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Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public and Behavioral Health

Obesity Prevention and Control Program
*Child and Adult Care Food Program for Early Care and
Education Centers: Gap Analysis*



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Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

Purpose, Role, and Impact

- Federal Nutrition Program for income-eligible individuals
 - Child and adult care institutions
 - Family/group day care homes
- Early Care and Education Centers (ECE) generally qualify
- Strategy for addressing food insecurity and preventing childhood obesity



Analysis: Objectives

1. Determine factors affecting Nevada's ECE program participation in CACFP, and
2. Identify opportunities to enhance Nevada's participation in CACFP based on data obtained from the ECE program community



Analysis Methodology: Summary



- ✓ Collect relevant statistics, service data, and financial information



- ✓ Conduct key informant interviews to identify strengths and weaknesses, and recommendations to increase participation in CACFP



- ✓ Survey ECE providers to map participation and gain their perspective and insights to promote participation in CACFP

Analysis Steering Committee

Composition

- Comprised of cross-sector members

Roles

- Provided information and data
- Reviewed materials
- Identified key informants
- Provided ongoing support



Key Informant Interviews

Purpose

- Gather insight regarding critical issues
- Identify barriers/challenges, strengths, and weaknesses

Eleven key informant interviews were conducted.

Four environmental health professionals were also interviewed.



Results: Key Informant Interviews

Challenges/Barriers

- Paperwork/Administration
- Rural challenges
- Financial issues
- Lack of knowledge about CACFP
- Lack of training/technical assistance (TA)
- Food preparation/regulations/permits

Food Service Permit Costs

Carson City Health and Human Services	\$ 75
Southern Nevada Health District	\$ 121
State of NV, Division of Public and Behavioral Health	\$ 166
Washoe County Health District Support Kitchen (non-commercial)	\$ 401

ECE Survey Engagement



Postcard

Email/Paper
Survey

Letter

Phone Call

Survey Distribution

Distribution and Responses

- 1,013 surveys issued statewide
- 212 completed surveys returned
- Response rate: **20.9%**

Figure 1: Respondents by County

Clark	47.64%	101
Washoe	37.26%	79
Lyon	3.77%	8
Elko	2.83%	6
Douglas	2.36%	5
Carson City	1.89%	4
Humboldt	1.42%	3
Churchill	0.94%	2
Lander	0.47%	1
Lincoln	0.47%	1
Nye	0.47%	1
Pershing	0.47%	1
Esmeralda	0.00%	0
Eureka	0.00%	0
Mineral	0.00%	0
Storey	0.00%	0
White Pine	0.00%	0

