



California Department of Education

California's Strategic Assessment of the Child Care Environment

Heather Reed, MA, RD

Lynette Haynes, MS, RD

Nutrition Education Consultants

Nutrition Services Division

California Department of Education



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Strategic Assessment of the Child Care Nutrition Environment

- **Target Audience: Child Care Stakeholders at all levels**
- **Development Cost: \$75,000**
- **Funding Source: Child Care and Development Block Grant funds**

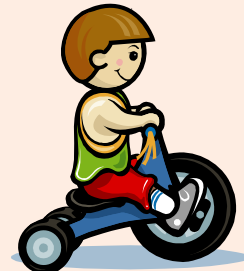




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Driving Forces

- **Children Enter School at Risk for Obesity**
 - 25% of 2-5 year olds overweight or at risk for overweight
- **Eating and Physical Activity Habits Formed Before School**
- **Children Spend A lot of Time in Child Care**
 - Over 60% of children under 5 spend 30 hours a week in childcare
- **Momentum for School Nutrition and Wellness**





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Child Care Advisory Group

- **Advisory Group of Statewide Child Care Stakeholders Convened By:**
 - California Department of Education, Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell
 - California Health and Human Services Agency, Secretary Kim Belshé
- **Membership: Child Care Stakeholders and Experts**
 - State Agencies and Child Care Advocacy Groups
 - Local Child Care Sponsors and Providers
 - Child Care Agencies with School District Affiliations
 - American Pediatric Association
- **Advisory Group's Recommendations Available in Summer 2008**
 - <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/cc/ccsa.asp>





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Draft Recommendations

Four interdependent Strategies:

- **Strengthening CACFP Program**
- **Child Care Program Nutrition and Physical Activity Requirements**
- **Consistent Messaging Related to Nutrition and Physical Activity**
- **Expanded Nutrition Training for Child Care Programs**



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Consistent Messaging Related to Nutrition and Physical Activity:

- A. State Agency Collaboration on Messaging**
- B. Nutrition Foundations for Preschool**
- C. Inclusion of Nutrition Related Criteria into Child Care Ratings**





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Questions about the Strategic Assessment?

- **Phyllis Bramson-Paul**,
Director Nutrition Services
Division
pbramson@cde.ca.gov
- **Carol Chase**, Nutrition
Education Administrator
cchase@cde.ca.gov
- **Kelley Knapp**, Nutrition
Education Specialist
kknapp@cde.ca.gov





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Child Care Nutrition Website

- **Four Online Courses:**
 - Nutrition Basics, Preschool Nutrition and Active Play, Mealtime Environment, and Food Safety
- **Parent Nutrition Newsletters**
- **Nutrition Education Curriculum**
 - “Food For Thought”-includes preschool cooking activities
 - integrates education domains
- **Nutrition Tip of the Month**
- **Projected Launching Fall 2009**

Lynette Haynes lhaynes@cde.ca.gov



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Coordinating about the WIC Food Package

Communicate through Regular Communication Channels with Child Care Sponsors

- CDE Management bulletins, link on CDE/NSD web page,
- WIC could provide the Information to share
- Include guidance to WIC breastfeeding moms on transporting breast milk, labeling bottles for providers, how to thaw frozen breast milk

Include in CDE Ongoing Trainings, Workshops, and Meetings

- Online infant training, mandatory training, CCFP roundtable and other conferences and workshops
- WIC could provide any hard copies of materials in addition to information
- Share how to get WIC education pamphlets for free

Coordinate WIC Training to CDE

- WIC could provide overview training to field service staff
- WIC Speaker at CCFP Roundtable Conference in October



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Next Steps for Collaboration



- **Other ways for CDE and WIC to collaborate in the WIC Food Package rollout?**
- **Ideas on how we can all partner on the implementation Child Care Strategic Assessment Messaging Recommendations?**

