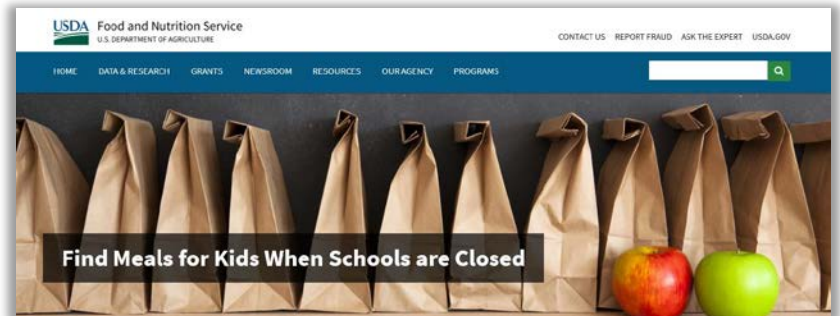


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## Meals for Kids



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced the launch of an online tool – the “Meals for Kids” Site Finder – to help families find meals for children while schools are closed during the coronavirus pandemic.

The “Meals for Kids” interactive map directs people to local sites where kids can get free meals. The site finder currently lists more than 20,000 meal sites from 23 states, and more sites will be added as states submit data each week. The map is available in both English and Spanish

Also, the USDA National Hunger Hotline remains a helpful resource for people seeking food assistance. The hotline, operated by Hunger Free America, can be reached Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. ET. at 1-866-3-HUNGRY (1-866-348-6479) or 1-877-8-HAMBRE (1-877-842-6273) (for Spanish). Click [here](#) to access the Meals for Kids site finder.

## More WIC Choices

Responding rapidly to a federal authorization, the California WIC Program is expanding the WIC-Authorized Product List to allow WIC participants to have a wider selection of WIC authorized foods, some of which have been found to be in short supply. WIC participants started seeing expanded food options available starting April 7, 2020, with the expansions currently approved through May 31, 2020.

Please note that this is temporary, and the new foods can ONLY be purchased when the original WIC food is unavailable. The best way to see if a food is eligible to be purchased using WIC benefits is to use the “UPC Scan” feature in the California WIC app to scan the food’s barcode. Click [here](#) to read more about PHFE WIC.

### Fruits & Vegetables

Fresh and Processed

\*These foods are permitted only when the original WIC item & size is not available for purchase\*

Products with artificial, reduced-calorie, or no-calorie sweeteners  
Canned fruit cocktail  
Tomato sauce  
Salsa



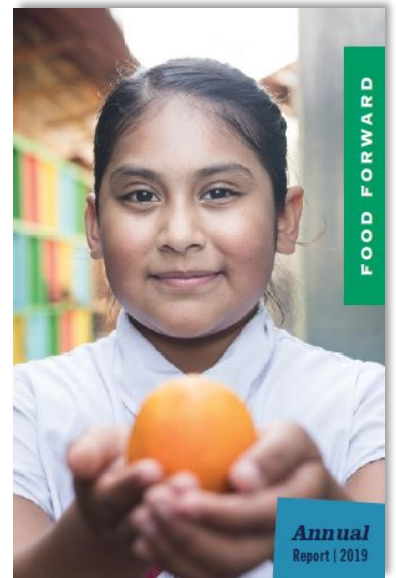



\*\*\*Check your CA WIC app & use the UPC scan to identify new foods\*\*\*

# Food Forward Annual Report - 2019

Inside the Produce Pit Stop, Food Forward's first cross-docking warehouse, dozens of pallets of donated fresh produce fly by—asparagus, tomatoes, and mangoes. They are stopping here for two hours or two days on their way to new homes: maybe in Watts, the High Desert, Simi Valley, or points beyond in the eight counties they served in 2019. Anyone who was around Food Forward in 2019 knows it was the year of the Produce Pit Stop.

For the first time since the program's inception over five years ago, the Wholesale Recovery staff has a roof over their heads. This crew's collective efficiency, reach, and commitment is on display in every one of the Pit Stop's 7,000 square feet. In its first six months of operations, 15 million pounds of produce touched down at the Pit Stop. To put what this facility affords us into perspective: the Pit Stop is now the temporary landing pad of approximately 100,000 pounds of fresh produce a day. That is how much Food Forward recovered in its entire first year! Click [here](#) to read the full report.



## Webinars

### New Additions in Purple

#### Afterschool Meals Matter

Thursday, April 16, 2020, 10:00 am

Sponsors and children both benefit when year-round meals are provided seamlessly in communities through the Summer Food Service Program and Afterschool Meal Program, and March is the perfect time to finalize plans for moving from afterschool to summer meals. This webinar will cover best practices, streamlining opportunities, and new resources for establishing strong, financially viable year-round meal programs. Register [here](#).

#### Possibilities Through Partnership During COVID-19

Thursday, April 16, 12:00 pm

Ensuring access to nutritious meals during COVID-19 requires collaboration on every level. Join FRAC and guest speakers to learn about promising partnerships between state agencies, school districts, program providers, food banks, and others that result in more children being reached by the child nutrition programs. Register [here](#).

