

To: "Honer, Emily (MDE)"
Subject: FW: Sites Update 3/5

Date: Tue, 09 Mar 2021 13:18:32 -0000

Importance: Normal

Inline-Images: image001.png

From: Aimee Bock <aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org>
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 7:48 PM
To: Pace, Kendra (MDE)
Subject: Re: Sites Update 3/5

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Kendra,

I will be sending you updates as well as a list of sites that we are not going to be working with so you can update your records. Regarding the sites that share an address, I am concerned about tracking meals separately and submitting under the same site ID number. First, the federal regulations do not seem to allow multiple locations to share an application. Secondly, how does MDE recommend we would proceed with monitoring, corrective actions, or serious deficiencies? How do we handle this if one organization is meeting the requirements and the other isn't? Is there a reason that the organizations are being required to share a site id and application?

Thanks,

Aimee

On Fri, Mar 5, 2021 at 3:58 PM Pace, Kendra (MDE)

Hi Aimee,
Providing an update on sites.

10/28/2020	Bright Stars - Outside	MDE reached out to FOF because there is already a site and the assistant director indicated they had no idea of another site operating there. FOF told MDE on 11/25/20 that FOF would submit a letter from director and hold until FOF sends the letter.
11/4/2020	Longfellow Park	Minneapolis School District #1 operating site
11/12/2020	Minnesota's Somali Community	Another sponsor requested Site ID first, same address and name
11/23/2020	Academy for Young Leaders	FOF already has site ID at this address, suite 202 is 9000016839 Gedi Adult Day Care Corporation
11/30/2020	Action for East Africa People AFEAP Portland	Site is under another sponsor

Subject: Claim question

From: "Peglow, Anne (MDE)"

Date: 5/20/2021, 2:52 PM

To: "aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org" <aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org>

Hi Aimee,

We are working on claim validations and I have a question about the SFSP site, 9000017094/Al-Israa Academy. The meal counts for breakfast and lunch are 38,575 while the submitted claim in CLICS is 12,400. How was 12,400 determined? Thank you.

Anne Peglow, RD

CACFP Review Team Lead

C.

Minnesota Department of Education

1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

education.mn.gov



Subject: Re: Youth leadership academy May claims

From: Aimee Bock <aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org>

Date: 6/18/2021, 9:28 AM

To: "Honer, Emily (MDE)"

"Korte, Daron (MDE)"

, "Mueller, Heather (MDE)"

CC: "Bulcher, Jenny (MDE)"

"Herrera, Monica (MDE)"

BCC:

Emily,

Please help me understand why MDE would believe that we were on the same page. We have discussed this issue regarding Average Mohamed in the past, and Feeding our Future has always been clear that once the transfer forms is signed the agreement is terminated and we are legally prohibited from submitting claims. What lead MDE to believe that FOF would have suddenly decided that violating the federal regulations was allowable?

I would also like to understand why you told the site that it is ultimately up to the sponsor to submit the claim. This decision is based on federal regulations, it has nothing to do with Feeding our Future. The law is clear. Your statement places the blame on Feeding our Future, and damages our reputation with not only this site, but the community as a whole. Please explain.

Aimee

On Fri, Jun 18, 2021 at 8:36 AM Honer, Emily (MDE)

wrote:

Hi Aimee,

I understood that Feeding Our Future was on the same page with Youth Leadership. I'll reach back out to them and copy you.

Emily Honer, MBA

Supervisor, Business Operations support Services

Minnesota Department of Education

1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

education.mn.gov



From: Aimee Bock <aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org>

Sent: Thursday, June 17, 2021 6:38 PM

To: Honer, Emily (MDE)

Cc: Butcher, Jenny (MDE)

; Korte, Daron (MDE)

; Herrera,

Monica (MDE)

Mueller, Heather (MDE)

Subject: Re: Youth leadership academy May claims

Emily,

Please explain why MDE is telling programs that Feeding our Future will submit claims for their organization. As I have explained before to you, this organization terminated their agreement with FOF and was not being monitored by us.

What legal authority does MDE have to tell sites we will accept responsibility for their claim despite not having an agreement or oversight? Who at MDE made this decision? Who will MDE be holding responsible if there is an issue with their claim? Why is MDE committing Feeding our Future to violating the law without discussing the issue with us?

I am very concerned that MDE is making representations to our former clients that we will violate the law to submit their claim.

Please explain,

Aimee

On Thu, Jun 17, 2021 at 5:53 PM Honer, Emily (MDE); > wrote:

Hi Priya,

Yes Feeding Our Future can claim those meals in May and June as they are your approved CACFP sponsor.

Emily Honer, MBA

Supervisor, Business Operations support Services

Minnesota Department of Education

1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

education.mn.gov



From: Priya Morioka
Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 2:18 PM
To: Khadija Al.; Butcher, Jenny (MDE)
Cc: Honer, Emily (MDE); aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org
Subject: RE: Youth leadership academy May claims

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Emily

We wanted to reach out and follow up on this question below regarding May claims for Youth Leadership Academy Site #900018818.

We would like to resolve this while in the window for submitting claims.

Please reach out with any questions.

Priya

Hello

I am sending this message to Emily Honer, supervisor of the ACES, the team that handles applications and claims for a response as this is not my area of expertise.

Sincerely,

Jenny Butcher

She/Her/Hers

Outreach Lead, SFSP & At-Risk Meal Programs

Office

Direct | MN Toll-free 800-

Minnesota Department of Education

1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

education.mn.gov

<image001.png>

From: Khadija Ali

Sent: Sunday, June 13, 2021 2:44 PM

To: Butcher, Jenny (MDE)

Cc: Khadija Ali

Priya

Subject: Youth leadership academy May claims

; aimee@feedingourfuture.org; Morioka,

Hi Jenny,

We are hoping you can help us out. We have May meal claims we need to submit. Attached is our transfer form from Amiee at Feeding Our Future. Note its dated 5/2021 as the understanding was that when the sponsorship started Gar Gaar would be able to claim under our sponsorship number. We clarified with you last week that we are not able to claim until June.

With that can you please confirm for us and Amiee, from Feeding Our Future who is copied on this email, that FTF would file the claims for May and the first week in June, as that is still under the CACF program, and not SFSP. Going forward in the SFSP, Youth Leadership Academy will be able to claim under SFSP.

With all that is going on, we think there was just some confusion on the timing and such. We would like to submit the May claims as soon as possible, so appreciate your help in clarifying.

Thank you,
Khadija

Sent from my iPhone

Aimee Bock

Founder/Executive Director

Office: 612.345.4922

Fax: 651.379.8752

www.feedingourfuturemn.org

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Aimee Bock

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Hi All,

To echo Khadija and the below email, I believe we need to resolve this issue in the near future as the claims are running up against the sixty-day submission window. As stated below, we are happy to supply all documentation to substantiate the submitted claims. In the alternative, we ask that if the claims are to be rejected that such action occurs so we may avail ourselves to appeal rights under Part 225 Subpart B.

Please let us know your decision as soon as you are able.

Thank you,
Scott

Scott Ruhsam

Attorney at Law

Kennedy & Ruhsam Law Offices, P.A.

