

CalFresh Awareness Month - May 2024

WHEREAS, CalFresh improves the health and well-being of qualified households and individuals by providing access to healthy and nutritious foods; and

WHEREAS, the CalFresh Program was created to safeguard the health and well-being of low-income households by increasing their food purchasing power and enhancing their levels of nutrition; and

WHEREAS, food security is the foundation of a strong and healthy community; and

WHEREAS, access to healthy and nutritious food is critical to the well-being of our community, and Napa County is committed to ensuring that everyone eligible for CalFresh benefits can receive them; and

WHEREAS, studies suggest that household hunger negatively impacts the intellectual, physical, and emotional development of children, and increases their risk for obesity, diabetes, and other diseases; and

WHEREAS, in Napa County 9,913 individuals (5,915 households) receive CalFresh benefits; and

WHEREAS, Napa County and numerous community-based organizations work to strengthen our local food system by recognizing that CalFresh plays a significant role in building an economically stable environment; and

WHEREAS, EBT cards are accepted at farmers' markets, allowing participants to access fresh fruits and vegetables, and the Market Match program doubles the value of purchases made using CalFresh EBT; and

WHEREAS, in 2023 Napa County saw high usage of EBT Food benefits at local farmers' markets, with over \$163,206 spent in food assistance (\$81,603 matched) at the markets; and

WHEREAS, in addition to providing food benefits, CalFresh also offers nutrition education, employment and training services, and expanded benefits during disasters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that this Board of Supervisors, County of Napa, State of California, on this 21st day of May 2024, does hereby recognize May 2024 as CalFresh Awareness Month in Napa County. We urge all community members to support efforts to increase awareness of and participation in the CalFresh program.

Joelle Gallagher, Chair

Anne Cottrell, Vice Chair

Anne Cottrell

Ryan Gregory, District 2

Alfredo Pedroza, District 4

Belia Ramos, District 5

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

