

TO: Board of Health

FROM: Joyce Jensen, REHS, CP-FS, Environmental Health Supervisor
Environmental Public Health Division

DATE: September 27, 2013

SUBJECT: FDA Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards Report for
Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

The FDA Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards are intended to improve a food regulatory program's effectiveness at reducing the risk of foodborne illness in food establishments. The FDA Standards have provided direction and goals for the LLCHD Food Safety Program and have enhanced our vision for safe food in Lincoln and Lancaster County.

LLCHD began working on the FDA Standards in August 2001 when FDA introduced the standards to regulatory programs. In August 2002, at the completion of the initial self assessment, LLCHD met only Standard 7. LLCHD currently meets Standards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 9. All of these standards have been audited by an FDA approved auditor, who has verified compliance with the Standard. The Food Safety Program met its goal from last year to complete the self assessment and audit for Standard 4 - Uniform Inspection Program. LLCHD received a \$2,500 payment from FDA for completing this work.

The Food Safety Program goal for the coming year is to complete the self assessment and audit for Standard 6. When funds are made available, LLCHD will apply to receive payment for work on the Program Standards.

Food regulatory programs participating in the FDA Standards are listed on the FDA website updated biannually. LLCHD is one of very elite few that have met and verified 7 or more Standards.

Staff recommends that the Board accept this report and support Food Safety Program efforts to continue work to meet standards as recommended by FDA.
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