Eagan Office:

2600 Eagan Woods Drive, Suite 270

Eagan, MN 55121

Cannon Falls Office:

121 4th Street North, Suite 2

Cannon Falls, MN 55009

**Office.
Email**

| **Cell:**

| **Fax:** 651-262-2079

| **Website:** www.mpkennedylaw.com

From: Khadija Al

Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2021 9:25 AM

To: aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org

Cc: Honer, Emily (MDE)

; Priya Morioka

; Bulcher, Jenny (MDE)

< [redacted]@mde.mn.gov > MDE, FINS (MDE)

Daron Korte

; Heather Mueller

Subject: Re: Youth leadership academy May claims

Hi Emily and Aimee,

We have sent this email few weeks ago, and we are still waiting a response?

I hope everyone had a nice 4th of July.

Emily, do we have any update to Aimee's June 29th email regarding the submission of claims? My understanding is where FOF has the authority to submit the claims to MDE and MDE, in turn, has several code sections under Part 225 Subpart B to audit and/or request records. We are happy to supply all parties the records substantiating the claims being submitted for reimbursement. Alternatively, we are happy to submit the claims to MDE and allow MDE its right to accept or reject such claims giving us the right to appeal such determination under Part 225 Subpart B.

While we understand that there has been perhaps a miscommunication at some point during rendering of services, the issue we have is that we were instructed by MDE on how to complete our transfer form, services were rendered and accepted with no one addressing concerns regarding the transfer form, and now we are told that there is no party that has responsibility to reimburse for such services. We are more than happy to supply all documentation substantiating our claims, but we need a pathway forward for a solution.

Please let us know best next steps.

Best,

Khadija

On Jun 29, 2021, at 4:21 PM, aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org wrote:

Emily,

Does Feeding our Future have the legal authority to submit this claim?

Aimee

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 29, 2021, at 9:12 AM, Honer, Emily (MDE)
> wrote:

Priya,

The information I gave prior still stands. MDE will not force a sponsor to submit claims they are not comfortable with.

Emily Honer, MBA

Supervisor, Business Operations support Services

Minnesota Department of Education

1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

education.mn.gov

<image001.png>

From: Priya Morioka
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 8:33 AM
To: Honer, Emily (MDE)
Cc: Butcher, Jenny (MDE); Khadija Ali
MDE, FNS (MDE)
Mueller, Heather (MDE)
Aimee Bock
<aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org>; Korte, Daron (MDE)

Subject: RE: Youth leadership academy May claims
Importance: High

Emily,

Our understanding is that you are the point person at the MDE to provide a resolve to this situation. As you can see from the details below given the direction from MDE, we were directed to procure the transfer form as part of our application process, prior to approval. At this point, MDE needs to authorize either FOF or YLA to process the claims.

Does a call need to be set up to sort this out? We appreciate this being resolved in the next day so someone can file the claims.

If you are not able to make this decision, let us know who is so we can resolve this quickly.

Priya

From: Aimee Bock <aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org>

Sent: Friday, June 25, 2021 5:42 PM

To: Priya Morioka

Cc: Butcher, Jenny (MDE)

Khadija Ali

Honer, Emily (MDE)

MDE, FNS (MDE)

Mueller, Heather (MDE)
(MDE)

Korte, Daron

Subject: Re: Youth leadership academy May claims

This is an MDE issue - they should have informed you when you would be approved so you could have submitted proper paperwork and guarantee your program would receive the claims.

The fact that it can take up to 30-45 days or longer for an application to be approved does not legally mean that we had oversight. Feeding our Future had no way of knowing when you had submitted an application or when you would be approved. It is also important to understand the waivers issued by the USDA allowed the summer program to begin on May 1. It is unclear why MDE would wait until June to allow the program to operate, but nonetheless, that is an issue for you to take up with MDE not Feeding our Future.

The day the transfer form was signed you terminated your agreement with us. Without an active agreement we could not oversee you. The fact that MDE did not move your application does not change the fact that we were not legally responsible for your site. We have told you, as has MDE, without oversight and a valid active agreement we are not able to submit your claim.

I have met with your organization and sent several emails explaining that we are not legally able to submit your claim, and therefore will not.

Feeding our Future will not illegally submit claims for your organization. As I mentioned, I sympathize with your situation and if there was a legal

way to submit the claim I would be happy to do so, but there simply isn't.

My suggestion remains the same - you need to work with MDE to determine why you are not approved to being the summer program May 1 as allowed by USDA waivers.

Aimee

On Fri, Jun 25, 2021 at 5:09 PM Priya Morioka

> wrote:

Aimee

As we have repeatedly stated, we were asked to do the transfer form from MDE and include it in our application for SFSP due 5/1/21. This was an application, not approval of the program.

As you are an experienced sponsor you are aware of the time for application approval - up to 30-45 days. Therefore, FOF still had oversight of the CACFP program during the month of May and were executing CACFP. tried several times to meet with you during this time to discuss and was unable too.

Additionally, the MDE has said to us SFSP doesn't start till at least 6/1 or the first day of summer for school districts. For most MN schools that is 6/11 or later. Perhaps new sponsors are not allowed to claim SFSP in May as you stated. As we see it as the sponsorship was not approved till June and therefore May claims for CACFP fall to FOF.

This looks like simple miscommunication and either the

1) transfer form needs to be redone to reflect the proper date of transfer which would be June 22, when our sponsorship application

was approved - and FOF process May claims

OR

2) MDE should approve GGFS to submit claims for May.

Our attorneys have also reviewed this situation and they are happy to speak with your attorneys. Just let us know if we should make a connection between the two firms.

MDE just needs to direct which of the 2 above options should be executed to clarify which organization should submit the claims.

Priya

From: Aimee Bock

Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2021 10:53 AM

To: Priya Morioka

Cc: Butcher, Jennv (MDE)

Khadija Ali

Honer, Emily (MDE)

MDE, FNS (MDE)

Mueller, Heather (MDE)

Korte, Daron (MDE)

Subject: Re: Youth leadership academy May claims

Priya,

As I have repeatedly explained when the transfer form was completed with a May transfer date your agreement with Feeding our Future was terminated. Without an active agreement we cannot legally submit a claim for your organization. In addition, we also had no oversight of your organization because we legally could not have had oversight of your organization without an active agreement.

According to our records you transferred to become your own sponsor, meaning you had the oversight of your operations not Feeding our Future. Is there a reason you are not submitting your own claim? The USDA issued waivers that allowed summer to be claimed in May. My recommendation is to work with MDE to determine why your application was not approved for May and June as allowed by USDA waivers.

While we sympathize with your situation we are unable to violate the law to process your claim. Please understand that this is not a decision that Feeding our Future has made, but rather the law. Our attorney has looked into this issue and confirmed that if we submit this claim we would be breaking law and our agreement with MDE.

Aimee

On Thu, Jun 24, 2021 at 10:40 AM Priya Morioka

wrote:

Jenny

Please see the below message sent earlier this week regarding payment from Feeding Our Future for Youth Leadership Academy May claims.

These claims need to be filed and paid as Feeding Our Future had oversight during these times. We appreciate your support in getting this taken care of as soon as possible.

