

Chat Log from 3.23.20 Emergency Food Response COVID-19 Videoconference

Link to slide deck:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/173K_gX4MWXwk8iAhNUUSdXOyAkcbAoZ_vlnvZOUdcD4/edit#slide=id.p

Chat Box roll call

- Katie Parrish - County of Sonoma, Human Services Department, Adult & Aging Division, Area Agency on Aging Program - CDA funding for nutrition programs 60+ demographic
kparrish@schsd.org
- Melanie Wong, No Pay Cafe/Cafe Gratis in Sonoma Valley, founder, melaniewine@gmail.com
- Heather Ames, Sonoma Family Meal, executive chef, chefheather@sonomafamilymeal.org
- Holly Harris-COAD admin, hharris@capsonoma.org
- Tawny Tesconi, Sonoma County Farm Bureau, Tawny@SonomaFB.org
- Phina Borgeson, Interfaith Sustainable Food Collaborative advisory board, Sonoma County Food System Alliance, phinaborgeson@gmail.com
- Mimi Enright, UCCE Sonoma, Program Manager
- Suzi Grady, Petaluma Bounty/PPSC, farmer and food system advocate, suzi@petalumabounty.org
- Julia Van Soelen Kim, UC Cooperative Extension Sonoma County, food systems advisor, jvansoelen@ucanr.edu
- Elece Hempel, Petaluma People Services Center, Executive Director elece@petalumapeople.org
- Kelly Smith Agricultural Community Events Farmers Markets, Executive Director
www.ilovefarmersmarkets.org, info@ilovefarmersmarkets.org
- John Kessel, County of Sonoma Office of Recovery and Resiliency, EOC Ops Food, john.kessel@sonoma-county.org
- Lisa Janson, City of Sonoma Food Security liaison
- Vickie Holden, Sonoma County office of Education, vholden@scoe.org
- ljanson@Sonomacity.org
- Caiti Hachmyer, Red H Farm & Celebrating Women's Leadership in Food
- Summer Sullivan, Petaluma Bounty, Nutrition Incentives Coordinator
- Jenny Belforte, COO, Ceres Community Project, jbelforte@ceresproject.org
- Laya Aguilar - ranch manager in Petaluma - layla@eamesinstitute.org
- Tim Page, co-founder FEED Sonoma, tim@feedsonoma.com
- Bob Scott, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church and St. Vincent de Paul, Cloverdale.
bobscottca@yahoo.com
- PeacockeAdam, ROC Sonoma
- Sandy Timmons, American Red Cross, pat_t@toast.net
- Paige Phinney, Kitchen Table Advisors paige@kitchentableadvisors.org
- Jocelyn Farrell-- program manager of community health at Catholic Charities;
jfarrell@srcharities.org,
- heather irwin, sonoma family meal. heather@heatherirwin.com
- Stephanie Larson, UC Cooperative Extension, slarson@ucanr.edu
- Rob Morgan, Community Impact Officer, Community Foundation Sonoma County,
rmorgan@cfsc.org

- Angela Struckmann, Assistant Director, Sonoma County Human Services, astruckmann@schsd.org
- AnaMarisa Lopez, Community Outreach Manager, Redwood Community Health Coalition
- Sherry Huss, Board Member, Sonoma Family Meal
- Melita Love, Farm to Pantry, melita@farmtopantry.org
- Juan Torres, Catholic Charities Community Connections Asst. Director.
- Carmen Snyder, Sonoma County Farm Trails
- Anna Grant, City of Healdsburg Senior Services
- Gabriela Orantes, Just Recovery Fellow for the Latino Community Foundation's Just Recovery Partnership, gorantes@northbayop.org
- Connie Newhall, ED Farm to Pantry, connie@farmtopantry.org. phone: 415-717-2365
- Amanda Foley: afoley@rpcity.org
- Yesenia Mendoza, ymendoza@rchc.net
- Marianne McBride, mmcbride@councilonaging.com

General comments during session:

From Sandy to Everyone: Does the Feeding Task Force have an email address?

From Julia Van Soelen Kim, UCCE Sonoma to Everyone: 09:41 AM

PPE Equipment = Personal Protective Equipment

COOP Plan = Continuation of Operations Plan

From Holly Harris to Everyone: Next COAD General Member Meeting: Thursday March 26th, 10:00-12:00 via Zoom

Zoom link for the next COAD General Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/752812058?pwd=bWFYdFVDVUtQWJrRVOW81aU3RDZFDZz09>

Meeting ID: 752 812 058

Password: 872611

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,752812058# US (San Jose)

+16465588656,,752812058# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

From John Kessel to Mimi: Just as a quick note: Supervisor Hopkins is the AG/Tourism point for the BOS. Supervisor Rabbitt is the Small Business point for the BOS.

From John Kessel to Mimi: (Privately): **www.farmtrails.org/coronavirus-resources/**

From Gabriela Orantes: What about census? Are the check in calls encountering challenges or opportunities to bring up census?

From Stephanie Larson: Question for Heather - is her program going to help all restaurant employees that are unable to work?

