

Food and Nutrition
Service

March 27, 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 Northern Arapaho Tribe's request to use U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Foods to operate disaster household distribution on Northern Arapaho's Indian Reservation and in surrounding near areas off-reservation where many Tribal members currently live. 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 Arapaho 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 Tribal households quarantined due to COVID-19 and in need of food assistance for a total of approximately 100 households served weekly. Northern Arapaho Tribe will utilize home delivery services to provide the disaster household distribution food package to impacted Tribal members.

Approval is granted for disaster household distribution beginning March 28, 2020 through April 26, 2020. 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:

- 4 cans of vegetables
- 2 cans of fruit or 2 units of dried fruit
- 1 juice
- 1 flour
- 1 peanut butter
- 1 cereal
- 1 crackers
- 2 beans
- 1 pasta
- 2 cans of meat

For larger households, Northern Arapaho 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 Arapaho Tribe's request under the following terms:

1. Northern Arapaho Tribe must provide on a weekly basis beginning the week of March 30, 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 April 26, 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 Arapaho 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.



Diane M. Kriviski
Deputy Administrator
Supplemental Nutrition and Safety Programs