

Community of Practice Call

COVID-19 Emergency Food Service

April 23, 2020

Jen McNeil

Founder, LunchAssist

Mickinzie Lopez

Administrative Dietitian, LunchAssist



Leyla Marandi

Program Manager, Center for Ecoliteracy



CENTER FOR
ECOLITERACY

CALIFORNIA FOOD
FOR CALIFORNIA KIDS®



CALIFORNIA FOOD FOR CALIFORNIA KIDS®

California Food for California Kids is an initiative of the Center for Ecoliteracy



CENTER FOR
ECOLITERACY



Inspiration, support and guidance for school nutrition professionals.
Partnering with over 50 California school nutrition programs since 2016.





CENTER FOR
ECOLITERACY

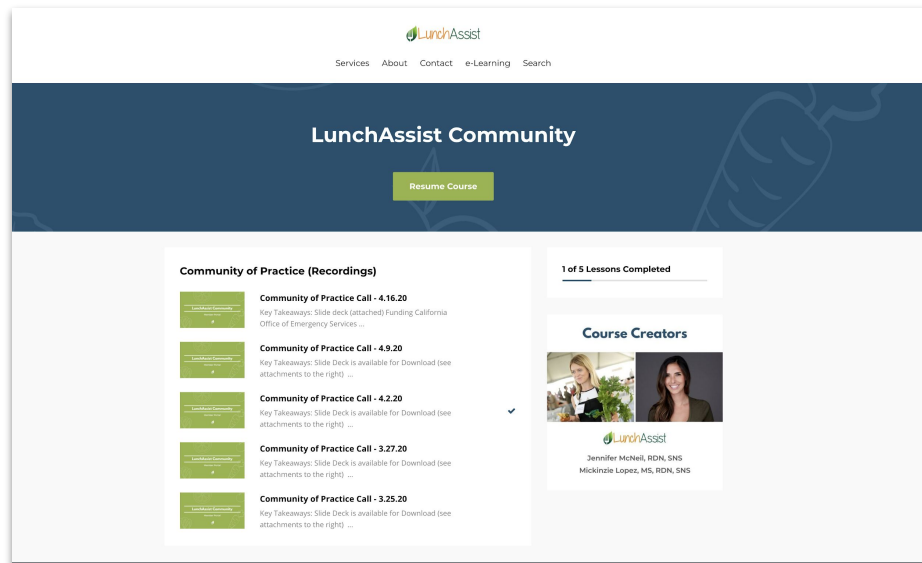


gratitude

Community of Practice Recap

weekly calls since 3/25:

- safety
- local foods
- policy
- stories & photos
- leadership



view & download at www.lunchassist.org
through the e-Learning portal

school food innovators





HOW TO GROW A GARDEN

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

1. A CONTAINER (LIKE A POT OR A WOODEN BOX) WITH HOLES AT THE BOTTOM OR PLOT OF GROUND IN THE YARD THAT GETS LOTS OF SUN.
2. POTTING SOIL FOR POTS
3. VEGETABLE SEEDS TO PLANT
4. SHOVEL
5. WATERING CAN OR HOSE
6. THE SUN

LET'S GET STARTED!



STEP 1: FILL YOUR POT WITH SOIL OR USE YOUR SHOVEL TO DIG UP THE DIRT ON YOUR PLOT OF LAND UNTIL IT IS LIGHT AND FLUFFY (6-10 IN DEEP).

TIP: MAKE SURE YOUR POT HAS A HOLE AT THE BOTTOM AND THAT YOUR GARDEN PLOT GETS LOTS OF SUN (5-7 HOURS A DAY)



STEP 3: MAINTAIN THE PLANTS BY WATERING, WEEDING AND CHECKING FOR PESTS OR DISEASE.

TIPS: IF YOU HAVE AN APHID INFESTATION, GET LADY BUGS!

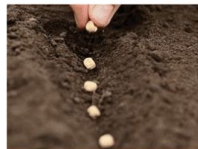
DON'T KNOW WHEN TO WATER? STICK A FINGER INTO THE SOIL NEAR EACH PLANT. IF IT'S NOT MOIST, WATER!

PLANTS GROW TO THE SKY! YOU MAY NEED TO PUT A STICK NEXT TO YOUR PLANT AND GENTLY TIE IT TO THE STEM TO HELP IT STAND UP.