From Laurie: this is Laurie from Reach for Home. I'd like to share what we are doing for the unsheltered and very low income in north Sonoma county

From Anna Grant: anyone have resources for meals for unsheltered?

From Paige: Fund for restaurant workers: (looks like applications are on hold right now...)

<https://rocunited.org/relief/>

From Laurie, Reach for Home: we are reaching out to restaurants and other food providers to provide food . We are delivering daily at this point to encampments in the 3 North cities, Windsor, HBG and Cloverdale.

From Anna Grant: Thank you - i am coordinating with reach for home and we have a need for shelf stable, non refrigerated items to get to the sites in Healdsburg/Windsor

From Laurie: we also serve very low/low housed populations
if the facilitators could help trouble shoot unmuted me that would be great :)

From Dan Bleakney: Elece from Petaluma People Services would like to let everyone know they are a FEMA certified kitchen

From ISFC: Our specific demographics are: seniors getting SFMNP; and kids that could benefit from breakfast programs run by faith groups. Here at Interfaith Food we have short term funding available now to match CalFresh Purchases from CSA's farms and produce stands or pop-up markets. Feel free to contact us on this.

From Julia Van Soelen Kim, UCCE Sonoma to Everyone: 10:46 AM

CSA = Community Supported Agriculture

Food Hub = Local food distributor aggregating product from smaller local farms

From msw: For any of the presenters or audience, is there a locally based Farm to Food Bank program, where farms are paid for their crop?

From Suzi Grady, Petaluma Bounty: Melanie, no there is not. Interested to learn more

From timothy page: thank you all . FEED Sonoma announcing the birth of California's 1st farmer- & employee-owned fresh produce cooperative .. the online site : shop.feedsonoma.com ... many thanks! this is the flyer that will be disseminated to all ASAP

From laylaaguilar: Thanks Tim. Where is delivery/pick up offered?

From Heather Irwin, ED Sonoma family meal: If you want to buy or let others know about the FEED bin, **<https://shop.feedsonoma.com/Products>**

From timothy page: we are developing drop locations in real time .. right now : 1. Dragonfly floral , Healdsburg , 2. Made Local Marketplace , Santa Rosa .. working on Petaluma drops (most likely Lunchette) .. and pick up at FEED Sonoma in Petaluma .. also , home delivery is happening ... when

people go to shop.feedsonoma.com , they can choose from those options .. also , days : tuesday / Wednesday in Sonoma County , Friday / Saturday in the broader bay area

From msw: Thanks Suzi and Heather. I asked because I've heard CAFF use the term a couple times in the last month and wondered if there was anything locally. In January I had a brief convo with a national farming organization that was getting its concept together, before the current crisis. I'll circle back to them to see if the idea has taken shape yet.

From heather irwin, ED sonoma family meal: SFM received funds from a CAFF fundraiser after the Kincadee fires. We have \$6,500 to spend at this point. We are using for FEED right now.

From Yesenia: Kelly is the purchase process different for those using EBT cards? Will they still be getting market match?

From heather irwin, ED sonoma family meal: can we get a link from kelly?

From kellysmith: www.ilovefarmersmarkets.org & spreadsheet is housed here
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1bp2-iRc1Bmm6a014yHgMm3yJLXRxCWDdHCjg6Vp8-0I/edit#gid=0>

From heather irwin, ED sonoma family meal: I think funding would be really useful for all of us; we can't really wait

From ISFC: To Evan's point, one thing we've been working on with the National Sustainable Ag. Coalition is to see about extending the exemption for CSA farmers that are allowed to do SNAP/CalFresh payments 2 weeks in advance of deliver of the food. We want to see it extended to a month in advance.

From Julia Van Soelen Kim, UCCE Sonoma:

Direct sales = local food sales that happen directly between farmers and their consumers through Farmers Markets, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), & other farm stands

From ISFC: Based on our Sonoma County experience with D-SNAP (Disaster-SNAP) in 2017, there are lessons for the country about the length of the sign up window. Not clear yet how this will apply to the currently relevant P-SNAP (Pandemic-SNAP). If you're interested in advocating on this please contact me next couple of days.

From Suzi Grady, Petaluma Bounty: Thanks ISFC! That's Steve from Interfaith Sustainable Food Collaborative. Steve, can you offer your contact information?

From Katie Parrish: Resources for Older Adults - Farmers Market/CSA/Local Resource links will be incorporated at the noon page refresh:

<https://socoemergency.org/emergency/novel-coronavirus/resources-information/resources-for-seniors-and-vulnerable-populations-during-shelter-in-place/>

From carmensnyder: Shelter-In-Place main resource page:

<https://www.farmtrails.org/shelter-in-place-food-resources/> Map Page:
<https://www.farmtrails.org/find-sonoma-grown/>

From Suzi Grady: Thanks ISFC! That's Steve from Interfaith Sustainable Food Collaborative. Steve, can you offer your contact information?

From Katie Parrish: Census2020 Information: <https://2020census.gov/en.html> and Resources <https://2020census.gov/en/partners/outreach-materials.html>

From Leo Chyi, District 5, Sonoma County: This is Leo with Lynda Hopkins's Office. Lynda's very supportive of farming and agriculture and understands how important farmers markets can be. We have heard from some community members concerned about safety and social distancing in farmers markets. Do any of your orgs have specific best practices you could share on handling this? Are there specific things you need to manage this issue?

