



OFFICE OF THE NKWANTA NORTH DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

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Republic of Ghana

Date: 16th August, 2022.

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

SUBMISSION OF REPORT ON NUTRITIONAL EDUCATION OF A SECTION OF FOOD VENDORS AND SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME CONTRACTORS

I submit herein, the report on orientation of a section of food vendors and school feeding programme undertaken by the Environmental Health and Sanitation Unit, for your necessary action.

Thank you.

**SOLOMON JAKANIGNAN NDOGMA
DIST. EV'TAL HEALTH OFFICER**

**THE DISTRICT COORDINATING DIRECTOR
NKWANTA NORTH DISTRICT ASSEMBLY
KPASSA**

**Cc:
THE REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER
OTI REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL
DAMBAI**

INTRODUCTION

The Environmental Health and Sanitation Unit of the Nkwanta North District Assembly is strictly known for good hygiene, good nutrition and health promotion.

In order to achieve this, the EHSU on Tuesday 16th August, 2022, conducted an orientation for a section of food vendors and school feeding program contractors (caterers) monitoring before the upcoming mass medical screening exercise to be held in November- December, to educate the school feeding contractors and other food handlers (chop-bar operators) on nutrition and to prepare and offer food in its best state.

In view of this, a section of food/drink handlers and school feeding contractors (caterers) were educated on the following during this exercise;

- The need for food vendors to own Veronica buckets with potable and safe water for hand washing.
- The need to use potable water in food preparation and washing vegetables and other ingredients.
- Avoidance of food colouring with inedible chemicals.
- Food producer and handlers advised not to adulterate food
- The need for school feeding contractors and cooks to maintain personal hygiene.
- The need to have safe and clean cooking environment to prevent diseases.
- The need for students to be fed nutritious meals.
- Storage and preservation methods in order not to deplete necessary nutrients in food.

The following officers who took part in the education session.

- **Solomon Jakanignan Ndogma - (DEHO)**
- **Moses Bitir - (ACEHA)**
- **Rubby Dzitrie - (EHO I)**
- **Evelyn Kumah Ayape - (SEHA)**
- **Issah Salifu - (SEHA)**
- **Charlotte Titiati - (EHA)**
- **Edward Wormenor - (EHA)**
- **Agboka Israel – (EHA)**

- **Haruna Rashid – Sanitation Guard**

CHALLENGES/FOOD HYGIENE ISSUES

In the course of the operations, the Environmental Health Officers encountered some challenges as follows;

- **Adulteration of food:** some of those who prepare food for public consumption also compromise the quality of food either intentionally or otherwise.
- **Adding of colour to food:** it has been seen that some food vendors adulterate food by adding colour to the food in order to present food attractive and appealing to the public. Education was given to make them understand that some of these chemicals are carcinogenic and could destroy a lot on the person as well as kill.
- **Delay in screening and acquisition of certificate:** At the time of this educational session a large number of the food vendors in the schools have their screening cards. Some of the helpers of chop-bar madams do not have the cards.
- Health and Sanitation Unit for further action to be taken.
- Action taken include health education

Other challenges faced were;

- Poor personal hygiene by cooks:
- The use of unsafe water for food/drink preparation:
- Unavailability of hand washing facilities: veronica buckets, tippy-tap, soap etc.
- Unclean eating and drinking premises:

RECOMANDATIONS

Going forward the EHSU therefore recommends that, these recommendations are seriously considered in the interest of all citizens;

- Monitoring to be conducted regularly by relevant authorities.
- At least a day workshop or training should be organized for food producers/vendors to educate them on good nutrition practices quarterly.

The Environmental and Sanitation Unit needs to carry out radio-talk on food and nss

FOLLOW-UP ACTION TAKEN

Routine house to house, premises inspection was used as the follow-up where those who were not part of the education as well as those who were part were visited to reiterate the need for meals to be nutritiously balanced .

CONCLUSION

It is the hope of the Environmental Health and Sanitation Unit that, should the above recommendations be implemented; the socio-economic, the health status of citizens would be enhanced as well as improved.