Richwoods R-VII School Wellness Policy

The Richwoods R-VII School District is committed to providing a school environment that enhances learning and development of lifelong wellness practices.

Committee Members

Amy DeClue --- Food Service Director

Jason Merseal --- Teacher

Shelby Hobbs --- Teacher

Ginny Wills --- Parent/Teacher

Susanna Lewis --- Teacher

Phil McCoy --- PE and Health Teacher/Chairperson

The primary goals of the Richwoods R-VII School District's wellness program are to promote student health, reduce student overweight/obesity, facilitate student learning of lifelong healthy habits and increase student achievement. The following procedures will guide the implementation of the district wellness program.

The Board recognizes the relationship between student well-being and student achievement as well as the importance of a comprehensive district wellness program. Therefore, the district will provide developmentally appropriate and sequential nutrition and physical education as well as opportunities for physical activity. The wellness program will be implemented in a multidisciplinary fashion and will be evidence based.

Wellness Committee

The district will establish a wellness committee that consists of at least one parent, student, nurse or other school health professional, physical education teacher, school food service representative, Board member, school administrator, member of the public, and other community members as appropriate. If available, a qualified, credentialed nutrition professional will be a member of the wellness committee.

Committee meeting dates and agendas will be posted on the district's website in advance of each meeting and advertised in a manner designed to reach students, staff and members of the community. All wellness committee meeting agendas will include a public comment period in which students, staff and members of the community are encouraged to provide input on the district's wellness program. Meetings, records and votes of the wellness committee will adhere to the requirements of the Missouri Sunshine Law.

Wellness Program Coordinator

The Board designates the nurse as the wellness program coordinator. Only employees of the district who are members of the wellness committee may serve as wellness program coordinators. The wellness coordinator, in consultation with the wellness committee, will be in charge of implementation and evaluation of this policy.

The wellness program coordinator is responsible for ensuring that each school in the district is in compliance with this policy.

Nutrition Guidelines

The nutrition guidelines outlined in this section do not apply to food or beverages brought from home by students for consumption solely by the student or food or beverages created or used by students as part of the district's instructional program.

It is the policy of the Richwoods R-VII School District that all foods and beverages sold to students during the school day on any property under the jurisdiction of the district will meet the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) school meal and Smart Snacks in School (Smart Snacks) nutrition standards. These nutrition standards apply to all food and beverages sold to students, including those sold in vending machines, school stores and through district-sponsored fundraisers, unless an exemption applies. In addition, the Smart Snacks standards apply to all food and beverages provided, but not sold, to students outside the reimbursable school meals program during the school day. For the purposes of this policy, the school day is the time period from the midnight before to 30 minutes after the official school day.

Nutrition Promotion and Education

The district will provide nutrition education aligned with the Missouri Learning Standards and Grade-Level Expectations (GLEs) in health and physical education in all grades. In addition, the district will disseminate nutrition messages and other nutrition-related materials received from the USDA to students, staff and the community through a variety of media and methods. The wellness program coordinator, in consultation with the wellness committee, will develop procedures that address nutrition education and promotion.

Physical Activity and Education

The district will provide physical education and opportunities for physical activity aligned with the Missouri Learning Standards and GLEs in health and physical education in all grades. The wellness program coordinator, in consultation with the wellness committee, will develop procedures that address physical education and physical activity.

Other School-Based Activities

The wellness program coordinator, in consultation with the wellness committee, is charged with developing procedures addressing other school-based activities to promote wellness.

Assessment

The local wellness program will be assessed at least once every three years. The assessment will measure the district's level of compliance with implementing the local wellness program, including compliance levels in each of the district's schools; the extent to which the district's policy compares to model wellness policies; and a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the program. The wellness program coordinator will report the results of assessments to the Board, and the results of each assessment will be made available to the public on the district's website and by other appropriate means. The wellness program coordinator will make recommendations for modifications to the wellness policy in accordance with these assessments, and the Board will revise the wellness policy as it deems necessary based on these recommendations. Administrative procedures will be revised accordingly.

