

Food and Nutrition  
Service

May 2, 2020

1320 Braddock Place  
Alexandria, VA  
22314

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Disaster Household Distribution in Response to the National Emergency Declaration Due to COVID-19

**TO:** Cheryl Kennedy  
Regional Administrator  
Mountain Plains Regional Office

This memorandum is in response to the Northern Cheyenne Tribe's request to use U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Foods to operate disaster household distribution. This request is in response to food assistance needs resulting from the COVID-19 National Emergency declared by the President of the United States on March 13, 2020.

Northern Cheyenne Tribe, which administers the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), requested that USDA approve the use of USDA Foods from FDPIR for disaster household distribution. The disaster household distribution food package will be provided to households in need of food assistance. Northern Cheyenne Tribe will utilize on-site pickup from its main food distribution facility as well as provide mobile distribution and home delivery services to distribute the disaster household distribution food packages.

**Approval is granted for disaster household distribution beginning May 2, 2020 through May 31, 2020.** This approval allows Northern Cheyenne Tribe to provide disaster assistance to up to 625 individuals. The following foods are approved for the disaster household distribution food package for a household of one-to-two members, which is an adjustment of the foods requested:

- 2 cans of meat
- 4 cans of vegetables, including dehydrated potatoes
- 2 cans of fruit or 2 units of dried fruit
- 1 juice
- 1 flour or bakery mix
- 1 peanut butter
- 1 unit of dried beans
- 1 cereal (hot or cold)
- 2 pastas, rice, or crackers
- 2 soups

For larger households, Northern Cheyenne Tribe has approval to provide additional disaster household distribution food packages based on household size. For example, a household of four could receive two disaster household distribution food packages.

## **Terms of Approval:**

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is approving Northern Cheyenne Tribe's request under the following terms:

1. Northern Cheyenne Tribe must provide on a weekly basis beginning May 2, 2020 an estimate of: 1) the amount of FDPIR inventory used for the disaster household distributions; and 2) the number of persons served under disaster household distribution.
2. Please conduct outreach and distribution efforts in a manner to ensure that households that are suffering significant economic losses or significant food access challenges due to COVID-19 are served first.
3. Approval for disaster household distribution is granted through May 31, 2020. Existing FDPIR inventories must be utilized to operate a disaster household distribution including orders placed and scheduled for delivery. Please keep in mind that replacement foods may not be available for delivery until July 2020 and beyond.

## **Authority**

The approval of disaster household distribution of USDA Foods is in accordance with FNS regulations at 7 CFR 250.69. Northern Cheyenne Tribe must provide a summary report via the FNS-292A form within 45 days following termination of the disaster household distribution. The information reported on the FNS-292A is the location of distribution sites, the number of persons served, and the type and quantity of USDA Foods distributed.



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Supplemental Nutrition and Safety Programs