Priya

From: Khadija Ali
Sent: Monday, June 21, 2021 1:57 PM
To: Honer, Emily (MDE)
Cc: Priya Morioka
Butcher, Jenny (MDE)
Subject: Re: youth leadership academy May claims

Hi Emily,

Feeding Our Future executed a transfer form required by MDE dated May 2021 when our application to be a sponsor for the SFSP was submitted to the MDE. After this transfer form was completed, it was our understanding that Feeding our Future would be able to file claims for May when they were still Youth Leadership's sponsor for the CACFP. Once Gar Gaar became Youth Leadership's sponsor for the SFSP, Gar Gaar would be responsible for the claims when the SFSP program started in June. Feeding

Feeding our Future did oversee Youth Leadership for May in the CACFP. Gar Gaar presumes that during the SFSP Gar Gaar will file Youth Leadership's claims with MDE. If Feeding our Future does not submit claims, can Youth Leadership do so, or can Gar Gaar as Youth Leadership's new sponsor for the SFSP?

Amy from Feeding our Future is very familiar with these processes and understood that Gar Gaar's sponsorship would not begin until the SFSP started. She did not inform us that Feeding our Future would stop claiming meals in May while the CACFP was ongoing. If this were the case, Youth Leadership would have operated differently. Because Youth Leadership continued to serve meals to children during the interim, we are needing these claims to be reimbursed in some way or another.

Our May claims are caught in limbo. Can you provide more guidance on this?

Thanks,

Khadija

On Jun 18, 2021, at 4:41 PM, Honer, Emily (MDE)
wrote:

Hi Priya,

I want to clarify a few items regarding Feeding Our Future's ability to claim meals for May and part of June:

- If Youth Leadership and Feeding Our Future have already terminated the agreement, and Feeding Our Future did not have the required oversight then the claim is not appropriate
- The ability to claim the meals in May and June is ultimately up to the sponsor.

Emily Honer, MBA

Supervisor, Business Operations support Services

Minnesota Department of Education

1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

education.mn.gov

<image001.png>

From: Priya Morioka

Sent: Friday, June 18, 2021 1:18 AM

To: Honer, Emily (MDE);

Khadija Ali

Butcher, Jenny (MDE)

Cc:

Subject: RE: Youth leadership academy May claims

Thank you Emily

We will work with Amy to file the May and June Claims.

Priya

From: Honer, Emily (MDE)

Sent: Thursday, June 17, 2021 5:53 PM

To: Priya Morioka

Ali

Jenny (MDE)

Cc:

Subject: RE: Youth leadership academy May claims

Khadija
Butcher,

Hi Priya,

Yes Feeding Our Future can claim those meals in May and June as they are your approved CACFP sponsor.

Emily Honer, MBA

Supervisor, Business Operations support Services

Minnesota Department of Education

1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

education.mn.gov

<image001.png>

From: Priya Morioka

Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2021 2:18 PM

To: Khadija Ali

Butcher, Jenny (MDE)

Cc: Honer, Emily (MDE)

aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org

Subject: RE: Youth leadership academy May claims

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Emily

We wanted to reach out and follow up on this question below regarding May claims for Youth Leadership Academy Site #900018818.

We would like to resolve this while in the window for submitting claims.

Please reach out with any questions.

Priya

Hello

I am sending this message to Emily Honer, supervisor of the ACES, the team that handles applications and claims for a response as this is not my area of expertise.

Sincerely,

Jenny Butcher

She/Her/Hers

Outreach Lead, SFSP & At-Risk Meal Programs

Office
jenny.butcher@state.mn.us

Direct | MN Toll-free
800

Minnesota Department of Education

1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

education.mn.gov

<image001.png>

From: Khadija Ali
Sent: Sunday, June 13, 2021 2:44 PM
To: Butcher, Jenny (MDE)

Cc: Khadija Ali

aimee@feedingourfuture.org; Morioka, Priya

Subject: Youth leadership academy May claims

Hi Jenny,

We are hoping you can help us out. We have May meal claims we need to submit. Attached is our transfer form from Amiee at Feeding Our Future. Note its dated 5/2021 as the understanding was that when the sponsorship started Gar Gaar would be able to claim under our sponsorship number. We clarified with you last week that we are not able to claim until June.

With that can you please confirm for us and Amiee, from Feeding Our Future who is copied on this email, that FTF would file the claims for May and the first week in June, as that is still under the CACF program, and not SFSP. Going forward in the SFSP, Youth Leadership Academy will be able to claim under SFSP.

With all that is going on, we think there was

just some confusion on the timing and such.
We would like to submit the May claims as soon as possible, so appreciate your help in clarifying.

Thank you,
Khadija

Sent from my iPhone

--

Aimee Bock

Founder/Executive Director

Office: 612.345.4922

Cell:

Fax: 651.379.8752

www.feedingourfuturemn.org

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Aimee Bock

Founder/Executive Director

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Aimee Bock

Founder/Executive Director

Office: 612.345.4922

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Subject: FW: Youth leadership academy May claims
From: Rhyddid Watkins
Date: 6/18/2021, 8:56 AM
To: Aimee Bock <aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org>

FYI

Rhyddid Watkins
Admitted to the CO and MN Bar



MARTIN | HILD, P.A.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

2851 S. PARKER RD, SUITE 460 | AURORA, CO, 80014
CO: | FL: | M:
WEB: WWW.MARTINHILD.COM [vCARD](#)

From: Rhyddid Watkins
Sent: Friday, June 18, 2021 7:56 AM
To: Kristine Nogosek
Subject: FW: Youth leadership academy May claims

It is not up to the sponsor. Feeding Our Future cannot legally submit claims on behalf of a site we had no contractual relationship with and no oversight over. By telling the site it is up to our discretion, you are misrepresenting the facts, dramatically increasing the amount of work we have to do to explain the facts, and damaging our reputation. Why is MDE insistent on blaming Feeding Our Future for its mistakes!!

I am trying desperately to complete our supplemental discovery responses, but I cannot keep up with MDE breaches and violations of federal regulations.

Rhyddid Watkins
Admitted to the CO and MN Bar



MARTIN | HILD, P.A.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

2851 S. PARKER RD, SUITE 460 | AURORA, CO, 80014
CO: | FL: | M:
WEB: WWW.MARTINHILD.COM [vCARD](#)

From: aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org <aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org>
Sent: Friday, June 18, 2021 7:51 AM
To: Rhyddid Watkin:
Subject: Fwd: Youth leadership academy May claims

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Honer, Emily (MDE)"

Subject: Re: Straight from MDE

From: Aimee Bock <aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org>

Date: 6/4/2021, 10:07 AM

To: mohamed amin ahmed <mohamed@averagemohamed.com>, Hadith Ahmed <hadith@feedingourfuturemn.org>

I understand that your site ID is with us, but if you look at the rest of the email that was sent regarding Average Mohamed it clearly states that we are only allowed to submit a claim for a program that we had proper oversight of. As you are aware, Average Mohamed was not being supervised by Feeding our Future and was operating in a way that goes against our rules of the program. We DO NOT allow hot food and groceries to be served at the same time, due to concerns with program integrity and compliance of the program regulations. The fact that both were being served and we were not at the site to monitor means that we are not able to submit your claim.