Records

The wellness program coordinator will maintain records necessary to document compliance with law, including a copy of the policy; documentation of community involvement, including sign-in sheets or other documentation of the names of those who provided input to the committee; documentation of triennial assessments; and documentation that assessment findings were shared with the public.

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Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.

Richwoods R-VII

Last Revised Date: 2/25/2019
Original Adopted Date: 11/19/2015

The primary goals of the Richwoods R-VII School District's wellness program are to promote student health, reduce student overweight/obesity, facilitate student learning of lifelong healthy habits and increase student achievement. The following procedures will guide the implementation of the district wellness program.

Nutrition Guidelines

The district is committed to ensuring that all foods and beverages sold, provided or made available to students on school campuses during the school day support healthy eating and create an environment that reinforces the development of healthy eating habits. For that reason, and as required by law, the district has set the following nutrition standards for its meal programs, competitive foods and beverages sold outside the meal programs, and other foods and beverages provided or made available to students during the school day.

For the purposes of this procedure, the school day is the time period from the midnight before to 30 minutes after the official school day. These meal standards do not apply to food sold at other times, such as evening or weekend events.

Nutrition Standards for Meal Programs

The food sold to students as part of the district's meal programs will meet the requirements of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Nutrition Standards for Competitive Foods and Beverages

The foods and beverages sold and served during the school day outside the reimbursable school meal programs (competitive foods and beverages) will meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School (Smart Snacks) nutrition standards. These standards will apply in all locations any time foods and beverages are sold to students during the school day, which includes, but is not limited to, foods and beverages sold in vending machines, school stores, and snack or food carts; à la carte options in cafeterias; and food and beverages sold through district-sponsored fundraising, including fundraising by student-initiated groups, unless an exemption applies, as described below.

Fundraising Exemption to Nutrition Guidelines

Unless otherwise prohibited by Board policies or limitations on marketing, the following are exemptions to the rule requiring that foods sold as fundraisers meet USDA standards:

- 1. Foods sold off campus, outside the school day or to nonstudents do not have to meet the USDA standards.
- 2. Foods that do not meet USDA standards and are not intended for consumption at school may be delivered during the school day, and order forms for such food may be distributed during the school day, to the extent that these activities otherwise comply with district policies and procedures.
- 3. Each school building within the district may hold up to five one-day fundraisers per school year on district property during the school day that involve the sale of foods that do not meet USDA standards.

Nutrition Standards for Foods and Beverages Provided to Students during the School Day

All foods and beverages the district provides or makes available to students during the school day will meet or exceed the Smart Snacks nutrition standards. This includes, but is not limited to, foods and beverages provided or made available to students for celebrations, classroom parties and birthdays, regardless of the source of the

food. The district will provide parents/guardians and district employees a list of foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snacks nutrition standards and a list of healthy party ideas, including nonfood celebration ideas.

Foods and beverages should not be used as a reward or withheld as punishment.

Water

Students will have access to safe and unflavored drinking water throughout the school day in every district facility used by students. Free, safe and unflavored drinking water will be available to students during mealtimes in the places where meals are served.

Nutrition Education

The district's nutrition education goal is to integrate sequential nutrition education with the comprehensive health education program and, to the extent possible, the core curriculum taught at every grade level in order to provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills to make healthy nutrition decisions. In order to achieve the nutrition education goal, the district will:

- 1. Provide students at all grade levels with adequate nutrition knowledge including, but not limited to:
 - ► The benefits of healthy eating.
 - **Essential nutrients.**
 - ► Nutritional deficiencies.
 - Principles of healthy weight management.
 - ► The use and misuse of dietary supplements.
 - ► Safe food preparation, handling and storage.
- 2. Provide students with nutrition-related skills that minimally include the ability to:
 - ► Plan healthy meals.
 - Understand and use food labels.
 - Apply the principles of the USDA's Dietary Guidelines for Americans and MyPlate.
 - ► Critically evaluate nutrition information, misinformation and commercial food advertising.
 - Assess personal eating habits, nutrition goal-setting and achievement.
- 3. Provide instructional activities that stress the appealing aspects of healthy eating and are hands-on, behavior based, culturally relevant, developmentally appropriate and enjoyable. Examples of activities include, but are not limited to: food preparation, contests, promotions, taste testings, farm visits and school gardens.
- 4. Encourage district staff to cooperate with local agencies and community groups to provide students with opportunities for volunteer work related to nutrition, such as in food banks, soup kitchens or after-

school programs.

