



### Supporter Letter: Lisa Mack

Date: March 21, 2020

Lawmakers: Sen. John Cornyn (R TX)  
Sen. Ted Cruz (R TX)  
Rep. John R. Carter (TX-31)

**Text:** I stand together with all Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) advocates in asking Congress to ensure that the CACFP community is supported in the Economic Stimulus plan. The CACFP is a pillar of support for working families and their children in child care. Child care is an essential and critical service for a functioning society especially during this pandemic crisis. Emergency federal funding is desperately needed to maintain our fragile child care infrastructure.

#### ECONOMIC STIMULUS: THE CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP)

Congress must ensure that the support provided by CACFP continues through the duration of the emergency period to preserve the infrastructure and capacity that will be needed again when activity returns to normal. It is vitally important to the strength of the economy to sustain the viability of the:

- Child care centers and family child care homes participating in CACFP all of whom are small businesses and employers in their communities; and
- Network of community-based sponsoring organizations that support government in child care through administering CACFP to family child care homes and centers.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

##### Child Care Centers:

- For the duration of the emergency, the total reimbursement for a child and adult care center will be based on the larger of the 1) average reimbursement per child per day per site in January and February 2020 multiplied by the number of days in the claiming month or 2) the meal reimbursement claim for the current month.
- o Conforming amendment: For the duration of the emergency, sponsors of unaffiliated centers could choose to be reimbursed for administrative services based on the 1) total amount of administrative reimbursement received in October 2019 or 2) the amount of administrative reimbursement due to the sponsor based on the current claim month.

For the duration of the emergency, for-profit child and adult care centers participating in the Child Adult Care Food Program will maintain institutional income eligibility established in February 2020.

##### Family Child Care Homes:

- For the duration of the emergency, the total reimbursement for a family child care home will be based on the total number of meals claimed in October 2019 if higher than the current month.

##### Sponsoring Organizations:

- For the duration of the emergency, the total administrative reimbursement for a sponsoring organization of family day care homes will be based on the total number of providers claimed in October 2019 if higher than the current claim month.

##### Grants:

- State agencies will disperse monthly grants to sponsors during the emergency period who demonstrate a financial need because they are unable to maintain their normal administrative operations. Grant amounts would be based on the difference between the average of January and February administrative expenses to monthly administrative costs incurred for each month. Organizations who dually sponsor family child care homes and unaffiliated centers would make one request for each month there is a need.
- Establish an additional grant program to support sponsoring organizations in paying for the technology needed for effective remote training and monitoring consistent with the social distancing requirements during the COVID 19 pandemic.

Closing Address: Ms. Lisa Mack

