Teresa Turner, MS, RD, LDN, SNS, FAND, is the Army Child and Youth Services Nutritionist on base at Fort Meade in Maryland. She is the Food Service Manager for three child development centers, two school-age centers, and a middle school/teen center, all operating under CACFP. One short conversation with Teresa is enough to ignite thoughtful conversation, fueled by her passion for equity and justice. We talked about equity and justice in regard to food access and most simply, as humans.

The Black Lives Matters Movement and the COVID-19 Pandemic have, in a way, created the perfect storm for us. School Nutrition Programs have been able to feed all children at no cost, no identification needed. Amidst the chaos of the pandemic, the death of George Floyd sparked protests nationwide. Teresa emphasizes the importance of not only continuing the conversation but, more importantly, self-reflecting on how we can be the change every day.

Read More About Teresa

Policy & Advocacy News

USDA Extends Waivers Through Next School Year for Child Nutrition Programs

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced extension of several national waivers to provide flexibilities for

Announcements

Educate Yourself! Resources for a Stronger Allyship

📚 Books to Read
1. How to Be an Anti-Racist – Ibram X. Kendi
2. White Fragility - Robin Diangelo
3. The New Jim Crow – Michelle Alexander
4. Between The World And Me – Ta-Nehisi Coates
5. The Autobiography of Malcom X - Alex Haley and Malcom X
6. Coretta Scott King Book Award Winners: Books For Children And Young Adults
7. 31 Children's Books To Support Conversations On Race, Racism And Resistance
8. Citizen – Claudia Rankine

Listen
School Nutrition operators to serve meals for this upcoming school year.

The following national waivers will remain in effect through June 30, 2021 for the School Breakfast Program, National School Lunch Program and Child and Adult Care Food Program. These waivers allow for: meal pattern requirements, meals to be served outside of group settings and outside of standard times to facilitate grab-and-go and other alternate service options; and parent/guardian pick-up.

US Representatives Perlmutter and Neguse request waiver extensions. School Nutrition Association requests Universal Free Meals for the 2020-2021 School Year.

Congressman Ed Perlmutter (Colorado) and Congressman Joe Neguse (Colorado) have written a letter to USDA supporting waiver extensions through the 20-21 School Year, including extending area eligibility waivers. In a similar letter, School Nutrition Association requested to provide students school meals at no charge throughout the 2020-2021 School Year to guarantee they are nourished and ready to learn throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics supports the FEED the Children Act

The Feed the Children Act, introduced by Representative Alma Adams (NC), aims to provide emergency operations reimbursement for school food authorities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic closures.

Continue Reading

Respectfully,
Jeanne Reilly, NDTR, SNS
SNS DPG Policy & Advocacy Leader

Wrapping Up

“Everything good, everything magical happens between the months of June and August.” – Jenny Han

This quote came to mind as I reflected on the remarkable things everyone in school nutrition continues to do within such a short amount of time, all while being nimble. We have been busy wrapping up a school year, transitioning from emergency feeding into summer, organizing and attending virtual trainings and taking time to enjoy vacation and relax.

As School Nutrition professionals, we understand how essential the role that we play in providing children with the nourishment they need truly is. Understanding this need to support children allows us to be flexible while also being swift with our decision-making to ensure we focus on the most important outcome- feeding children. During a time where children are uncertain of what will happen in
the fall, we know that the one thing they can count on is a nutritious meal each day.

Thank you for working diligently during the summer months to make sure all children have equitable access to food that nourishes them.

I hope you take some time to enjoy the remainder of your summer,

Stefanie Dove, MBA RDN SNS
Chair, SNS DPG