- 5. Provide information to all school staff about the symptoms of nutrition-related conditions such as unhealthy weight, eating disorders and other nutrition-related health problems. Staff members who identify students who may have nutrition-related conditions will notify school counselors or student health services staff. When appropriate, school counselors or student health services staff will provide information about these conditions, including available treatment options, to the student and his or her parents/guardians.
- 6. Coordinate the food service program with nutrition instruction. Food service staff should also work closely with those responsible for other components of the school health program to achieve common goals.

Nutrition Promotion

Nutrition promotion that uses evidence-based techniques to encourage healthy nutrition choices and participation in school meal programs positively influences lifelong eating behaviors. Students and staff will receive consistent nutrition messages throughout district facilities. Nutrition promotion also includes marketing and advertising nutritious foods and beverages to students and is most effective when implemented consistently by school staff, parents/guardians and the community. The district will promote the importance of good nutrition in its schools and in the community through one or more of the following activities:

- 1. Offering healthy eating seminars for parents/guardians.
- 2. Providing nutrition information to parents/guardians via newsletters, handouts, presentations or other appropriate means.
- 3. Posting nutrition tips on district websites.
- 4. Offering appropriate, participatory activities, such as cooking lessons or demonstrations, taste testings, farm visits and school gardens.
- 5. Disseminating information about community programs that offer nutrition assistance to families.
- 6. Posting links on district websites to research and articles explaining the connections between good nutrition and academic performance.
- 7. Providing school meals that meet a variety of cultural preferences with a special emphasis on the populations served by the district.
- 8. Posting menus, including nutrient contents and ingredients, on district and school websites.

If practical, the district will provide information in a language understandable to the parents/guardians.

Marketing and Advertising

Marketing in district facilities will be consistent with the goals of the district's wellness program and comply with Board policy. The district will strive to promote the wellness program and educate parents/guardians regarding the quality of district foods.

Food and beverage marketing will be limited to the promotion of foods and beverages that meet the Smart

Snacks nutrition standards. Other examples of marketing and advertising the district will scrutinize include, but are not limited to, pricing strategies that promote healthy food choices; audiovisual programming; educational incentive programs; scoreboards; book covers; district transportation; and vending machine displays.

Physical Activity

Moderate Physical Activity – Low-impact to medium-impact physical exertion designed to increase an individual's heart rate to rise to at least 75 percent of his or her maximum heart rate. Examples of moderate physical activity include, but are not limited to, running, calisthenics or aerobic exercise. Time spent in recess and physical education counts as moderate physical activity.

Recess – A structured play environment outside of regular classroom instructional activities that allows students to engage in safe and active free play.

The district's physical activity goal is to assist students in learning to value and enjoy physical activity as an ongoing part of a healthy lifestyle by ensuring that every student has the opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills and desire to perform a variety of physical activities, maintain physical fitness and regularly participate in physical activity. In order to achieve the physical activity goal, the district will:

- 1. Develop a sequential program of appropriate physical education aligned with Missouri Learning Standards for every student. The elementary program will provide for:
 - Thirty minutes of recess per day. Recess may be incorporated into the lunch period, but will be scheduled before lunch and held outdoors when possible.
 - An average of 150 minutes of moderate physical activity each five-day school week or an average of 30 minutes per school day. The program will also provide for 50 minutes per week of physical education under the supervision of a certified physical education instructor.
 - The middle school program will provide for 80 minutes of moderate physical activity during each school week and 3,000 minutes of physical education per year.
 - ► The high school program will provide for one unit of physical education prior to graduation.

All activity will:

- Emphasize knowledge and skills for a lifetime of regular physical activity.
- ▶ Meet the needs of all students, especially those who are not physically skilled or who have special needs.
- Provide a variety of activity choices, feature cooperative as well as competitive activities, and account for gender and cultural differences in students' interests.
- Prohibit exemptions from physical education courses on the basis of participation in an athletic team, community recreation program, ROTC, marching band or other school or community activity.
- Contribute to achieving the goals established in the district's wellness policy and be closely coordinated with the other components of the overall school health program.

