



December 2014 Message of the Month

Updates

USDA

- Infant policy memo delayed due to additional research.
- Handbook revisions on hold until early winter.
- USDA met with NSLP and encouraged partnerships with CACFP.

Reports

- Board position available- Currently the President Elect is open. If anyone is interested in serving as the President-Elect, please contact Arnette Cowan at (919) 707-5775.
- Discussions will continue until a resolution is reached.

Meetings

- Strategic planning meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2015-March 18, 2015.
- Tentatively being held at the Embassy Suites in Raleigh, NC.

Updates

- States can post job openings on the website. Please send any job openings to Dustin Melton (dustin.melton@state.or.us).
- Policy Memo #02-5015 Roles and Requirements of Administrative Review Officials.
- Policy memo highlights by Arnette which should be addressed:
 - State agencies are ultimately responsible for ensuring administrative review officials abide by the procedures set forth in 7 CFR 226.6(k)(5). Therefore, when it is identified by FNS through a management evaluation, audit, or other oversight methods, that administrative review officials are not basing their decisions on Federal and State laws, regulations, policies, and procedures and applying them to the facts of CACFP cases, or following the procedures of the administrative review case, FNS may take one or more of the following actions as appropriate per 7 CFR 235.11(b) and 3016.43:
 - Temporarily withhold cash payments pending correction of the deficiency by the State agency. The State agency must continue to make Program payments to CACFP participants during this administrative action;
 - Disallow all or part of the cost of the activity or action not in compliance and return these funds to FNS;
 - Wholly or partly suspend or terminate the award for the State agency's Program;
 - Withhold further awards for the Program; or Take other remedies that may be legally available.

- Regional Representatives will ask their respective states to provide feedback; comments or suggestion regarding the policy. All comments will be reviewed and forwarded to Arnette Cowan (arnette.cowan@dhhs.nc.gov).
- Arnette will compose a letter along with the board members of the concerns which will then be forwarded to USDA.