From msw: Leo, if you would email me, MelanieWine@gmail.com, I can connect you with organizations that are compiling best practices for farmers markets to manage those issues.

From Mimi: Melanie, Can you also share any best practices that are developed with me, and I will ensure it gets added to a Google drive where we are centrally storing all the developing resources for access by all working in this space? Thanks! Mimi Enright: menright@ucanr.edu

From Julia Van Soelen Kim, UCCE Sonoma: Demographics referenced earlier:
Those that maintain self-sufficient throughout the crisis

Older adults

Self-isolating but otherwise independent (can afford groceries, able to cook, need curbside service, special hours, take out)

Need economic assistance for groceries

Need meals delivered

Access & Functional Needs

Over 60

Under 60 do not qualify for MOW

Those that maintain self-sufficient throughout the crisis

Older adults

Self-isolating but otherwise independent (can afford groceries, able to cook, need curbside service, special hours, take out)

Need economic assistance for groceries

Need meals delivered

Access & Functional Needs

Over 60

Under 60 do not qualify for MOW School-Aged Children

18 and younger served with Seamless Summer Option (SSO) or Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

Infants

Low-income

Receiving services already in safety net

Self-sufficient with low reserves

Unhoused

Medically-challenged/sick

Those already experiencing health challenges prior to COVID19

Those temporarily sickened/ incapacitated due to illness

From msw to Mimi: Will do. I'll check to see the state of communication. The info has been going out iteratively, as this situation is very fluid. I expect a rework after this weekend's experience with markets reopening in various parts of the state.

From Juan Torres: I can add to the conversation!

From ISFC: Regarding CalFresh Redemption at farmers markets and markets newly serving as a kind of CSA drop. I think using the CalFresh Vouchers provided in triplicate from USDA Food and Nutrition Service, may be great alternative to (or addition to) EBT machines.

From Sarah: Latino Service Providers is providing bilingual/bicultural messaging via social media, as well as through their Youth Promotores (there are currently 35 youth who are trained in mental health and emergency preparedness). <https://www.facebook.com/LatinoServiceProviders/>

From phina: Many congregations are closed to any gathering. Some have even closed their offices, with staff working from home. This may inhibit their being used as drop sites for CSA boxes.

From Anna Grant: I have a need to find a place to gather large amounts of shelf stable items like peanut butter potatoes etc for the homeless- does anyone have a contact? Healdsburg. Looking for 90. actual food needed that will be delivered to their camps

From ISFC to Everyone: 11:55 AM

We are doing a survey in next day or two of congregations that want to offer their commercial kitchens; or cold storage to support food security efforts during this time. If you need that please let us know.

From laurie: We definitely need more food resources for Windsor to Cloverdale for the unsheltered

From Caiti Hachmyer: PLEASE, I ask everyone as a farmer, send in a letter and make a call when we hang up

From msw: Just wanted to add a note that during the Kincade fire, evacuees and the population of Cloverdale was cut off from the rest of the county.

From laurie: agreed, Cloverdale has basically 1 resource, the local food bank

From Evan: CAFF's action alert, specifically related to federal support for family farms but connected to all local food systems, can be found here: <https://www.caff.org/covid19congressactionalert>

From msw: It was about a week before the rest of the county noticed. Residents were going up to Ukiah to buy groceries.

From paige: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members> Details on what to say when you call:

"Hello, my name is _____ and I'm calling from _____.

I am calling today to ask that Representative/Senator _____ support after the small scale, independent American farmers who sell directly to consumers through farmers markets and other

channels.

Farmers markets and the farmers who sell at them urgently need 3 things at this time:

Clarification from the CDC that farmers markets are essential public services as tens of thousands of farmers and millions of consumers rely on them for their livelihood and food access

Inclusion of direct to consumer farmers and farmers markets in the small business COVID19 relief package currently being negotiation in Congress

Extension of the deadline and waiving of match requirements for the current Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program grant Request for Applications.

Thank you,

_ Your Name _ (edited)

From ISFC: If you are looking for volunteers for a specific project/ effort/location please send Guadalupe@interfaithfood.org an email today and we'll publicize that to our network of faith-based groups.

From Caiti Hachmyer: Another thing that can be mentioned in a call to reps is that grocery workers in many places across the country are receiving hazard pay from employers for their direct contact with customers...federal aid would help provide that to direct sales farmers.

From Yesenia: Is there any Sonoma County COVID-19 food distribution lists available or general updated food lists? Considering making one, just don't want to re-invent the wheel if there is one available already

From Leo Chyi, District 5, Sonoma County: Yesenia there is at least one list, embedded in soco emergency:

<https://socoemergency.org/emergency/novel-coronavirus/resources-information/food-and-other-resources-for-low-income-and-homeless-people/> is Food and Other Resources for Low-Income and Homeless People

From Leo Chyi, District 5, Sonoma County: oSonoma County also has a volunteer portal with Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership where I know we have referred some individuals interested in volunteering for food distribution help.