- 2. Provide opportunities and encouragement for students to voluntarily participate in before- and afterschool physical activity programs designed to supplement, not replace, the district's physical education offerings, such as intramural activities, interscholastic athletics and clubs by:
 - Providing a diverse selection of competitive and noncompetitive, as well as structured and unstructured, activities to the extent that staffing and district/community facilities permit.
 - Offering intramural physical activity programs that feature a broad range of competitive and cooperative activities for all students.
 - Encouraging partnerships between schools and businesses. Promotion of such partnerships must be appropriate and in accordance with Board policy and applicable procedures.
- 3. Strive to provide joint school and community recreational activities by:
 - Actively engaging families as partners in their children's education and collaborating with community agencies and organizations to provide ample opportunities for students to participate in physical activity beyond the school day.
 - Working with recreation agencies and other community organizations to coordinate and enhance opportunities available to students for physical activity during their out-of-school time.
 - Negotiating mutually acceptable, fiscally responsible arrangements with community agencies and organizations to keep district-owned facilities open for use by students, staff and community members during nonschool hours and vacations.
 - Working with local public works, public safety, police departments and/or other appropriate state and federal authorities in efforts to make it safer and easier for students to walk and bike to school.
- 4. Prohibit the use of physical activity as a form of discipline or punishment and ensure that physical education and recess will not be withheld as punishment.
- 5. Discourage periods of inactivity that exceed two or more hours. When activities such as mandatory schoolwide testing make it necessary for students to remain indoors for long periods of time, staff should give students periodic breaks during which they are encouraged to stand and be moderately active.
- 6. Provide and encourage—verbally and through the provision of space, equipment and activities—daily periods of moderate to vigorous physical activity for all participants in on-site after-school childcare and enrichment programs sponsored by the district.
- 7. Provide opportunities and encouragement for staff to be physically active by:
 - Planning, establishing and implementing activities to promote physical activity among staff and providing opportunities for staff to conveniently engage in regular physical activity.
 - Working with recreation agencies and other community organizations to coordinate and enhance opportunities available to staff for physical activity during their out-of-school time.

Other School-Based Activities

The district's goal for other school-based activities is to ensure an integrated whole-school approach to the district's wellness program. The district will achieve this goal by addressing the areas itemized below.

Community Involvement

Staff will collaborate with agencies and groups conducting nutrition education in the community to send consistent messages to students and their families. A list of foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snacks nutrition standards and ideas for healthy celebrations, rewards and nonfood fundraising activities will be provided to community organizations that serve youth. Guest speakers invited to address students will receive appropriate orientation to the relevant policies of the district.

The wellness program shall make effective use of district and community resources and equitably serve the needs and interests of all students and staff, taking into consideration differences of gender, cultural norms, physical and cognitive abilities and fitness level.

Family Involvement

The district will strive to engage families as partners in their children's education by supporting parental efforts to motivate and help their children with maintaining and improving their health, preventing disease and avoiding health-related risk behaviors. Strategies the district may implement to achieve family involvement may include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Providing nutrient analyses of district menus.
- 2. Providing parents/guardians a list of appropriate foods that meet the district's nutrition standards for snacks.
- 3. Providing parents/guardians with ideas for nonfood rewards and healthy celebrations, parties and fundraising activities.
- 4. Encouraging parents/guardians to pack healthy lunches and snacks and to refrain from including beverages and foods that do not meet the district's nutrition standards.
- 5. Designing curricular nutrition education activities and promotions to involve parents/guardians and the community.
- 6. Supporting efforts of parents/guardians to provide their children with opportunities to be physically active outside of school.
- 7. Providing information about physical education and other school-based physical activity opportunities available to students before, during and after the school day.
- 8. Sharing information about physical activity and physical education via the district's website, newsletter, other take-home materials, special events or physical education homework.
- 9. Working with families to provide consistent sun safety information that includes an overview of the district's sun safety program, an explanation of how parents/guardians can reinforce the program at home and how they can become involved with and support the district's program.