Survey Results

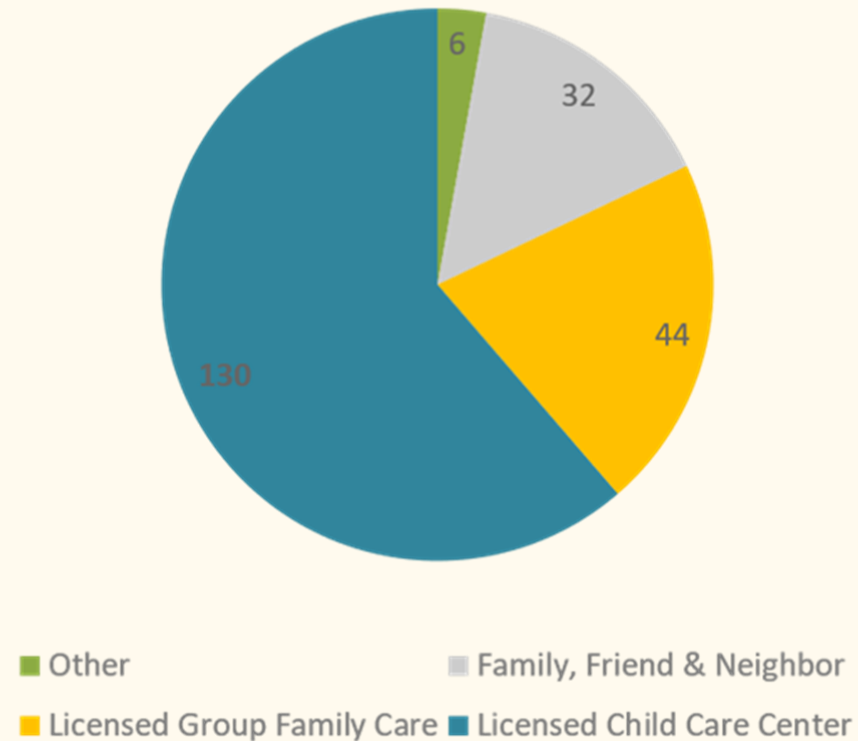
ECE Setting Type

- 93% licensed centers
- 7% unlicensed centers

Food Service

- 87% served snacks/food
- 13% did not provide snacks/food

Type of ECE Setting



Survey Results

CACFP Awareness

- 78% were aware of CACFP
- 22% were not aware of CACFP

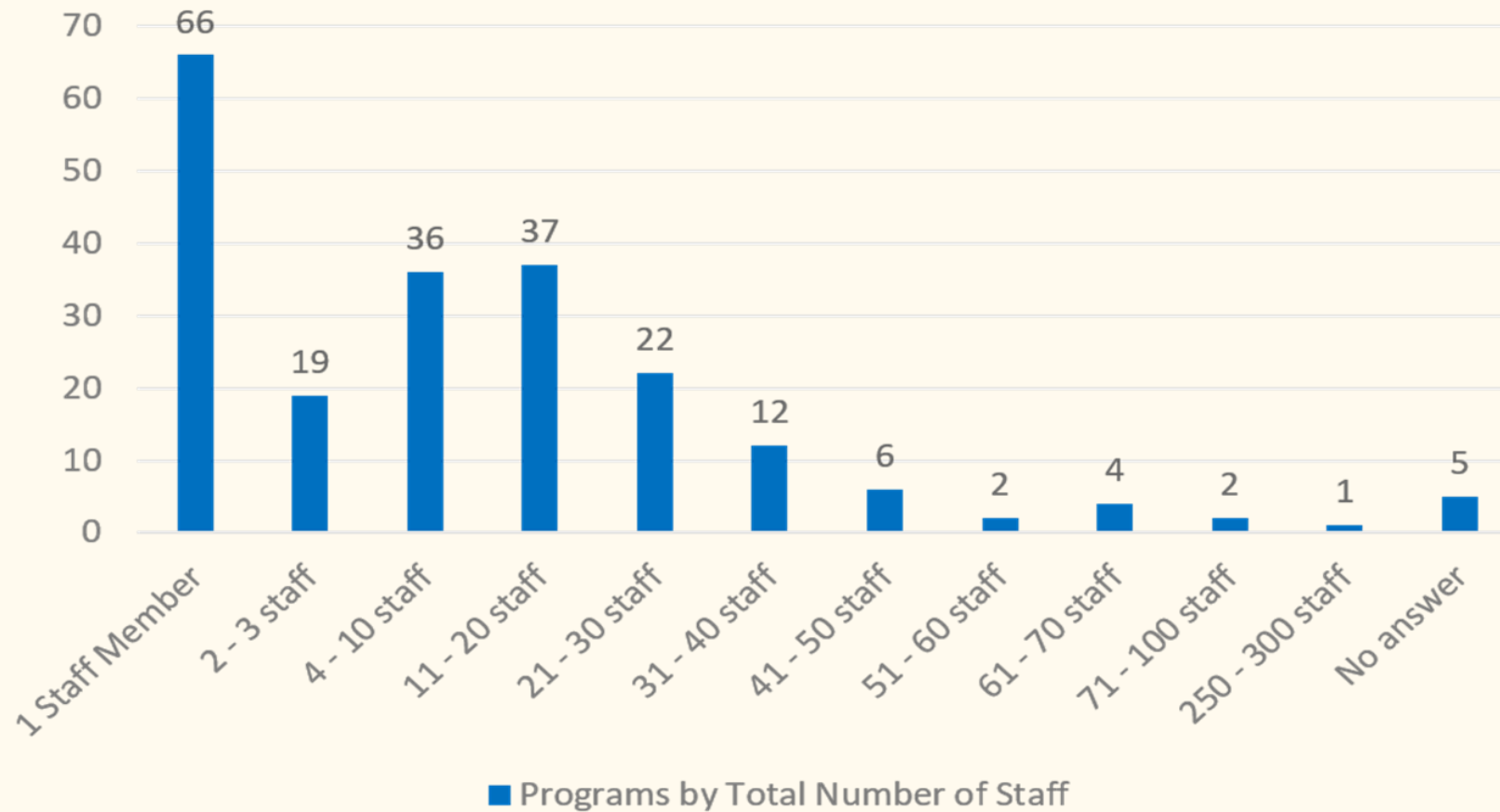
CACFP Participation

- 43% had participated in CACFP
- 57% had never participated in CACFP



Survey Results

Total Number of Staff



Survey Results: Programs Participating in CACFP

Major Challenges	%	#
Reimbursement/payment rate too low to cover costs	44.00%	33
Reimbursement/payment is not timely	37.33%	28
Too many rules to follow	17.33%	16
Too much paperwork to complete	24.00%	18
Not enough staff to operate the program	8.00%	6
Staff lack the skills or training to operate CACFP program	6.67%	5
Not enough children in area qualify for the CACFP program	5.33%	4
Lack the facilities for serving food	8.00%	6
Need to receive more support, guidance, training or technical assistance from state agency administering CACFP	14.67%	11
Other (please specify)	4.00%	3

