

Summer Feeding Program's Safe Handling of Food Training



Pictured above from left to right are: Virginia Price, Site Coordinator, Elizabeth Stubbin, Teacher Assistant, Josephine Hampton, Cook, Mary Sutton, Teacher Assistant, Annie Ruth McIntee, Cook, and Lisa Bryant, Trainer and Dooly County School Nutrition Director

A few days ago, Mrs. Bryant was contacted by Ms. Linda Lloyd, Executive Director of a drug education program, in reference to the Dooly County School Nutrition Program possibly feeding breakfast to students who are registered in the program. The program is being held at the Families First Empowerment Center in Unadilla. After Mrs. Bryant and Ms. Lloyd met on June 9th, Ms. Lloyd learned that the Georgia Department of Education has to give approval for summer feeding. She also learned that some of her staff members would need to be trained on how to keep food safe. The training took place on June 10th at the feeding site. Some topics that were discussed were: Providing Safe Food, The Microworld, Contamination, Food Allergens, Food Born Illness, and The Safe Handler. During the training, some of the workers were shocked about what can cause a person to become sick and how rapidly a person's body starts to react to pathogens, bacteria, viruses, which is the number one cause of food borne illnesses, parasites, and mold. Among the many recommendations about handling food safely, the group learned that infants, children, pregnant women, elderly people and people with compromised immune systems, are at high risk for food borne illnesses.

Lastly, the ladies learned how important proper hand washing is to keeping food safe. Mrs. Bryant demonstrated how to properly wash your hands. The ladies thanked Mrs. Bryant for enlightening them on how to keep food safe.

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