- 10. Encouraging parents/guardians to volunteer time in the classroom, cafeteria or at special events that promote student health.
- 11. Providing opportunities for parent/guardian involvement with the district wellness committee.

If practical, the district will provide information in a language understandable to parents/guardians.

Indoor Air Quality

District employees will refrain from using candles, oils, sprays, plug-ins and other sources of fragrance. Pesticides and cleaning products will be used only in accordance with district policies and procedures.

Mealtimes

Students are not permitted to leave school campus during the school day to purchase food or beverages. Mealtimes will comply with the following guidelines:

- 1. Mealtimes will provide students with at least 20 minutes to eat after sitting down for breakfast and 25 minutes after sitting down for lunch.
- 2. Activities such as tutoring or meetings will not be held during mealtimes unless students may eat during such activities.
- 3. At the elementary level, lunch periods will follow recess periods.
- 4. Free, safe and unflavored drinking water will be available to students during meals in the meal service area.
- 5. Students will have access to hand-washing facilities before they eat meals or snacks.
- 6. The district will take reasonable steps to accommodate the toothbrushing regimens of students.
- 7. Students will be allowed to converse during meals.
- 8. The cafeteria will be clean, orderly and inviting.
- 9. Adequate seating and supervision will be provided during mealtimes.

Outdoor Air Quality

The principal or designee of each school will be responsible for daily monitoring of Air Quality Index (AQI) information provided by local authorities.

- 1. When the AQI is "code orange" (unhealthy for sensitive groups of people), students with a history of reactions to ozone exposure will be permitted to reduce their outdoor exertion level or time spent outdoors, and the staff will arrange alternative indoor physical activities. Appropriately trained staff responsible for student supervision will monitor such students for symptoms of respiratory distress.
- 2. When the AQI is "code red" (unhealthy), students with a history of reactions to ozone exposure will remain indoors and participate in indoor physical activities. Appropriately trained staff responsible for student supervision will monitor such students for symptoms of respiratory distress. All other students

will be allowed to engage in no more than one hour of heavy exertion (i.e., activities that involve high-intensity exercise such as basketball, soccer and running) while outdoors.

3. When the AQI is "code purple" (very unhealthy) or "code maroon" (hazardous), all students will be kept indoors and participate in indoor physical activities. Appropriately trained staff responsible for student supervision will monitor all students for symptoms of respiratory distress.

Staff Development and Training

All staff will be provided with ongoing training and professional development related to all areas of student wellness. The pre-service and ongoing in-service training will include teaching strategies for behavior change and will focus on giving teachers the skills they need to use non-lecture, active learning methods. Staff responsible for nutrition education will be adequately prepared and regularly participate in professional development activities to effectively deliver the nutrition education program as planned. Staff responsible for implementing the physical education program will be properly certified and regularly participate in areaspecific professional development activities.

Qualified nutrition professionals will administer the district meal programs and will receive ongoing, areaspecific professional development. The district will provide continuing professional development for all district nutrition professionals. Staff development programs will include appropriate certification and/or training programs for child nutrition directors, school nutrition managers and cafeteria workers according to their levels of responsibility.

Staff Wellness

The Richwoods R-VII School District highly values the health and well-being of every staff member and will plan and implement activities and policies that support personal efforts by staff to maintain a healthy lifestyle. The district will offer staff wellness programs that include education on nutrition, healthy eating behaviors and maintaining a healthy weight for optimal health. The district will establish and maintain a staff wellness committee composed of at least one staff member; wellness committee member; registered dietitian, school nurse or other health professional; employee benefits specialist; and other appropriate personnel. The staff wellness committee will serve as a subcommittee of the district wellness committee. The staff wellness committee will develop, promote and oversee a multifaceted plan to promote staff health and wellness. The plan will be based on input solicited from district staff and will outline ways to encourage healthy eating, physical activity, sun safety and other elements of a healthy lifestyle. The staff wellness committee will provide a copy of its plan to the wellness program committee.

