Food and Nutrition Service Disaster Feeding
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NCSL Disaster Mitigation and Recovery
August 4, 2019
FNS Programs and Services

• 15 Nutrition Assistance Programs
• Serving 1 in 4 Americans each year
• $100 Billion budget
• FNS programs constitute 3/4ths of USDA budget
Primary Types of FNS Disaster Assistance

1. Using USDA Foods for Emergency Feeding

2. Administrative waivers or flexibilities requested by States

3. Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP)
Typical Disaster Feeding Timeline

**Immediate Feeding Phase**
- Days after Event
- Pods
- Local capabilities

**Sustained Feeding Phase**
- Arrival of capabilities external to the Impacted Jurisdiction
  - Field Kitchen Operations
  - Fixed & Mobile Feeding

**Long-Term Feeding Phase**
- Household Disaster Feeding

**Declaration of Major Disaster**
- 3-4 Days Post Event
  - After impact need rises as extent of home damage becomes known; damage leaves households without food supply.

**Demand Curve**

**7-14 Days Post Event**
- Infrastructure begins coming back online. Need begins to decrease.

**> +14 Days Post Event**
- Timing of transition from Sustained to Long-Term depends on the disaster AND the location within the affected area.
During a Presidentially Declared Disaster

1) **Using USDA Foods for Emergency Feeding**

State Agencies have the authority to use USDA Foods from nutrition assistance program inventories for congregate feeding:

- **Child Nutrition Programs**
  - The Emergency Food Assistance Program
  - Food Distr. Programs on Indian Reservations
  - Commodity Supplemental Food Program
USDA Foods’ Role in Disaster Response

- Foods are released by State Agency to Voluntary Organizations
- Foods supplemental to FEMA Food
- Inventory dependent on time of year and regular program demands
- Food is replaced by USDA to state, transportation fees reimbursed
USDA Foods Available

Institutional
(NSLP)

FRESH: (as available)
Fruits and/or vegetables

PROTEIN OPTIONS:
Beef Crumbles
Chicken Fajita Strips
Turkey Taco Filling
Deli Turkey Breast
Diced Chicken
Diced/Sliced Ham
Cheese (shredded/sliced)

Household
(TEFAP, FDPIR, CSFP)

CANNED JUICE:
Orange, Apple, Grapefruit

DAIRY OPTIONS:
Dried Egg Mix
UHT Fluid Milk

PROTEIN OPTIONS:
Canned Chili w/o Beans
Canned Beef Stew
Canned/Pouch Chicken

GRAINS:
Cereal
Macaroni & Cheese

All Programs

CANNED FRUIT:
Peaches, Applesauce, Slice Apples
Orange Juice

CANNED VEGETABLES:
Corn, Peas, Green Beans,
Spaghetti Sauce, Vegetarian Beans

PROTEIN OPTIONS:
Peanut Butter
Canned Pork
Frozen Cut-up Chicken

GRAINS:
Rice, Flour, Pasta

*Infant Formula/Food
(Special Purchase for Disasters)
Order of Access to USDA Foods for Disaster Feeding
Presidentially Declared Disaster Household Feeding

1) Using USDA Foods for Emergency Feeding

State Distributing Agencies must request permission to use USDA Foods for *household distribution*:

- Child Nutrition Programs
  - The Emergency Food Assistance Program
  - Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations
  - Commodity Supplemental Food Program
Typical Disaster Feeding Timeline

**Meals/Day**

- **Event**
  - **3-4 Days Post Event**
    - After impact need rises as extent of home damage becomes known; damage leaves households without food supply.
  - **Declaration of Major Disaster**
  - **7-14 Days Post Event**
    - Infrastructure begins coming back online. Need begins to decrease.
  - **> +14 Days Post Event**
    - Timing of transition from Sustained to Long-Term depends on the disaster AND the location within the affected area.

**Days after Event**

- **Immediate Feeding Phase**
  - **PODS**
  - **Local capabilities**
- **Sustained Feeding Phase**
  - Arrival of capabilities external to the Impacted Jurisdiction
    - Field Kitchen Operations
    - Fixed & Mobile Feeding
- **Long-Term Feeding Phase**
- **Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**
Administrative waivers/flexibilities requested by States (examples)

➢ Using the same location for more than one school
➢ Missing meal ‘components’
➢ Serving all school meals to students at no cost
➢ Offering free meals under Child Care Program to displaced families in shelters
➢ WIC substitutions: liquid formula for powdered; shelf stable containers of fluid milk or juice, etc.
➢ Hot Food purchases with SNAP benefits
Typical Disaster Feeding Timeline

Days after Event

- **Immediate Feeding Phase**
  - PODS
  - Local capabilities

- **Sustained Feeding Phase**
  - Arrival of capabilities external to the Impacted Jurisdiction
    - Field Kitchen Operations
    - Fixed & Mobile Feeding

- **Long-Term Feeding Phase**
- **Household Disaster Feeding**

Meals/Day*

**Demand curve**

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After impact need rises as extent of home damage becomes known; damage leaves households without food supply.

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D-SNAP Authority, Approval and Eligibility

• Operations approved when an area has received a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Individual Assistance (IA)

• States request approval to operate; FNS approves operations for a limited period, typically 7 days

• Recipients must reside in the disaster area, have experienced adverse effects due to the disaster, and meet income limits
What is the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program?

• D-SNAP is similar yet distinct from ‘regular’ SNAP;
• A nutrition assistance program with temporary eligibility standards that serves disaster survivors;
• Typically, eligible households receive 1 month of benefits issued via an EBT card, which can be used to purchase food at most grocery stores.
# D-SNAP vs. SNAP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New D-SNAP Households</th>
<th>Ongoing SNAP Households</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Households not receiving ‘regular’ SNAP</td>
<td>• Are not eligible for D-SNAP, but:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Qualify based on disaster-related expenses</td>
<td>• May be eligible for:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Households receive one-month’s maximum SNAP allotment</td>
<td>– Supplemental Benefits</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>– Replacement Benefits</td>
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- D-SNAP: Disaster SNAP Assistance Program
- SNAP: Supplementary Nutrition Assistance Program
Disaster Feeding Challenges Being Addressed by the Disaster Feeding Working Group
Disaster Feeding Working Group Members
http://www.fns.usda.gov/disaster
USDA Disaster Nutrition Assistance Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dA-Nx_v4b8A