

From: Beard, Rene <rbeard@aging.sc.gov>
To: 'Marie Waller'MarieWaller@scstatehouse.gov
Date: 11/12/2014 1:32:37 PM
Subject: RE: "Thanksgiving" meal

Thank you Marie.

The team is hoping to meet this afternoon to review the questions received so far: How to track in AIM? Will this replace the already planned Thanksgiving meal? And other questions.

We will review this information and the email that Hank shared with us earlier. We may still have some questions, but I will try to gather those and get with you. It may be tomorrow morning before our 11:00 meeting depending what time we get together today.

Thanks for your help!

Rene Beard

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From: Marie Waller [<mailto:MarieWaller@scstatehouse.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2014 1:02 PM
To: Beard, Rene
Subject: "Thanksgiving" meal

Rene,

I apologize that I did not keep you more in the loop as this thing was coming together. As you may know, the Lt. Governor had asked the Commissioner of Agriculture to assist in getting surplus produce from the farmers to the senior centers. Well, they took that suggestion and ran with it, and the next thing we know they have compiled quite an impressive list of Certified SC Grown products to be donated for a meal. As you can imagine, we were both thrilled and terrified at the same time.

The only thing that made sense was to work directly with those who provide food through an existing network, such as Senior Catering and the larger independent aging groups (York, Dorchester, Piedmont), to see that all of the products are used when these groups are able to fit it in, including the Thanksgiving meal. To that end, we also have partnered with the Department of Corrections, who will be picking up the donated products, and then will help with the distribution to the outlets that will be preparing it; for instance, Senior Catering has 5 remote kitchens, I believe.

This way, everyone lives up to their contracts with their existing caterers, and no one loses a day of reimbursement.

As it stands now, all of the ingredients will be incorporated into meals prepared around the week of Thanksgiving by the existing caterers around the state. I hope that addresses any questions that you may have or may be receiving.

This seems to be the most equitable way to distribute it.

As to inquiries from other states, while this effort represents one meal for our seniors, we are hoping that this can be an example of what is possible when agencies come together. I will be happy to try to answer any remaining

questions you might have.

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