Survey Results: Programs Participating in CACFP

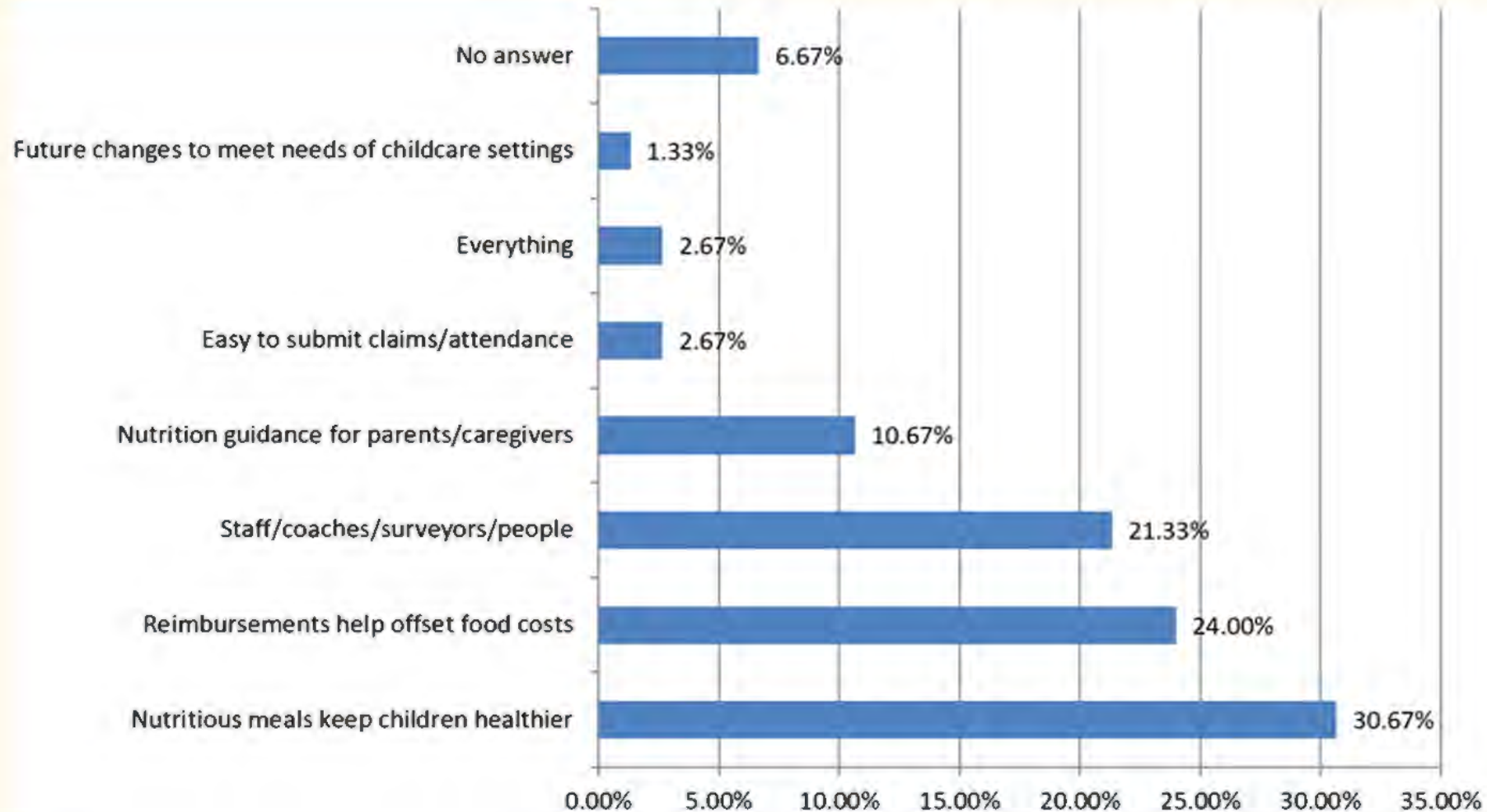
Barriers/Challenges

- Daily paperwork
- Lack of equipment and capacity for storage
- Following a menu, food costs, acquiring food, food waste
- Financing and eligibility
- Program administration
- Staff training



Survey Results: Programs Participating in CACFP

CACFP Program Benefits



Survey Results: Programs Not Participating in CACFP

Reasons For Not Participating

- No knowledge or not enough knowledge about CACFP (51)
- No interest in CACFP (23)
- Do not have enough children to qualify (21)
- Program requirements (19)

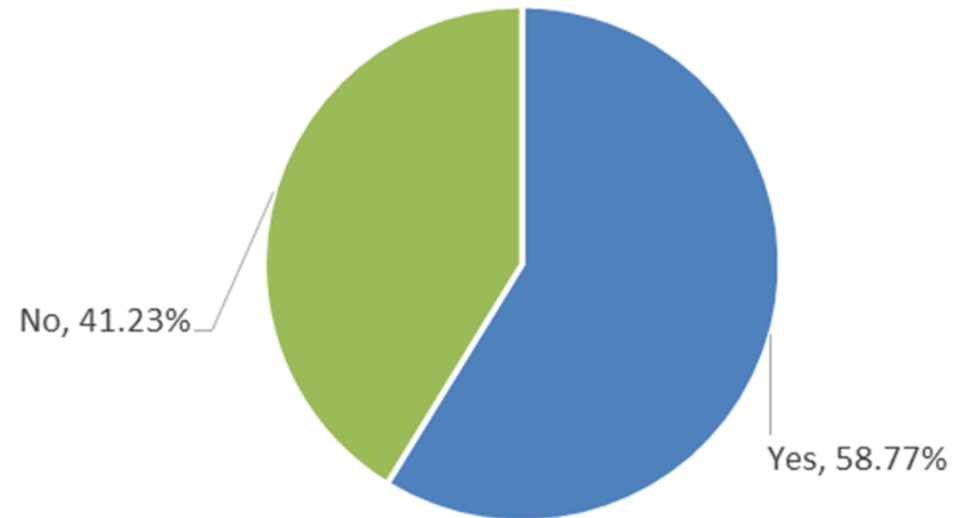
70% of ECE programs indicated CACFP reimbursement rates were not adequate to cover food and administration costs.

Survey Results: Programs Not Participating in CACFP

Recommended Changes

- Enhance public awareness and support
- Reduce program requirements
- Increase reimbursement rates
- Update nutrition standards
- Provide online application

If this change were made, would your center participate in the CACFP program?



Results: Critical Issues

Administrative Requirements

- Lack of staff and resources
- Rigid program rules
- Restraints on financial viability
- Intrusive home inspections

CACFP Knowledge

- Lack of knowledge/confusion
- Lack on ongoing training/TA



Results: Critical Issues Cont.

Food Permitting Regulations

- Lack of alignment statewide

Financial Concerns

- Low reimbursement rates
- Need for start-up funds
- Dislike collecting parental income statements



Results: Critical Issues Cont.

Food Preparation

- Lack of equipment and space

Rural Issues

- Low-access to healthy food
- Low reimbursement rates do not cover rural food costs



Strategies for Improvement

Streamline Administrative Requirements

- Assess feasibility; pursue resources for ECE CACFP support and TA

Promote Community Education Campaigns

- Conduct public awareness campaign; enhance training and TA

Review and Standardize Food Permitting Regulations

- Create working group to review regulations and make recommendations as needed

Implement Innovative Approaches to Incentivize CACFP use

- Create start-up fund; research shared services model; encourage sponsorship in high-need areas; assist rural sites with bulk ordering and TA

Thank you!

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