

ASCOG
802 W. Main
Duncan, OK 73533-1647

Re: Request for Change of Status (Satellite to Cooking Site) at Walters Nutrition Site

Dear Mr. Jones,

After careful consideration, MaddieLuke Nutrition Ltd. Co. has determined the nutrition site at Walters should be converted from the current satellite status (SFY 2016) to a cooking site for the next contract year. We are requesting an emergency approval for such change of status for SFY 2017 (July 1, 2016).

On December 29th 2015, the Town of Temple Nutrition Project sent a letter to ASCOG notifying them that they were withdrawing from providing services to the Walters Nutrition Site. This was done in accordance with contract section 5.0 Termination. The reason for their request was based on a disagreement with the Walters Activity Fund regarding the use of donation money held by the Walters Activity Fund.

On January 12, ASCOG staff held a public forum at the Walters Nutrition Site to discuss the anticipated closure of the site. Most feedback was negative toward requesting transportation from Walters to Temple. Some participants requested to receive home delivered meals because of their disability and the difficulty involved in riding the bus to Temple. The former site manager of the Walters Site was signing in names for people who were allegedly not receiving meals. Upon discovery of that practice, the Town of Temple terminated that employee. A new Walters Site Manager (Norma Smith) was hired for this position.

After discussion with ASCOG in an effort to maintain continuity of services for the community of Walters, the Temple Nutrition Project agreed to continue service delivery to the Walters Nutrition Site for the remainder of SFY 2016, serving approximately 25-30 (congregate/HDM) meals per day at Walters, which meets requirements in OAC 340:105-10-68. However due to continued conflict between community municipalities and nutrition sites, the Temple Nutrition Project has declined to continue providing meal service delivery for SFY 2017.

In accordance with OAC 340:105-10-86 MaddieLuke Nutrition Ltd. Co. is requesting emergency consideration of this request approval, to change the status of the Walters Nutrition Site from a "satellite to cooking site" effective SFY 2017 (July 1, 2016), with the first projected meal service delivery on July 11th 2016.

Per OAC 340:105-10-86 (1), copies of the most current health department and fire and safety inspections are enclosed.

Per OAC 340:105-10-86 (2) (A-K):

- (A) The Change of Status (from Satellite to Cooking Site) is requested due to withdrawal of the current service provider (Temple Nutrition Program) for SFY 2017, anticipated budget cuts, and in order to comply with OAC 340:105-10-68.
- (B) The Walters Activity Fund contains over \$10,000. According to leadership of that fund, the site intends to provide assistance coupled with Title III funding to maintain continuity of service. Additionally, ASCOG provided CENA funding for the Walters Senior Center which is located in another part of the City of Walters.
- (C) Cotton County has only four communities, Walters, Temple, Randlett, and Devol. The site at Randlett was closed in SFY 2011 due to lack of participation. Some Devol participants attend the nearby Grandfield Senior Center which is funded by ASCOG.
- (D) Unserved areas of Cotton County, according to ranking for priority in future funding are Randlett followed by Devol.
- (E) According to the County-level Census, Cotton County has approximately 1,331 seniors aged 60 and older. The county is predominantly low-income with approximately 17.8% below poverty and is all rural. There are very few minorities with an estimation of only 12 minority residents over 60. Likewise, the 35 seniors currently served during the SFY 2016 at the site are all rural and predominately low income.
- (F) Cotton County has approximately 1,331 seniors aged 60 and older.
- (G) The Walters Nutrition Site previously served approximately 18 meals per day prior to the site manager change. The Walters Nutrition Site proposes that when ties are severed with the Temple Nutrition Project at the conclusion of SFY 2016, the number of meals served (congregate/HDM) will exceed the requirements of OAC 340:105-10-68, which is a combined minimum of 25 meals served daily, due to the quality and freshness of the food being prepared on-site and overall change in atmosphere. The goal for SFY 2017 will be 6,182 meals annually/25 people per day congregate, 645 annual/5 people per day HDM.
- (H) The proposed date of the change is July 1, 2016.
- (I) Red-River Transportation of the Community Action Development Corporation (CADC) has bid on transportation services for SFY 2017.
- (J) See attached minutes from board and council meetings (Temple Nutrition Project - SFY 2016).

Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely,

Sammie L. Forrester