#### Pantry Pulse

Tuesday, April 28, 2020, 11:00 am

Given the everchanging kitchen landscape and beyond, being mindful of minimizing the impact of food waste should continue to be top of mind. In this webinar, Produce for Better Health Foundation will discuss how apparent food waste is today and small changes we can do together to affect the overall impact on society and our food supply. They will also shed light on sustainability, as well as how fruits and tomatoes are produced by family farms using minimal processing. Lastly, they will cover the nutritional quality of canned tomatoes and fruits – both reliable household staples today and every day – and how they play an important role in keeping a balanced pantry. Register [here](#).

## **Sugary Drinks and Health Equity** **Thursday, April 30, 2020, 11:00 am**

ChangeLab Solutions will share the latest research and strategies to reduce sugary drink consumption. The presenters will discuss health equity considerations and how to support communities that are most affected by targeted marketing and a lack of access to healthy food. Register [here](#).



## **Funding Opportunities** **New Additions in Purple**

### **The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Sports Award**

**Close Date: May 6, 2020**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Sports Award recognizes sports teams, athletes, and community-based organizations that use sports to catalyze and sustain changes to make communities healthier places to live, learn, work, and play. Up to five awards of \$25,000 each may be given annually. Applicants that are not charitable organizations or public entities must apply with an organization that is such an entity and will receive the prize funds. Additional documentation may be requested. Click [here](#) to apply.

### **AARP Community Challenge**

**Close Date: May 15, 2020**

The AARP Community Challenge provides small grants to fund "quick-action" projects that can help communities become more livable for people of all ages. Applications are being accepted for projects to improve housing, transportation, public space, technology ("smart cities"), civic engagement and more. Click [here](#) to apply.

### **Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program**

**Close Date: May 18, 2020**

To support projects to increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables among low-income consumers participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) by providing incentives at the point of purchase. The program will test strategies that could contribute to our understanding of how best to increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables by Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants. Click [here](#) to learn more and apply.

### **USDA Regional Food Systems Partnerships**

**Close Date: May 26, 2020**

The Regional Food System Partnerships (RFSP) program supports partnerships that connect public and private resources to plan and develop local or regional food systems. Effort is focused on building and strengthening local or regional food economy viability and resilience by alleviating unnecessary administrative and technical barriers for participating partners. Click [here](#) to learn more and apply.

## **USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program**

**Close Date: May 26, 2020**

The Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) funds projects that develop, coordinate and expand direct producer-to-consumer markets to help increase access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products by developing, coordinating, expanding, and providing outreach, training, and technical assistance to domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, agritourism activities, online sales or other direct producer-to-consumer (including direct producer-to-retail, direct producer-to-restaurant and direct producer-to-institutional marketing) market opportunities. A 25% match is required. Click [here](#) to learn more and apply.

## **USDA Local Food Promotion Program**

**Close Date: May 26, 2020**

The Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP) funds projects that develop, coordinate and expand local and regional food business enterprises that engage as intermediaries in indirect producer to consumer marketing to help increase access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products. Grants can be used for the planning stages of establishing or expanding a local and regional food business enterprise or to improve or expand a food business that supports locally and regionally produced agricultural products and food system infrastructure by performing feasibility studies, market research, training and technical assistance for the business enterprise and/or for producers working with the business enterprise. A 25% match is required. Click [here](#) to apply.



## **Reading Opportunities**

### **Food Safety and Availability During the Coronavirus Pandemic**

The FDA is working in many ways to help keep people safe while the nation is coping with the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). Food availability and food safety are vitally important to our well-being, and the FDA is working hard to help ensure the foods you, your family, and your pets eat are safe and available. Read more [here](#).

### **Early Introduction of Solid Foods May Contribute to Childhood Obesity**

Infants who were started on solid foods at or before three months of age showed changes in the levels of gut bacteria and bacterial byproducts, called short-chain fatty acids, measured in their stool samples, according to a study from researchers at Johns Hopkins. Prior studies have linked the early introduction of solid foods to a higher chance of being overweight in childhood. The new study suggests that early solid food introduction may predispose infants to being overweight at least in part by altering the gut bacterial population. Read more [here](#).

### **Arizona and California Added to Innovative SNAP Online Pilot Program**

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced approval for Arizona and California's request to provide online purchasing of food to SNAP Households in the States of Arizona and California. This approval will allow the States to expedite the implementation of online purchasing with currently authorized SNAP online retailers with a target start date later this month. Read more [here](#).

# Training Resources

Title	Date / Time	Format	Info	Registration
Prevention Institute Webinar #1. System of Prevention: Understanding and Countering the Production of Inequities	Tues. 4/21 10:00 am	Webinar	----	<a href="#">Register here</a>
Taste, Don't Waste! Food Waste Recovery 101	Wed. 4/22 10:00 am	Webinar	----	<a href="#">Register here</a>
Trauma-Sensitive Nutrition Security + Around the Table Training Program	Mon. 4/27	Webinar	----	<a href="#">Register here</a>
2020 Rethink Your Drink Day Step-by-Step Guide Webinar for Hosts	Wed. 4/29 11:00 am	Webinar	----	<a href="#">Register here</a>

Visit the CDPH Trainings and Resources page for the latest training related information and [calendar](#) of all scheduled trainings and events. Please seek approval from Project Officer and Contract Manager prior to travel.

**If you would like to submit content or have any questions or comments about the CalFresh Healthy Living newsletter, please contact Tania Marquez at [tmarquez@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:tmarquez@ph.lacounty.gov)**