



## Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

Food Package Review Work Group

November 28, 2023

### Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 FDPIR Food Package Review Workgroup Meeting Minutes

Voting Member		Voting Member	
Mary Greene-Trottier (NAFDPIR President)		Joe Van Alstine (MWR VP)	x
Rex Hailey (NAFDPIR Parliamentarian)		Gloria Goodwin (MWR)	x
Jaime Prouty (NAFDPIR Treasurer)		Tonya Laurent (MRW Nutritionist)	x
Marisa Fuller (NAFDPIR Secretary)	x	Perry Martinez (SW VP)	x
Debbie Reyes – Gardipee (WR VP)	x	Connie Martinez (SWR)	
AC Sanchez (WRR)		Connie Black (SWR Nutritionist)	x
Carla Patterson (WR Nutritionist)	x	Janell Conway (HQ FNS Nutritionist)	x
<i>Vacant</i> (MP VP)		Brianna Dumas (CDC Nutritionist)	
Blake Garrison (MPR)			
Mara Wack (MPR Nutritionist)	x		

Non-Voting Attendees	Non-Voting Attendees
<b>FNS HQ Support Staff</b>	Taher Arastu (Policy Division)
Kristin Garcia (Food Safety and Nutrition)	Samantha Prins (Policy Division)
Tina Hanes (Food Safety and Nutrition)	Shenique Bridges (Program Integrity)
Katie O'Donnell (Food Safety and Nutrition)	Barbara Lopez (Program Integrity)
Lisa Mays (Food Safety and Nutrition)	Blair Tucker-Gruchala (Program Integrity)
Kati Burton (Food Safety and Nutrition)	Katie Clifford (Funding and Technology)
Laura Castro (Operations Division)	<b>FNS RO Support Staff</b>
Danielle Lyons (Operations Division)	Sabina Velasco (MPR FNS)
Christina Riley (Operations Division)	Jessica Finn (MPR FNS)
Jaimie Griffin (Operations Division)	Holly Williams (SWR FNS)
Amber Grigley (Operations Division)	Devin Wilcox-McCombs (WRO FNS)
Rachel Schoenian (Policy Division)	<b>FNS Tribal Affairs</b>
Polly Fairfield (Policy Division)	Natalie Christopherson



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### I. Welcome and Attendance

- a. FNS confirmed attendees and provided an overview of the agenda.

### II. Buttery Spread Update

- a. FNS provided an update on the status of buttery spread. The vendor has updated their SAM registration and is now in compliance.
- b. FNS will submit orders to AMS and if the solicitation is successful, buttery spread is expected to be available next quarter.

### III. Oil Category

- a. FNS provided an overview of the recent guide rate enhancements that were implemented on September 1, 2023.
- b. FNS acknowledged that adding olive oil to the food package presented an opportunity to update the Oil Category which would simplify how the products are distributed and align it with other guide rate categories.
- c. FNS shared a handout that displayed both the current and updated Oil category and the three factors that were considered: volume of oil/butter households are offered each month, nutritional contribution to the food package, and overall cost.
- d. FNS provided an overview to the Workgroup of the changes made to the Oil Category (see chart below). Each item in the Oil Category was assigned a unit value and the total number of units a household can receive remained consistent with the current Guide Rate.

OIL								
Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Units	4	4	6	6	9	9	12	12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One 48 oz. bottle of vegetable oil is treated as 3 units.</li> <li>• One 16 oz. package of butter is treated as 3 units.</li> <li>• One 15 oz. tub of light buttery spread is treated as 1 unit.</li> <li>• One 16 oz. bottle of olive oil is treated as 1 unit. (Limit of 1 unit of olive oil per household.)</li> </ul>								

- e. The Workgroup responded positively to the update, noting the increased variety for 1 and 2-person households compared to the current Guide Rate. The Workgroup observed that it would not be difficult to explain the changes to participants and recommended providing recipes and nutrition education on olive oil to support participant health.
- f. The Workgroup asked FNS to clarify the number of units a household larger than 8 would receive. FNS confirmed that households with 9 and 10 individuals would be offered 15 units per month and that information could be included on the Guide Rate.
- g. The Workgroup requested clarification on the limit of one bottle of olive oil per household. FNS shared the unique aspects about this product and why a limit was established, which included:
  - i. There is only one vendor able to supply the product.
  - ii. This is a new vendor and there is no established precedent for performance.



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- iii. Recent weather damaged crops in Europe and domestic vendors may need to support commercial demand which may increase the price and limit supply for USDA.
- iv. Program participation is increasing, but the rate of increase is unknown.
- h. FNS reiterated the overall goal to ensure every household can take olive oil. The Workgroup will revisit this limit once the industry stabilizes.

### **IV. Next steps**

- a. The next phase of Guide rate enhancements which includes an additional 2 units of vegetables, 1 unit of meat, poultry, and fish, and the three new foods (olive oil, frozen low-sodium turkey deli meat, and frozen vegetable stir fry blend) is tentatively scheduled to be implemented June 1, 2024.
- b. FNS is actively working with AMS to procure the three new foods and will provide the Workgroup updates as they are available.
- c. The next Workgroup meeting remains tentative until a meeting schedule is finalized.