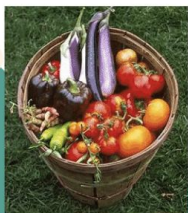
USEFUL LINKS:

CALIFORNIA GARDENING
WWW.CALGARDENING.COM

GARDENING WITH KIDS:
[HTTPS://GARDENERSPATH.COM/HOW-TO/BEGINNERS/GARDENINGCHILDREN/](https://GARDENERSPATH.COM/HOW-TO/BEGINNERS/GARDENINGCHILDREN/)



STEP 2: FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS ON YOUR SEED PACKET AND DIG HOLES IN THE SOIL FOR YOUR SEEDS THE CORRECT DISTANCE APART. COVER YOUR SEEDS WITH MORE SOIL AND FIRMLY PAT DOWN. GIVE THE SEEDS SOME WATER.

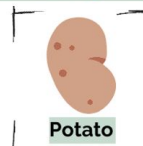


STEP 4: WHEN YOUR VEGGIES ARE READY, HARVEST AND EAT!
TIP: GROW MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF VEGGIES AND SHARE THEM WITH NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS!

BUILD YOUR OWN

Food Scrap Garden

Did you know, you can grow your own food using old produce or leftover scraps?



1. Take an old, sprouted potato and cut it in half (make sure each piece has at least 1-2 eyes).



2. Leave the halves to dry overnight at room temperature until they are dry to the touch.



3. Plant the pieces cut side up about a foot apart in at least 8 inches of soil. When fully grown, potatoes can be harvested for several months—even after the plants die.



1. Strip all but 1 or 2 leaves from the top of the stems and place them in a jar of water in a sunny spot. Change the water every day.



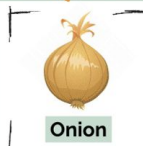
2. When roots sprout at the bottom, transfer the plants to soil. Expect new plants to grow every few weeks and in a month, you will have a full-grown plant!



1. Place the bottom of a lettuce heart in a bowl with a 1/2 in of water. Place the bowl in a sunny place and change the water every day.



2. After a few days, transfer to soil when the roots sprout. Harvest when fully grown. If you want to continue growing lettuce, cut the heads off right above the soil line with a sharp knife, leaving the base and root system intact.



1. Take the root bottom of the onion and just stick them into the soil. Water every few days (when the soil looks dry).



2. When the roots appear around the scrap, remove the old onion and water the new plant like normal. In a few weeks, you will have new onions!

Bonus!

You can take the seeds from most fruits and vegetables and grow produce from them. Just rinse the seeds in water and dry them over night on a paper towel before planting them in soil. In a few weeks, you can have a very colorful garden!

“You make us so proud! Keep learning
and stay strong.”

The Lunch Ladies
Escondido Union School District



**outreach &
communications**

best practices

- all calls
- text reminders
- social media
- emails
- community newsletters
- connect with media!

“For those who
need food, I want
you to know that we
are here for you.”

Jennifer LeBarre
Executive Director
Student Nutrition Services
San Francisco Unified



community
partnerships



Sierra HarVeSt





Monterey Peninsula Unified School District
&
Food Bank for Monterey County

FOOD FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH | 1-3PM*

TWO SITES:

LOS ARBOLES MIDDLE SCHOOL
294 HILLCREST AVE, MARINA

SEASIDE HIGH SCHOOL
2200 NOCHE BUENA ST, SEASIDE

***WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
WE ENCOURAGE RECIPIENTS
TO STAY IN THEIR VEHICLES AND
DRIVE THRU TO ACCESS FOOD.**



Distrito Unificado de la Peninsula de Monterey
&
Banco de Comida para el Condado de Monterey

COMIDA PARA FAMILIAS EN NECESIDAD

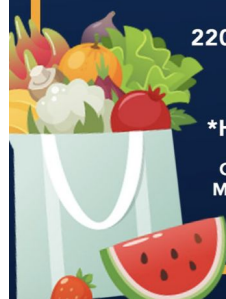
VIERNES 24 DE ABRIL | 1-3PM*

DOS LOCACIONES:

LOS ARBOLES MIDDLE SCHOOL
294 HILLCREST AVE, MARINA

SEASIDE HIGH SCHOOL
2200 NOCHE BUENA ST, SEASIDE

***HASTA AGOTAR EXISTENCIAS
LE PEDIMOS A LOS DESTINARIOS
QUE PERMANESCAN EN SU AUTO Y
MANEJEN AL AREA DE DISTRIBUCIÓN**



launching
volunteer programs

best practices

- build a volunteer form
- create a plan
- provide training
- share expectations
- assign a point of contact
- show appreciation

Always have a child nutrition staff member in charge!





policy, planning
& funding



SY 20-21: CEP vs applications

- community eligibility provision
 - check direct certification extracts in may and june
 - >40% = eligible for CEP
 - >62.5% = free reimbursement for all
 - refer to waiver #6
- meal applications
 - if not electing CEP, plan a big push for meal applications
 - send home starting july 1
 - > 50% F/R by October can benefit school budgets & grant eligibility



• IT'S MORE THAN A MEAL •



IT SUPPORTS YOUR SCHOOL

 **• ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE ON JULY 1ST.** 


 ON JULY 1ST. 


• FREE SCHOOL LUNCH MEANS •

 Benefits For Your School	Benefits For Your Student 
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased school funding• Discounted internet costs• Equipment grants to improve meal quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discounted bus passes• Summer & after school meals• Discounted college application fees• Discounted academic test fees

 **Apply Online at** 

<https://slcusdfood.org/>


Click on  and follow the prompts

Anyone Can Apply
(regardless of status) 

If you qualify for free or reduced-priced meals, you may also qualify for SNAP benefits

Call: 1-877-847-3663 or go to getcalfresh.org

Applying for CalFresh is free and does not require a credit check or impact immigration status.

 **cal2fresh**
BETTER FOOD FOR BETTER LIVING

existing waivers

- specific to unanticipated closures
- most effective only through june 30, 2020
- meal pattern waiver now effective through [may 31, 2020](#)

new summer waivers

- four new waivers for “normal” summer *(pending)*
- effective through September 30, 2020

Nationwide Waivers: SFSP

- Four waivers:
 - Closed Enrolled Site Eligibility – SFSP and SSO
 - First Week Site Visits - SFSP
 - Offer Versus Serve - SFSP
 - Meal Service Time Restrictions – SFSP and SSO
- Effective through September 30, 2020

HOT
OFF THE
PRESS



United States Department of Agriculture

Encourage USDA to Extend Nationwide Waivers

Please join us in asking the USDA to extend all nationwide child nutrition response waivers through September 30, 2020.

Our [sign-on letter](#) encourages the USDA to use their existing authority to support organizations and vulnerable children at a challenging time, particularly as we come to understand that the impact of the pandemic will continue beyond June 30, 2020, the current expiration date of most waivers. We know that this is especially critical as organizations that are already overstretched and financially strapped consider 2020 summer meals application and operational decisions.

We ask for your support on this letter and encourage you to share it with your networks. If you would like to add your voice, please provide your organization's name for the letter via this [Google form](#) no later than **Monday, April 27**.

Add Your Voice Here!

planning ahead

- summer programs after the last day of school
- back to school fall 2020
- equipment needs
- supply chain shortages
- giving your team a break

funding needs

- match 2019 reimbursement for the period of march-june 2020 to make up for lost revenue this year
- match SY 19-20 USDA allocation for SY 20-21



leadership

recognition

**“recognizing employees is the simplest
way to improve morale.”**

david novak

harvard business review

leaders make **others** feel important

- pay attention to people using common courtesy
- listen to what your employees have to say
- use powerful, positive language in your interaction with others
- put praise in writing
- keep your commitments to your staff
- give staff public credit for contributions

“these are a few of the faces of
our child nutrition team at san
ramon valley usd. we know
these meals make a difference
in the lives of our children.
#becausewecare”

miguel villareal
director of child nutrition
san ramon valley unified



ways to show appreciation

- recognition from executive leaders (letters, proclamation, etc.)
 - school board
 - superintendents
 - local elected officials
 - state officials
- thank you cards
- notes or artwork from students/community members
- spotlight in local or social media
- special treats (coffee, chocolate, flowers, catered lunch, etc.)

may 1, 2020 is school lunch hero day

“together, how might we... change the story about the power and potential of school meals, leading to greater resources, public support, and policy change?”

alexa arnold

deputy director of strategic partnerships
foodcorps

discussion

thank you!