



5-20-08
AA

Muscogee (Creek) Nation

PRINCIPAL CHIEF

A.D. Ellis

SECOND CHIEF

Alfred Berryhill

May 14, 2008

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF

PO Box 580

(HWY 75, Loop 56)

Okmulgee, OK 74447

918.732.7600

Lillie F. Ragan, Assistant Branch Chief
Policy Branch, Food Distribution Division
Food and Nutrition Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture
3101 Park Center Drive, Room 506
Alexandria, Virginia 22302

Dear Ms. Ragan:

I am writing to express appreciation to Mr. Roberto Salazar on behalf of the Muscogee Nation's Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) for his decision to implement a funding methodology based on each region's share of the national participation and FDPIR programs. As part of the Southwest Region, the Muscogee Nation has been in support of a methodology that reflects participation as a cost driver.

The long awaited increase in funding received by our Food Distribution Program has allowed us to improve services to our 2800 monthly participants. We have been able to replace a worn out truck for tailgates and to start home delivery service to disabled and elderly households having a difficult time getting to distribution sites. One benefit we are greatly anticipating is providing improved, increased and in-depth nutrition education to our program participants.

The Muscogee Nation FDPIR's goal is to provide with respect and dignity a much needed service to our people and we appreciate the efforts of Mr. Salazar and his staff in working with us in ways to continue to improve this service. We would also like to take the opportunity at this time to applaud the efforts in improving the quality and nutritional content of the food package. We look forward to continuing in our mutual efforts for the betterment of the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations.

Sincerely,

A. D. Ellis, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation