

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHRISTINA'S SUMMER LUNCH CREW PROGRAM WINS USDA AWARD

Child Nutrition Services of The Christina School District Recognized for Exemplary Effort in Community Service

Child Nutrition Services of the Christina School District (CNS) was recognized in December by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for its successful execution of its "Summer Lunch Crew" Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) during the months of July and August of this year. Such an award provides CNS preferential consideration in the operation of the USDA's Summer Feeding Program in the New Castle County area. The award was presented by Mr. David Bowman, Administrator of the Summer Feeding Program for the state of Delaware.

The USDA Summer Food Service Program is designed to provide free meals to children of low-income during the summer months when school is formally out of session. The USDA National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program provides meals to low-income students during the school year. In the case of CNS's Summer Lunch Crew, participation is open to all school-aged children.

CNS is one of 4,000 sponsors nationwide and the "Summer Champion" Awards go to the sponsors who best exemplify the goals of the SFSP. The Summer Feeding Program is a Federally-funded meal service program to provide healthy meals to children in need for the summer. CNS served a significant of the nearly 688,000 Summer Feeding Program meals served in the state of Delaware during Fiscal Year 2007, according to the USDA. Delaware saw an increase of 5.9% in the number of meals served from FY2006 to FY2007, while CNS enjoyed greater than the state's increase in the same time period.

"This is welcome recognition of our community efforts and this award will allow us to greatly increase our capacity going into '08" said Chef Marc-Anthony Williams, Director of CNS. "We can be a better resource for the community and be in more places and serve more meals." In addition to the meals provided, kids and their parents will be exposed to information regarding healthy lifestyle and nutrition choices.

No funds from the Christina School District are being used for the Summer Lunch Crew. CNS is using Federal Education funds to finance the program, and CNS maintains financial independence from the School District.

Child Nutrition Services of the Christina School District is an organization dedicated solely to the nutritional health of the children of the Christina School District.

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