[DATE]

The Food and Nutrition Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA FNS) is conducting the *Feasibility of Tribal Administration of Federal Nutrition Assistance Programs Survey*. This survey is part of an effort to determine the feasibility of Tribal administration of Federal nutrition assistance programs in lieu of State agencies or other administrating entities. Specifically, this survey will ask about your Tribes' interest in administering certain Federal nutrition programs as well as your Tribes' current capacity to administer these programs. IMPAQ International, LLC, is administering the survey for USDA FNS. IMPAQ is an independent research firm with more than 10 years of experience in providing program evaluation and data collection services to DOL and other Federal and state agencies.

The purpose of the *Feasibility* survey is to gauge the interest Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs) have in administering specific USDA FNS nutrition programs and to learn about the existing infrastructure and resources of ITOs in relation to the requirements associated with administering these programs. The survey should take 30 minutes to complete, and your participation is voluntary. Your answers will be kept private to the extent permitted by law, you will not be asked to provide personal identifiers such as your name or address, and you will never be identified in any report based on the survey.

Within the next few days, you will receive an email with an invitation to participate in the online survey. The email will come from XXXXXX@impaqint.com and the subject line will read **FNS Tribal Feasibility Survey**. You will also receive a hard copy in the mail, with a postage-paid response envelope. We encourage you to complete this survey, either online or in hard copy. You may also complete the survey over the telephone. If you wish to complete the survey by phone, please call (800) XXX-XXXX (toll free) to schedule an appointment. Your Tribe's experience is important, and this is a unique opportunity to share your ideas. Your participation in the survey will help inform our report to Congress.

As a small token of our appreciation, all individuals who submit a completed survey will have their names entered into a lottery to win one of ten \$200.00 VISA gift cards.

If you would like to discuss your participation in the *Feasibility of Tribal Administration of Federal Nutrition Assistance Programs Survey*, please contact Amy Djangali at (443) 539-1396 or <u>adjangali@impaqint.com</u>.

We sincerely appreciate your attention to this research and look forward to your feedback!

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0584-XXXX. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 4 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

OMB Control Number: 0584-XXXX

<u>Feasibility of Tribal Administration of</u> Federal Nutrition Assistance Programs Survey Summary of FNS Nutrition Programs

[DATE]

1. Supplementary Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP is the largest nutritional assistance program, which served an average of 48 million Americans in 2013 with an average of \$133 monthly. Participants use these benefits to purchase food from over 230,000 approved retailers nationwide.

FNS administers SNAP together with the States. The States either administer SNAP at the country or State level, with most States choosing the latter. In addition, States currently administer SNAP on Indian Reservations.

2. National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Authorized by the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act of 1946, and last amended by the Agricultural Act of 2014, the NSLP provides free or reduced-prices lunches to children through schools and residential care institutions. In 2013, the NSLP provided lunches to an average of 30 million children every day.

FNS administers the NSLP with designated State agencies, typically education or human services. States use School Food Authorities, who provide the lunches. FNS then reimburses the SFA through the States.

3. School Breakfast Program (SBP)

The Child Nutrition Act of 1966, last amended by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 created the School Breakfast Program. Similar to the NSLP, the SBP provides free and reduced-price breakfast to children. In 2013, the SBP served breakfast to over 13 million children.

4. Child and Adult Food Program (CACFP)

Authorized by the National School Lunch Act, CACFP helps children in child and adult care institutions and family group or day care homes with nutritious meals by providing aid to the institutions. In 2013, CACFP provided meals and snack to more than 3 million children and 120,000 adults.

FNS administers CACFP by awarding grants to States, typically through education, health or social service agency.

5. Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

The SFSP complements the NSLP and SBP by providing free meals to children from low-income areas during the summer months when they are out of school. The SFSP, authorized by the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, and last amended by the Agricultural Act of 2014, also provides morning snack and supper to children. In 2013, the SFSP served more than 2 million children.

FNS operates the SFSP together with States, who then use Sponsors to provide the meals directly to Sites. A Sponsor may operate more than one site.

6. Afterschool Snack Program

Operating under the NLSP, the Afterschool Snack Program offers snack to children in public and nonprofit private schools and residential childcare institutions. In 2013, 26,000 schools and institutions participated in the Afterschool Snack Program.

FNS administers the program together with States, usually education agencies, which then work with local school food authorities.

7. Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)

Authorized by the Farm Security AND Rural Investment Act of 2002, The FFVP aims to improve children's overall diet and create healthy eating habits my providing fresh fruits and vegetables to children participating elementary schools.

FNS administers the FFVP together with the States, typically State education agencies who then operate the program through school food authorities.

8. Special Milk Program (SMP)

The SMP provides milk to children in schools, camps, and childcare institutions who do not participate in other Federal meal programs. In 2012, the SMP provided over 60 million half-pints of milk to children.

FNS administers the program through States, typically working with State education agencies, who then deliver the milk through public or nonprofit private schools and eligible camps. In 2012, over 3,600 schools and residential care institutions participated in the SMP.

9. Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

WIC provides low-income, nutritionally at risk pregnant and breastfeeding women, infants, and children up to age five (5). The Child Nutrition Act of 1966 authorized WIC. In 2013, WIC served almost 9 million women, infants, and children with monthly food instruments to buy specific foods from over 47,000 approved retailers.

FNS administers WIC in conjunction with States, typically the departments of health, social services or agriculture. States vary in their mode of distribution of WIC benefits. Most States deliver WIC benefits through food instruments, others use electronic benefit cards, and a few distribute WIC foods directly to participants.

10. Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

FDPIR provides USDA foods to low-income households living on Indian Reservations. Established in 1973 by the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act and authorized by the Food and Nutrition Act of (2008), FDPIR is administered by 100 Indian and Tribal Organizations that service 276 Tribes. Households cannot participate in both SNAP and FDPIR.

11. Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)

The CSFP provides elderly low-income people with nutritious USDA foods.

USDA works with States to administer the program by providing funds for the food and the administrative costs.

12. Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

TEFAP provides families and individuals with emergency food and nutrition assistance at no cost. USDA provides the food directly to States who then give the food to selected local agencies such as food banks. These agencies then supply the food to soup kitchens and food banks.

13. Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)

Established in 1992 by Congress, FMNP works alongside WIC and SNAP to provide fresh, unprepared, locally grown fruits and vegetables to WIC participants. In 2013, FMNP served 1.5 million WIC participants with fresh fruits and vegetables.

FNS administers the FMNP program in partnership with State. FNS provides cash grants to Stage agencies, usually agriculture or health departments. Participants receive coupons to purchase eligible foods from approved farmers, farmers' markets or roadside stands.

14. Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)

Similar to FMNP, SFMNP provides coupons to eligible low-income seniors to purchase eligible fresh fruits and vegetables from approved farmers' markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture programs.