POLICY ALERT

Date: March 17, 2010
Reference: # CSFP 2010-02
To: Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) Contractors
Subject: FY 2010 Appropriations for Human Pandemic Emergencies
Effective Date: Immediately

Purpose
NOTIFY contractors of the availability of USDA foods in the event of a pandemic emergency designation.

Implementation
Immediately

Background
A pandemic emergency designation from the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services or the U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security provides the Secretary of Agriculture authority to purchase United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) foods for emergency distribution.

Procedure
Normal methods of food distribution should be maintained during a pandemic designation, unless normal procedures are disrupted or overwhelmed by the emergency. To minimize the spread of illness, pandemic emergency feeding may use smaller, household size USDA foods for preparation at home by recipients. Instead of providing congregate feeding, emergency feeding organizations may prepare meals that can be delivered or picked up by households.

Requests for USDA foods during an emergency must be in writing. Use Form H1579, Request for Emergency USDA Foods, dated March 2010, and submit to your Commodity Operations Technician. This form is available for download at www.snptexas.org.

This Policy Alert is effective for fiscal year (FY) 2010 only, which ends September 30, 2010.

Authority
Public Law 111-80, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010, (the Appropriations Act) and USDA Food Distribution Policy No. FD-098, FY 2010 Appropriations for Human Pandemic Emergencies.

Contact
If you have any questions please contact your Commodity Operations Technician.

This Policy Remains in Effect Until September 30, 2010