MDE cannot grant special approval for a sponsor to claim without oversight of a site under any of the Child Nutrition programs that MDE administers. It is the sponsors responsibility to ensure the site is operating in compliance with program regulations. If Feeding Our Future feels they have the documentation and oversight necessary to submit a claim for the CACFP March 2021 meal service, the claim can be submitted in CLICS at any time within the claiming deadline.

It is also a federal law that a sponsor cannot submit a claim without a signed agreement. Unfortunately, you terminated your agreement with us - which means that legally we are not able to submit a claim on your behalf.

As I explained to your wife, to be paid for the months you served food you need to contact Partners in Quality Care and have them submit an appeal to MDE. You have a signed sponsor agreement with them and they had oversight of your organization, so they are the only sponsor that is allowed to submit a claim on your behalf.

While I understand and sympathize with your situation it would be against program regulations for Feeding our Future to submit a claim for a site that we did not have an agreement with and were not monitoring. If we submit a claim and MDE reviews it they will see that we did not have an agreement or oversight and Feeding our Future would be responsible to return the funds to the state agency.

Thanks,

Aimee

On Fri, Jun 4, 2021 at 9:37 AM mohamed amin ahmed wrote:

Greetings,

My wife said you had concerns about the transfer. This is coming out of their office. This should be of great relief knowing that all the billing will be approved by them. All your agency has to do is bill for us please.

I copied their response in this email.

Average Mohamed is an approved site under Feeding Our Future's sponsorship in the CACFP Program Year 2021. Average Mohamed was not transferred to Partners in Quality Care.

Emily Honer, MBA

Supervisor, Business Operations support Services

Minnesota Department of Education

1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

education.mn.gov

Minnesota Department of Education

Mohamed Ahmed

Executive Director

www.averagemohamed.com

2020 State Department Citizen of the Year

2018 Citizen Diplomat of the Year Global Ties

Bush Foundation Fellow

Free Muslim Coalition Against Terrorism

AverageMohamed. @Facebook

Mohamed Ahmed @linkedin

@averagemohamed Twitter

--

Aimee Bock

Founder/Executive Director

Office: 612.345.4922

Cell.

Fax: 651.379.8752

www.feedingourfuturemn.org

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From: "Honer, Emily (MDE)"

To: "Kara Lomen"

Cc: "Dan Smeriglio"

Subject: RE: Average Mohamed Transfer

Date: Fri, 27 Aug 2021 13:50:27 -0000

Importance: Normal

Inline-Images: image002.png; image003.png

Hi Kara,

I'm talking with others about this site and I think we can allow you to claim for March for them but I need to know a couple details.

1. When did you sign the program agreement?
2. Do you have the records for March? (understanding you were not the active sponsor in this month)

As far as the transfer, we'll get this processed

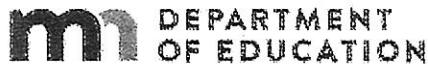
Emily Honer, MBA

Supervisor, Business Operations support Services

Minnesota Department of Education

1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

education.mn.gov



From: Kara Lomen

Sent: Friday, August 13, 2021 10:10 PM

To: MDE, FNS ; Honer, Emily (MDE)

Cc: Dan Smeriglio

Subject: Average Monamed Transter

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Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Hello,

Average Mohamed Organization stopped in our office this week, he would like to reinstate his transfer request to our sponsoring organization. He plans to be working under us in the fall. Attached is the original transfer form that was filled out for this site. Please let me know if there is any additional information that you need from us.

From: "Honer, Emily (MDE)"

To: "Mohamed Ahmed"

, "Kara Lomen"

Cc: "

Subject: RE: Advice sought

Date: Mon, 27 Sep 2021 18:18:53 -0000

Importance: Normal

Inline-Images: image001.png; image002.png

Hello,

Just wanting to get back to this and clarify.

I initially was confused and didn't realize the month in question was March. From my understanding now, PIQC would only backdate the March application which is when the transfer was for anyways.

Kara- please submit the March application and claim adjustment. Because this was the month of the transfer, it can be done.

Apologies for the confusion of months in question.

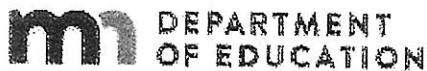
Emily Honer, MBA

Supervisor, Business Operations support Services

Minnesota Department of Education

1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

education.mn.gov



From: Mohamed Ahmed

Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 4:47 PM

To: Honer, Emily (MDE)

; Kara Lomer

Subject: RE: Advice sought

Greetings,

Thank Emily for the update. I am confused. It seems the goal post keeps on changing for our organization to get paid for food already delivered. Let me explain please. We were under the auspices of Feed My Future. We were already paid for previous months for cooked food delivery. Supervised and inspected numerous times. We asked to start delivery on Uncooked food. They said no, we went to Opportunity Partners who said yes with stipulations, training, protocols and guidance. We got the go ahead in February 27th to start distributing uncooked foods. When we tried to bill for March. MDE said we can't have two organizations as sponsors pick one. We picked the good people of Opportunity Partners. In the process all payments were

stopped by MDE to the entire program. We had transferred out of Feed My Future to Opportunity Partners. For fear of not being paid we cancelled the transfer. Our error. Feed My Future in conversations over months for them to consult their legal counsel said once transferred we are no longer their client. We spoke to you and others at MDE in detail our predicament. You advised that you would talk to Feed My Future. They said No. you advised we find a sponsor to bill through. Kara said yes to the process.

Please understand our frustration. I owe tens of thousands to vendors for March and midway through April cooked food delivery. And also for the month of March from 3 sites for cooked food delivery in Saint Paul, Minneapolis and Saint Cloud. We told your office of this in our discussions. The frustration we have is the goal post keeps changing for us to bill for services and food already delivered. My vendors have now believed I took their money and don't want to pay them. Threatening our Average Mohamed Organization with lawsuits. I have worked hard as a model citizen to build this organization to global and national reputation. This process is causing harm to my mental health, reputation, my word once given is like a cashiers check. I gave my word and now out of money to cover vendors and employees who helped distribute, package and delivery process.

Please by all means reach out to whoever you need to including USDA. But let this be the last goal post please. We are in August and we are asking for March and mid April Billings. Please resolve this issue and get us paid for food and services already delivered.

I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart. I know you all are trying hard to resolve this issue. Thank you. But feel my pain will you.

Mohamed Ahmed

Executive Director

www.averagemohamed.com

2020 State Department Citizen of the Year

2018 Citizen Diplomat of the Year Global Ties

Bush Foundation Fellow

Free Muslim Coalition Against Terrorism

AverageMohamed. @Facebook

Mohamed Ahmed @linkedin

@averagemohamed Twitter

On Mon, Aug 2, 2021 at 1:28 PM, Honer, Emily (MDE)

wrote:

Hi Mohamed,

I wanted to reach out because I believe there is confusion:

I talked with Partners in Quality Care last week and Partners in Quality Care did not have oversight of your meal site in order to claim the meals nor did Partners in Quality Care have an approved application for your site.

