

Innovations in Nutrition Pilot Programs



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Proposals

Phase One: Congregate Dining Site Modernization

The first aim of this initiative is to modernize the way that units from programs are being tracked within our dining sites and back within the county office. By implementing scanners and key tags the hopes is to be able to track the clients and the programming they attend daily within our congregate and senior centers.

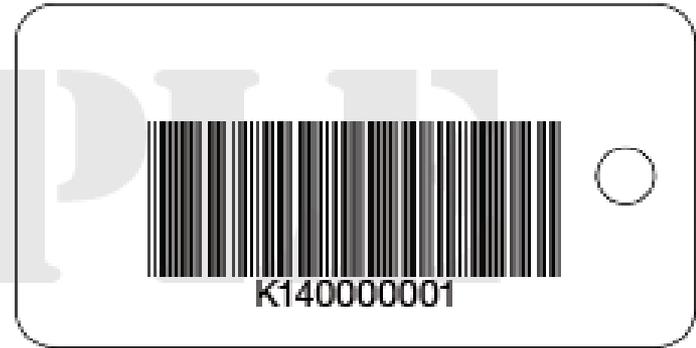
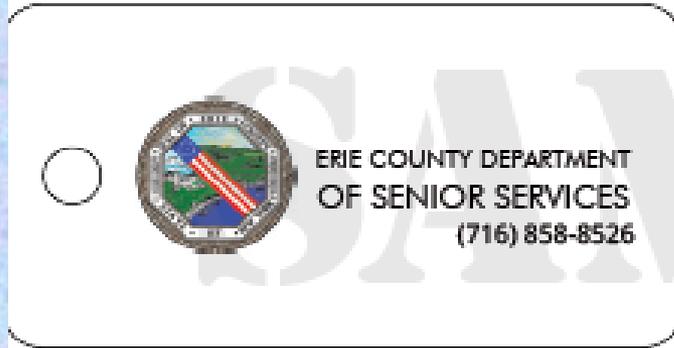
With daily unit uploads, we hope to not only alleviate the burden of keeping monthly attendance sheets, but entering the units by office staff. Erie County has 50 congregate dining sites and Albany County has 19 congregate dining sites. Some of these sites have as many as 300 registered clients, which both site staff and office staff have to go over to see who had units of service each month. This leads not only to wasted paper, but also takes up time of both staffs to track, add and enter monthly.

Phase Two: Go & Dine-Restaurant **Dining Program**

The second proposal of this initiative is a Restaurant Dining Program which we have named Go & Dine. Both Albany and Erie County have identified locally run establishment within various sections of each county to reach hard to serve residents with a nutritious meal that meets the daily 1/3 requirements of nutrition.

Each county has multiple locations that serves many different types of cuisines in the hopes that having not only the choice of where to eat, but also when to eat, and with who they want to eat. The hopes of this program was to decrease social isolation and increase the ability to serve residents in each county. The incorporation of ethnic restaurants has been a focus in order to reach hard residents of the immigrant and refugee populations of each county.

Key Tags & Scanners



Identifying Restaurants

Both Albany and Erie County have identified restaurants within their respective counties that are in areas where hard to serve clients were identified.

Albany County identified their restaurants through past experiences of dining with them. By identifying both traditional and non-traditional (Halal, Middle Eastern) sites, Albany County determined that they would be able to reach populations they may not see at a traditional congregate dining sites. These in person meet and greets were able to start conversations on how these restaurants can help serve individuals from the communities they are a part of.

Erie County identified the West Side Bazaar and the restaurant vendors within, Peg's Place in Hamburg and Cozy Corner in the southern rural section of Erie County. These locations focused on not only hard to reach clients, but also low income, refugee and immigrant residents who may not have a congregate site that could suit their nutritional needs.

Go & Dine Restaurants

Erie County:



Albany County:



EMMA CLEARY'S



BOB'S DINER



Sanitation/HAACP Training

- NYS Sanitary Code 14-1
- Handwashing and Proper Glove Use
- Food Service Worker Personal Hygiene Requirements
- Three Compartment Sink Wash Sequence
- Sanitizer Solution Policy
- Understanding the “Danger Zone” Time & Temperature Range
- Time & Temperature Records For Food Production:
 - Hot Hold:** 140°F↑ **Cold Foods:** 45°F↓
 - Cooling:** 140°F to 70°F in 2Hours,
And From 70°F to 45°F In An Additional 4 Hours
- Corrective Actions

Expectations of Participants

- 1. You must be 60 years or older, and a resident of Erie or Albany County.**
- 2. A registration form must be FULLY COMPLETED by the participant in order to start be a part of the Restaurant Dining program.**
- 3. The costs of the meals are covered by Erie and Albany County, but all gratuities and costs of items not pre-approved by Erie or Albany County are expected to be paid by participant.**
- 4. The meals for participants are to be eaten at the establishment they were ordered from. No take out is allowed, however, you may take home any portion of the meal you were unable to finish.**
- 5. The meal is for the participant of the Restaurant Dining Program only. We expect participants not to use their meals to cover any person's meal other than their own. Participants who are caught to be doing so will be removed from the program.**
- 6. Participants will be required to present both their key tag and voucher at beginning of dining experience. This will ensure the fidelity of the program.**
- 7. Participants will be asked periodically to answer short surveys about the program, and Erie and Albany County expect full participation in these surveys.**

Successes Thus Far

Thus far we have had many success in implementing both the Congregate Modernization Initiative as well as the Go & Dine Program. In regards to the Go & Dine, we have had many seniors trying different cuisines within Erie County through the various vendors within the West Side Bazaar. We hope that through this process that we can build bridges within our immigrant and refugee communities. Being able to engage resident we don't normally have interactions with has provided us many opportunities to find out the issues and problems these populations are experiencing.

Site managers for the congregate dining programs have all been excited during the rollout of the scanners and key tags. All parties seem to be very happy with the reduction of the paperwork and the time it used to take to add up and enter all the client units. The sites do use a few different methods of guest check-in and scanning, but all seem not to be having any difficulty in terms of using the scanners and key tags for the congregate program. Some site directors have even asked about using the scanners for other programs that take place within the centers such as AMP, C/DSMP, University Express (continued learning courses), MOB and Fitness classes.

Questions Anyone?!?!



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