Sun Safety

"Sun safety" describes a range of behaviors that include wearing appropriate clothing, applying sunscreen and limiting sun exposure. The sun safety program will focus on outdoor behavior and will be developmentally appropriate, active, engaging and taught in lessons that emphasize the benefits of sun safety. Sun safety education will be designed to assist students with:

- 1. Knowledge about the harmful effects of the sun and ways to protect skin.
- 2. Sun-safe skills, including the correct use of protective clothing, hats, sunglasses, sunscreen and lip balm as well as seeking shade and limiting sun exposure when possible and practical during the hours of peak sun intensity.
- 3. Knowledge about how to assess personal sun safety habits, set goals for improvement and achieve these

goals.

Tobacco

Tobacco use prevention education will focus on all grades with particular emphasis on middle school and reinforcement in all later grades. Instructional activities will be participatory and developmentally appropriate. Tobacco use prevention education programs will be implemented in accordance with Board policy, relevant administrative procedures and law.

Oversight and Assessment

The wellness program coordinator is responsible for monitoring implementation and assessing the effectiveness of the district wellness program by:

- 1. Completing the required triennial assessment.
- 2. Prioritizing wellness goals and writing work plans for each goal.
- 3. Measuring implementation of the district wellness policy and procedure.
- 4. Ensuring that the district meets the goals of the wellness policy and procedure.
- 5. Reporting to the Board on compliance and progress.
- 6. Comparing the district's policy to model policies.

Compliance Indicators

The program coordinator will use the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) School Health Index as a measure of the overall effectiveness of the local wellness program. In addition, the wellness program coordinator will identify at least one other assessment tool, including those available through the USDA or CDC, that provides measures not covered by the School Health Index. Assessment tools may be locally created.

Policy Review

The wellness program coordinator will provide policy revision recommendations to the Board as part of the periodic report. The recommendations will be based on analysis of the compliance indicators and comparison of the district's policy to model policies provided, recommended or referenced by the USDA. The Board will revise the wellness policy as it deems necessary. Administrative procedures will be revised accordingly.

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Note: The reader is encouraged to review policies and/or forms for related information in this administrative area.

Richwoods R-VII Last Issued Date: 5/18/2017

Original Issued Date: 11/19/2015

FILE: ADF-AF2 Critical

DISTRICT WELLNESS PROGRAM

(Indicator Grids)

- Fill in the "Indicator" columns with each process and outcome indicator used by the district.
- Fill in the "Baseline Measure" columns (with numbers or percentages as appropriate) at the time the district wellness program is implemented.
- For each subsequent year, re-evaluate the indicators and fill in the appropriate columns.

Process Indicator	Baseline Measure	Baseline + one year	Baseline + two years	Baseline + three years	Baseline + four years
	-	1		+	
				2	-

Outcome Indicator	Baseline Measure	Baseline + one year	Baseline + two years	Baseline + three years	Baseline + four years
				1	
		1			
		1			

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Note: The reader is encouraged to review policies and/or procedures for related information in this administrative area.



Reward and Incentive Ideas

Ways to reward students

- Extra music and reading time
- Time for music and dancing
- Music while doing school work
- Chat break at the end of class
- Extra computer time
- Free time at the end of class
- Day for watching a movie
- Group activity
- Games
- Homework coupon
- Coupon for prizes and privileges
- Certificate/trophy/ribbon/plaque
- Gift certificate to local non-food merchants
- Free pass to sporting event or play
- · Walk break from class
- Fun walk with the principal or teacher
- Guest presenter in class
- Field trip

Elementary students

- Taking things to the office
- Eating with the teacher
- Prizes from a treasure box

- Pencil toppers
- Stickers
- Pencils
- · Stars or smiley faces
- Paperback books
- Extra recess
- Leading the class to lunch, recess,
 library or other adventure

Middle School Students

- Sitting with friends
- Music concert at school
- Pencils
- Paperback books
- Pep rally
- Magazine subscriptions
- T-shirt/hat/sunglasses
- Step counter

High School Students

- Sitting with friends
- Music concert at school
- Pep rally
- Paperback books
- Magazine subscription
- T-shirt/hat/sunglasses
- Prime parking spot
- Recognition with morning announcements

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulation and policies, the USDA, it Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individual who are dear, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complain of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (AD-3027) of found at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call 866-632-9992.

Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: 202-690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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