I will talk with USDA about what else can be done but Partners in Quality Care cannot backdate the meals for your claim and still be in compliance with the federal regulations.

Emily Honer, MBA

Supervisor, Business Operations support Services

Minnesota Department of Education

1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113

education.mn.gov



From: Mohamed Ahmec
Sent: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 7:24 PM
To: Kara Lomen
Cc: Honer, Emily (MDE)
Subject: RE: Advice sought

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Greetings,

Finally a hero offers solutions. Emily how soon can we confirm transfer of account and bill. The sooner the better.

Thank you Kara Loren. You are awesome. Believe me I am being hounded by folks who took my word and extended lines of credit. Thank you, THANK YOU.

Mohamed Ahmed

Executive Director

www.averagemohamed.com

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Bush Foundation Fellow

Free Muslim Coalition Against Terrorism

AverageMohamed. @Facebook

Mohamed Ahmed @linkedin

@averagemohamed Twitter

On Mon, Jul 5, 2021 at 11:56 AM, Kara Lomer

wrote:

Mohamed,

Thanks for the email. I have copied Emily from MDE on this email as well so that I can make sure that we are all on the same page. I know that there has been a lot of communication regarding your site and we have not been in the loop much on where the current status stands. If you and Emily have been in touch with each other and decisions have been made, I am happy to help where I can.

Back in March, your site, Average Mohamed, applied for the food program with our sponsorship. You provided us with a transfer form from Feeding our Future. We provided your training and onboarding to the program and met the requirements with your site as though you would be ours. Once the stop payment was issued, you cancelled your transfer to our site and MDE was notified that you had made the decision to stay with Feeding our Future.

As it currently stands, we do not have any March claims paperwork for your site, I would imagine that has been turned in to Feeding our Future? If you would still like to transfer to our sponsorship, we are

happy to have you and would love to work with you. If there is anything that we can do to help support this current situation, we are happy to do our part as well.

As I said, I am not aware of conversations that have happened with Emily but if either of you have specific questions for me or there is something that I can do to help please let me know.

Thank you,

Kara Lomen
Executive Director



phone
651.294.1010 fax

Find us on [Facebook](#)

From: Mohamed Ahmed
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 3:42 PM
To: Kara Lomen
Subject: Advice sought

Greetings,

Since we last talked we stopped the transfer. Feed My Future has denied billing for me on cooked food and dry food. I reached out to MDE they said we can bill it only what we need is a sponsor. I spoke and emailed Emily Honer and others.

Would you be willing to take us on and transfer to you to ill for the month of March alone for both services. I can get MDE to authorize it for you. They desperately want me paid for services and goods provided.

Need your input.

I wanted to thank you from the bottom of my heart for any assistance rendered.

Mohamed Ahmed

Executive Director
www.averagemohamed.com
2020 State Department Citizen of the Year
2018 Citizen Diplomat of the Year Global Ties
Bush Foundation Fellow
Free Muslim Coalition Against Terrorism
AverageMohamed. @Facebook
Mohamed Ahmed @linkedin
@averagemohamed Twitter



January 14, 2022

Aimee Bock, Executive Director, Feeding Our Future

Regarding: All Star Academy / Site ID: 9000018698 – Complaint received at MDE

Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) received a written complaint from [redacted] representing All Star Academy (ASA), a sponsored site of Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The complaint alleges that their sponsoring organization, Feeding Our Future (FOF) refused to pay their claim adjustment for September 2021, and has not paid their meal claim for the month of October 2021. The complaint indicates that FOF refuses to respond to inquiries regarding the claim status. As a result ASA is requesting a transfer back to their original sponsoring organization, and is seeking guidance with regard to submitting their November meal claims.

This letter serves as MDE's attempt to facilitate the discussion between ASA and FOF regarding the complaints alleged by ASA regarding unpaid meal claims.

[redacted] complained to MDE that their sponsor Feeding our Future did not adequately pay ASA for September meal claims, even after the claim data was resubmitted using the meal count forms provided to ASA by [redacted] following a November 5 training by [redacted] of FOF.

[redacted] also complained that the October meal claim submitted by ASA on the forms provided by [redacted] was not paid by FOF. She went on to complain about the lack of response by FOF regarding the status of their meal claim, and even after multiple inquiries to Aimee Bock and [redacted] about why the claim(s) had not been paid.

[redacted] is in possession of meal claim documents for the month of November 2021, but since the September and October meal claims were not paid, she held off on sending them to FOF.

The site transfer of ASA from FOF back to their previous sponsoring organization was completed by MDE, effective December 2021. However, there is still the question of unpaid meal claims by FOF for the months of September, October and November, 2021 during which time ASA was a sponsored site.

Please respond to this letter in writing and provide:

1. The status of the meal claims for September and October and correspondence from FOF regarding those meal claims,
2. A remedy for the November CACFP meal claim submission for ASA.

Kind Regards,

Jeanette Johnson-Reed, Supervisor CACFP



RESPONSE TO ALL STAR ACADEMY COMPLAINT

SEPTEMBER 2021 CLAIM

DISALLOWED

Feeding our Future processed and paid the valid claim for All Star Academy for the month of September. [redacted] was notified multiple times that we were disallowing suppers that did not have milk because she did not meet the meal pattern requirements.

Attached to this response you will find the completed milk audit, meal count clicker sheet, attendance records and receipts. Feeding our Future works to ensure that we maximize the reimbursement of claims for our community partners. Sites are trained and provided with a copy of our training books that informs them of the meal pattern requirements. Unfortunately, [redacted] did not meet the meal pattern and as a result had meals disallowed. During our meetings and calls Feeding our Future has explained the claim validation process as well as the requirements for reimbursement.

CLAIM TOTAL

On November 22, 2021 [redacted] emailed Feeding our Future stating she believed that she was entitled to \$110,562.54 reimbursement for the month of September. It is unclear how [redacted] or anyone at All Star Academy reached that total. The only explanation we have received is that it is in line with what they had received with their previous sponsor. Feeding our Future explained on multiple occasions via phone, email, and in person meetings how the September claim was calculated, what was paid, and what was disallowed.

All Star Academy spent a total of \$14,934.83 in September which is inline with the claim that was processed and paid.

CORRESPONDANCE

We have met with [redacted] and explained this to her multiple times. Unfortunately, [redacted] maintains that she is owed additional funds without having provided us adequate documentation to support her request.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTED FROM MDE

Feeding our Future is providing a copy of the September claim documentation received for MDE to review. If MDE believes Feeding our Future did not correctly validate the claim we request technical assistance in what was incorrectly calculated and what the next steps are to proceed.



OCTOBER 2021 CLAIM

notified Feeding our Future on December 2, 2021, that her interpretation of the laws and facts surrounding her October claim proved that Feeding our Future was not her legal sponsor for the months of October and possibly November. She went on to explain that she was working with Partners in Quality Care and MDE to have her October claim processed by the sponsor she was transferring to.

At the request of [redacted] Feeding our Future did not submit the October or November claim for All Star Academy, because we were informed that Kara Lomen from Partners in Quality Care would process her claim on her behalf.

