



Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission

Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 9, 2010

Media Contact:

Augie Blancas 559.263.1026

EOC FIGHTS HUNGER ALONGSIDE CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM

-CACFP to provide no-cost nutritious meals and snacks to EOC's childhood educational programs-

(Fresno, CA) Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission's (EOC) educational programs including Early Head Start, Head Start, and School Age Child Care are pleased to announce their participation in USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) for the 2010/2011 academic year. CACFP provides nutritious meals and snacks at no-cost to low-income youth enrolled in these programs.

According to a Brookings Institution study conducted in 2005, Fresno has the nation's highest concentration of poverty at 43.5%, when the national average is only 10.3%. In a 2008 study, California's 20th Congressional District- which includes Fresno, Kern and Kings Counties- was ranked as the poorest congressional district in the United States.

"During these harsh economic times, parents are finding it difficult to provide nutritious meals to their children," says Alita Taylor, Nutrition Services Director for EOC's Head Start program. "CACFP ensures that the children participating in our educational programs will be given a nutritious meal and snack. Hopefully this can alleviate the stress of the parent and focus their financial resources on providing other necessities to their families."

Participants must be enrolled in EOC's Early Head Start, Head Start, or School Age Child Care programs between July 2010 and June 2011, and the family income must not exceed 180% of the federal poverty guidelines.

To learn more about USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program, please visit

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/care/>.

- more -



Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission

About Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission (EOC)

For over 44 years, Fresno County EOC – a private, nonprofit agency – has helped low-income Fresno County residents become self-sufficient. EOC offers over 30 comprehensive community-based programs that develop an individual's capabilities and places them on the path toward financial independence.

###