training materials.

METHOD

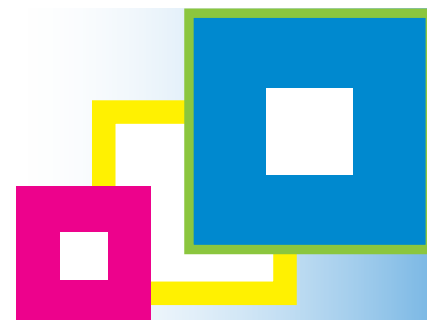
- An expert panel of child care professionals provided insight for the development of a national survey.
- The *Family Childcare Home Providers' CACFP Survey* was created, pilot tested, revised, and formatted for family childcare home providers, and sponsoring organization representatives.
- The survey consisted of six sections and twenty-three statements related to various avenues in which family home care providers receive CACFP education, training and resources.
- The survey was distributed to 400 family childcare home professionals and 111 surveys were returned for a response rate of (28%).

CACFP EDUCATION AND TRAINING RESOURCE NEEDS

- Purchasing healthy food on a budget
- Nutrition education for children
- Food allergies
- Active play for children
- Healthy snacks
- Approved food substitutes
- Dark green and orange vegetables
- Cooking from scratch
- Food Buying Guide
- Standardized recipes
- Healthy wellness environment
- Food safety

TRAINING BARRIERS

- Family childcare home providers and sponsors indicated that they do not have any problems obtaining training for themselves.
- Time was the only major barrier for family childcare home staff.



PREFERRED TRAINING METHODS AND PROVIDERS

- “In-person CACFP-related workshop or training classes” was the most agreed upon training method.
- Family childcare home providers receive most of their training from sponsoring organizations.
- Future training opportunities are from USDA, State Agencies and the Institute of Child Nutrition.
- Approximately 68% indicated that they do not have staff that needs training.

TOP PREFERRED TRAINING RESOURCE COMPONENTS

- Resources in Spanish, Chinese, and Korean
- Training on Saturdays, or anytime facilities were considered closed
- In-person training that lasts for 1-3 hours
- Training in one-hour increments using Internet/online programs and videos/DVDs

RECOMMENDATIONS

- State agencies, sponsoring organizations, and the Institute of Child Nutrition should continue to market up-to-date CACFP education, training, and resources at meetings and conferences in which CACFP participants attend.
- The use of the Internet/computer technology should continue to be integrated in various formats and settings to include instructional videos and DVDs for all CACFP participants.
- CACFP participants’ preferences should play a key factor in developing quick and accessible training resources.
- There is a need for professional development opportunities and college courses that would assist CACFP participants with managing their family child care home centers as a business.

For more information,
you can download the full technical report at
<http://www.nfsmi.org/ResourceOverview.aspx?ID=174>

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