SNIPS FROM DECEMBER 2, 2021 EMAIL FROM [redacted]

Entire email is attached.

As you stated, as of October 1, 2021, our transfer had not been approved. The law states we can only have one sponsor per month. Partners in Quality Care was still our sponsor.

At the same time, we have grounds to believe that you have not legally served as our sponsor. We would like Partners in Quality Care to work with MDE to process our claims for September – October. It appears you may have legally been our sponsor during November of 2021, but were out of compliance. We would like for you to change the transfer effective date to 11/1/2021 on the Site Transfer Form.

Sincerely,

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email

NOVEMBER 2021 CLAIM

Based on the emails Feeding our Future received from [redacted], All Star Academy did not want Feeding our Future to process their October or November claims. In addition, to [redacted]'s emails stating she wanted Partners in Quality Care to process claims, she has not submitted anything for the month of November.

If All Star Academy provides Feeding our Future with a menu, meal counts, attendance, and receipts we will begin the claim validation process and submit the November claim for payment. However, it is important to note that meals/snacks that cannot be supported with a menu, receipts, meal counts, and attendance will be disallowed.

CLOSING

Feeding our Future remains committed to helping community partners access the Child and Adult Care Food Program to feed the children they work with. Unfortunately, there are times when a site does not meet the meal pattern or other requirements and we are forced to disallow meals and snacks. Feeding our Future worked with [redacted] to provide her with the training and support needed to be successful in the program. Unfortunately, despite our best-efforts [redacted] failed to meet the requirements of a reimbursable meal. Again, Feeding our Future staff explained the rules and requirements for a valid claim and the reason that her September claim was less than she expected.



FEEDING OUR FUTURE

Feeding our Future remains willing to partner with All Star Academy to process valid claims. If MDE reviews the provided documents and determine that FOF was incorrect in their disallowances we request technical assistance to better understand how to better maximize the claim for All Star Academy

ATTACHMENTS

- September Claim Documents
- Disallowance – All Star Academy 9.21
- Milk Audit – All Star Academy 9.21
- Week of September 4 Claim Documents
- Week of September 11 Claim Documents
- Week of September 18 Claim Documents
- Week of September 25 Claim Documents

SEPTEMBER 2021 DISALLOWANCE



DISALLOWED MEALS/SNACK SUMMARY

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Name	All Star Academy	Site ID	9000018698
Month	September	Program	2021

DISALLOWS

SEPTEMBER 11, 2021

Breakfast	N/A	Lunch	N/A	Supper	-771
AM Snack	N/A	PM Snack	N/A	Ev. Snack	N/A

REASON

Based on the menu and receipts provided by _____ milk was not provide with supper on September 11, 2021. Milk is a required component of a reimbursable supper in the At-Risk Afterschool Program (7 CFR 226.2(a)(1)). Substitution of a non-dairy beverage that is nutritionally equivalent to fluid milk is allowed for children with special dietary needs. There is no nutritionally equivalent non-dairy beverage purchased on the receipts provided. In addition, "substitutions because of medical needs shall be made only when supported by a statement from a recognized medical authority which includes recommended alternate foods" 7 CFR 226(g)(1) – to date we have not received any Special Diet Statements signed by a recognized medical authority. String cheese is not nutritionally equivalent to milk and therefore is not an allowable substitution.

Based on the menu provided beans were to be served as the meat/meat alternate component. There are no beans on the receipts provided.

All September 11, 2021, suppers are disallowed due to no milk or meat/meat alternate.

CLAIM SUMMARY

A claim summary will be provided for the meals and snacks that will be submitted to MDE for September 2021

SEPTEMBER 2021 MILK AUDIT

Child and Adult Care Food Program

Monthly Milk Purchase Estimate

Complete this worksheet at the beginning of each month to help plan how much milk your facility will need to purchase during the month. Read the instructions below and enter information in the yellow boxes, as applicable. The number of gallons of milk needed for the month will be reflected at the bottom of the page. Keep a copy of the completed form at your facility. ISBE monitors will request this form during reviews.

CACFP regulations require milk as a meal component for breakfast, lunch and supper. It is an optional component for snack. You must purchase enough milk for the number of meals you intend to serve with milk as a component.

1. ENTER FACILITY NAME

All Star Academy

2. ENTER THE MONTH AND YEAR

September 2021

3. Estimate the total number of meals served daily that **require** milk. Complete only those meal services applicable to your facility's operation.

Enter # of days in the month meals will be served

CACFP Required Ounces

Total Ounces

Age 1-2 Breakfast	_____	x	_____	x	4	=	_____	0	
Age 3-5 Breakfast	_____	x	_____	x	6	=	_____	0	
Age 6-12 Breakfast	_____	x	_____	x	8	=	_____	0	
Age 1-2 Lunch	_____	x	_____	x	4	=	_____	0	
Age 3-5 Lunch	_____	x	_____	x	6	=	_____	0	
Age 6-12 Lunch	_____	x	_____	x	8	=	_____	0	
Age 1-2 Supper	_____	x	_____	x	4	=	_____	0	
Age 3-5 Supper	_____	x	_____	x	6	=	_____	0	
Age 6-12 Supper	_____	x	_____	x	8	=	_____	0	
	TOTAL SUPPERS		2375	x	1	x	8	=	19000

4. Estimate the total number of meals served that **do not require** milk but for which you may serve milk as one of the required components on your menu. Complete for each age group and meal service applicable to your facility's operation.

Enter # of days in the month snacks will be served with milk

CACFP Required Ounces

Total Ounces

Age 1-2 AM Snack	_____	x	_____	x	4	=	_____	0	
Age 3-5 AM Snack	_____	x	_____	x	4	=	_____	0	
Age 6-12 AM Snack	_____	x	_____	x	8	=	_____	0	
Age 1-2 PM Snack	_____	x	_____	x	4	=	_____	0	
Age 3-5 PM Snack	_____	x	_____	x	4	=	_____	0	
Age 6-12 PM Snack	_____	x	_____	x	8	=	_____	0	
	TOTAL SNACK		3146	x	1	x	8	=	25168

Total Ounces of Milk Needed for the Month

44168

Total Gallons of Milk Needed for the Month
(128 ounces = 1 gallon)

345

ALL STAR ACADEMY SEPTEMBER 2021			
	Attendance	Supper	Snack
9.4.21	737	737	737
9.11.21	771	0	771
9.18.21	814	814	814
9.25.21	824	824	824
TOTAL	3146	2375	3146

Subject: Re: Fw: Re: ALL STAR ACADEMY - SPONSOR TRANSFER

From: Aimee Bock <aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org>

Date: 12/1/2021, 6:21 PM

To: , "Honer, Emily (MDE)"

CC: Kara Lomen , "Monica.Herrera@feedingourfuturemn.org"

Please allow me to clarify, I asked for verification that you had received permission for us to back date the transfer to September because the CACFP federal regulations require the sponsor to have had oversight of All Star Academy in order to be able to submit a claim. Feeding our Future was your sponsor for the months of September, October, and November so we are the only organization that is legally allowed to submit claims for All Star Academy. In addition, only one sponsor is legally allowed to submit a claim for each month. Feeding our Future has already submitted your claim for September, so no other sponsor will be allowed to.

In the event that All Star Academy and/or Partners in Quality Care had received permission from the Minnesota Department of Education to submit these claims I did not want to be in the way, which is why I asked for documentation. I have already provided you with the transfer form which shows that November is the last month that Feeding our Future will submit a claim for - Partners in Quality Care will be able to submit claims beginning in December 2021. All sponsors are aware of the requirement that we have oversight of the programs we submit claims for. Sponsors are also aware that we are not allowed to sponsor or have oversight of a program that is already participating with another sponsor. It is unclear why you were informed you could submit past claims with a new sponsor, but that is not allowed under federal law.

As you are aware, we have paid all of the allowable September meals and snacks. When we met I explained to you that we are required to disallow the suppers that did not have milk provided. Please understand it is not that Feeding our Future does not want to pay you for those claims, it is that we are not legally able to. Milk or a nutritional equivalent beverage is a required component for suppers - string cheese is not an allowable substitution. I am attaching to this email the claim summary for September as well as the documentation we provided at the meeting regarding the meals that were being disallowed. Feeding our Future staff have reviewed all of your meal counts, attendance, menus, receipts, and completed a milk audit to maximize your September claim.

We are in the process of finalizing your October claim and will have it submitted as soon as it is ready.

Thanks,

Aimee

On Wed, Dec 1, 2021 at 3:02 PM
Hi Kara,

> wrote:

Good afternoon. I am following up with you about this email message I received from Aimee this morning. I'm not sure what problem she's trying to solve by not signing the transfer form as I requested indicating she would like to get documentation showing back process in September. I have sent her all documentations for September and October reimbursements, but yielded no payments. Does she want us to continue to be losing the sponsorship opportunity for the three months we have been with her without payments? I request she stops, not to worry because the sponsorship failed.

From any measure of assessments, Aimee is capable of sponsorship for us, but vehemently refuses to meet her expectations. She should let us transfer peacefully to your program. Please call or email for any questions. Thanks.

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

----- Original Message -----

On Tuesday, November 30th, 2021 at 8:14 PM, <aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org> wrote:

Please send documentation that they will process back to September so I can complete the form.

Thanks,

Aimee

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 30, 2021, at 6:05 PM,

wrote:

Hello Aimee,

I am writing to ask you to be kind enough to change the transfer effective date to start from September, not December. This will enable us to receive full reimbursement for the months you were unable to pay. The new sponsor is ready to help us. Please complete and return the site transfer form with a September transfer effective date. Please see the signed form we sent you on 11/23/2021 attached. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

<SEND-A(1).pdf>

<SEND(1).pdf>

--

Aimee Bock
Founder/Executive Director
Office: 612.345.4922
Cell
Fax: 651.379.8752
www.feedingourfuturemn.org

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Attachments:

Sept. 21 Disallowed Meals-Snack Summary All Star Academy.pdf	64.6 KB
Sept. 21 Claim Summary.pdf	102 KB
Meal Count SEPTEMBER CLIKER COUNT.pdf	121 KB
Sept 21 Menu.pdf	64.3 KB

Subject: Fw: RE: Sponsorship Issue - Feeding Our Future - All Star Academy

From:

Date: 10/27/2021, 5:16 PM

To: Aimee Bock <aimee@feedingourfuturemn.org>

CC: @feedingourfuturemn.org

Hi Aimee,

Good afternoon. I am forwarding this email for your review and consideration. Ms Monica from MDE who sent this email is right. I strongly believe we have the ability to work together and feed the kids. However, I am not in any position to choose how you want to support/work with us as our sponsor.

We have sent you the required documents for our September reimbursement, but have not received payment yet. Since we have not established direct payment, I would prefer to pick the check from your office. Please call or email for any questions.

Thanks.

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

----- Original Message -----

On Wednesday, October 27th, 2021 at 3:58 PM, Herrera, Monica (MDE)

Hello

We are reviewing your information. We've already advised you to speak to your sponsor so would continue to encourage you to keep trying that approach. We will review your information and send your sponsor a request to respond to your issues.

I did check our system and your site is approved in our system for claim submission (you already had that date). Sponsors can enter claim data on a weekly basis (usually by Friday at 5pm) monthly basis (usually the last day of the month).

If you submit a formal complaint (sent you the link already), that is also tracked and your sponsor will need to provide a response to the complaint.

Monica L. Herrera

From:

Sent: Monday, October 25, 2021 2:12 PM

To: Herrera, Monica (MDE)

Subject: Re: Sponsorship Issue - Feeding Our Future - All Star Academy

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Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Hi Monica,

Good afternoon and I hope you're well. I was wondering if you have hard time to look into the payment problem with Feeding Our Future. Please I need your help in resolving this issue at this level and soon to enable the continuation of our program.

We started providing kids food since January and we have not had this type of issue and I have no clue the best approach in resolving payment issue from a sponsor. Please do your best to help us and call or email for any questions. Thanks.

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

- - - - - Original Message - - - - -
On Friday, October 22nd, 2021 at 4:20 PM,
wrote:

Good afternoon, Monica.

I want to thank you again for speaking for me on the phone call we had this afternoon. It was very helpful to speak with someone on this issue as I would like to resolve this expeditiously.

I understand during our conversation that you initially would like for the program and the sponsor to resolve the issues together, however, I have run into an impasse as to how to move forward. To provide further detail of the current issue, these are the events that have occurred thus far:

- On September 30th, I provided Aimee Bock and Feeding Our Future MN, the sponsor for the All Star Academy Food program, four weeks' worth of receipts for reimbursement via email.
 - On October 7, 2021, Aimee Bock responded back via email and said she would submit the receipts for reimbursement.
-

- After not receiving any payment or hearing from Feeding our Future since October 7th, on October 21, 2021, I called Feeding our Future and spoke with Hani, Aimee Bock' s assistant, about not hearing back regarding the receipts I submitted on September 30th.
- It was during that phone call with Hani, Aimee came on the call and stated that she was not going to reimburse us and was going to provide us with a transfer form because as she stated "was not meeting my needs" .
- During that same phone call, Aimee claimed that the receipts were either missing or there were some discrepancies. At that point, in order for the reimbursement to go through, I rechecked all receipts and resubmitted them to Aimee Bock on October 21, 2021.
- We sent a follow-up email on October 22, 2021 to ensure they received the documentation and so we can receive a reimbursement for the funds we spent.
- At this time we have not received a call or email from Feeding Our Future regarding if they 1) received the resubmission receipts or 2) send us reimbursement as Aimee stated on October 7, 2021 via email that she would.

What is concerning is that at no point did Aimee communicate to me, either via phone or email, for the past four weeks that there were issues with the receipts I submitted on September 30th. I would have gladly rechecked my documentation to ensure everything would go through.

Now almost a month later, I am being told that I am not going to get reimbursed, even though I have followed the proper procedure.

At this point, I would like to:

- 1) Seek assistance in getting reimbursed for September 2021, and;
- 2) File a formal complaint against Aimee Bock as the communication has not been forthright, has been inconsistent, and has not been compliant as a sponsor of this program.

The attachments to support this will be sent to you in separate emails.
Your help in mitigating this situation now is greatly appreciated.

All the best,

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

From: "Honer, Emily (MDE)'

To:

Cc: Khadiia Ali

"Morioka, Priya"

Herrera, Monica (MDE)"

"Johnson-Reed, Jeanette (MDE)"

Subject: RE: Summer site status - Action for East African People

Date: Mon, 27 Sep 2021 20:07:22 +0000

Importance: Normal

MDE will not act as mediation between a site and sponsor- the parties need to come to a resolution on their own.

Emily Honer, MBA
Supervisor, Business Operations support Services

Minnesota Department of Education
1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113
education.mn.gov

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 2:07 PM

To: Honer, Emily (MDE)

Cc: Khadija Ali

Morioka, Priya

; Herrera, Monica (MDE)

Johnson-Reed, Jeanette (MDE)

Subject: Re: Summer site status - Action for East African People

Hello Emily,

Thank you for your prompt and detailed reply. We do not feel like Feeding Our Future will submit our claims for the summer site at Portland Ave because they did not have oversight of the site. GGFS approved of Action for East African People to distribute food at the site and it was understood by both parties that GGFS was our sponsor for this summer site. AFEAP was unaware that GGFS' site application was never submitted because we were given the approval to begin distributing food.

As we stated in the letter, AFEAP's Executive Director, Ayan Abukar, has attempted to follow up with GGFS at their office at least five times and has called Khadija Ali numerous times to no avail. When Abukar goes to the GGFS office, the staff tell her that she must talk to Khadija Ali and they refuse to schedule a meeting.

Originally, Khadija Ali agreed that GGFS would submit the claims. Now they are unresponsive and we do not understand why.

Would you be willing to please set a time for a mediation between GGFS and AFEAP in order to resolve this issue?

Thank you so much for your time,

On 2021-09-27 08:33, Honer, Emily (MDE) wrote:

- > Hello everyone,
- >
- > I want to provide input and recommendations on the ongoing
- > communication.
- >
- > From the information in CLiCS and provided by Partners in Quality Care
- > (PIQC), Action for East African People (AFEAP), and Gar Gaar Family
- > Services (GGFS), the following is what I understand:
- >
- > Site Location: 8735 Portland Ave
- > * PIQC has a site ID (Crossings at Valley View) for this location -
- > approved application
- > * FOF has a site ID (Action for East African People) for this
- > location- application not approved
- > * GGFS has a site ID (GGFS-Bloomington) for this location -
- > application not submitted
- >
- > The sponsors of the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) take
- > responsibility in the oversight of the meal service, claims, and
- > documentation. MDE will not force a sponsor to claim for a site they
- > do not feel they had correct and appropriate oversight of.
- >
- > Recommendations:
- > 1. Kara and AFEAP - it appears your site was working with Feeding Our
- > Future as a sponsor. Recommend you work with them on a resolution.
- > 2. Kara and PIQC- from information you provided, you were not
- > operating a SFSP site nor did you have oversight. Recommend you
- > remove from the situation.
- > 3. Khadija and GGFS - it appears there could be miscommunication of
- > who this site was operating with. Recommend you go back to the
- > site operator and clarify.
- >
- > Additionally, I would like to notify all of you that the City of
- > Bloomington Health Department inspector, Kara, contacted MDE
- > back in August to inform us that she should not make contact with
- > anyone regarding this site (vendor or site operator) and had not
- > tested any food. Any site that is operating the SFSP must meet local
- > health, safety, and sanitation standards. Meals that do not follow
- > the health guidelines or meals that are not distributed in accordance
- > with MN Department of Health (and local) standards will be disallowed.
- >
- >
- >
- > Emily Honer, MBA

> Supervisor, Business Operations support Services
>
> Minnesota Department of Education
> 1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113 education.mn.gov
>
>
>
>
>

> -----Original Message-----

> From:
> Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 5:58 PM
> To: Khadija Ali
> Cc: Honer, Emily (MDE) ; Morioka, Priya
>
> ; Herrera, Monica (MDE)
>
> Johnson-Reed, Jeanette (MDE)
>
> Subject: Re: Summer site status - Action for East African People
>

> This message may be from an external email source.
> Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all
> suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.
>
>

> _____
>
> Good evening Emily, Monica, Jeanette, Kara, Khadija and GGFS staff,
>
> Please find our response to the letter from GGFS attached. To clarify,
> I am the Director of Business Development at Action for East African
> People. Our Executive Director, has served as the point
> of contact with GGFS for the summer food site.
>

> Thank you so much for your time,
>
>
>

> On 2021-09-23 14:34, Khadija Ali wrote:

>> Emily,
>>
>> Please find our response to the message being forwarded attached.
>>

>> Yours,
>>

>> Khadija Ali
>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From:
>> Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 11:14 AM
>> To: Khadija Ali
>> Subject: Fwd: Summer site status - Action for East African People
>>

>> Hello Khadija,

>>

>> I work for Action for East African People. I meant to CC you on the
>> email below, I apologize. I am forwarding the email to you now in
>> order to let you know that we've sent MDE an email to inquire about
>> our summer site at 8735 Portland Ave S Bloomington 55420.

>>

>> Thank you for your time,

>

>>

>> ----- Original Message -----

>> Subject: Summer site status - Action for East African People

>> Date: 2021-09-22 09:39

>> From:

>> To: "Honer, Emily (MDE)" "Herrera, Monica
>> (MDE)" , "Johnson-Reed, Jeanette (MDE)"

>>

>> Cc: Action Care Community Clinic

>> <

>> Kara

>>

>> Hello,

>>

>> I've reached out in the past regarding a few things and I just want
>> to thank you all for your replies and help so far! I really
>> appreciate it.

>>

>> I wanted to ask you about one of AFEAP's summer sites. We were
>> distributing food all summer at 8735 Portland Ave S Bloomington 55420.
>> Gar Gaar Family Service was monitoring the site but all parties were
>> unaware that the site was actually under Partners in Quality Care's
>> name.

>>

>> Kara at PIQC is willing to submit our claims for the summer program.
>> Both Kara and Gar Gaar have sent you emails to inquire about this
>> issue.

>> We wanted to follow up with you to make sure that we can get our
>> claims submitted. To be clear, Action for East African People was
>> serving the food at this summer site (2021) because it was also our
>> Fall site in
>> 2020 and still is our Fall site for this year.

>>

>> Thank you so much,

>>

>

> --

>

> Director of Business Development

> Action for East African People (AFEAP) Action Care Community Clinic &

> Dental

>

>

> Cell

> Office:

Director of Business Development

Action for East African People (AFEAP)

Action Care Community Clinic & Dental

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[url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.afeap.org%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjeanette.johnson-](http://www.afeap.org)

[reed%40state.mn.us%7C2d779f8bcc574dcccff3308d981f26b0d%7Ceb14b04624c445198f26b89c2159828c%](http://www.afeap.org)

[7C0%7C0%7C637683700433123757%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQ](http://www.afeap.org)

[IjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=%2BcVjsIouBrfIfLI1fLbh%2](http://www.afeap.org)

Cell:

Office.