



# REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE: LOCAL FOOD PURCHASE ASSISTANCE (LFPA) GRANT FUNDS

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Human Services Agency (HHS)*

*September 6, 2022*



# BACKGROUND



LIVE WELL  
SAN DIEGO

**The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service has established the Local Food Purchase Assistance (LFPA) program. The LFPA program is part of the “Build Back Better” initiative, authorized by the American Rescue Plan. The purpose of this program is to maintain and improve food and agricultural supply chain resiliency.**

**The State recognized the County’s Chronic Disease and Health Equity Unit as a significant component of the only health department in the state doing this innovative food system work and therefore, we are the only county to be awarded this opportunity.**

**The County’s proposal to utilize the LFPA funds of \$849,995 will support socially disadvantaged farmers and producers, maintain food quality along the supply chain, connect small-scale producers to historically underserved neighborhoods, and increase fresh produce to community members.**

# PROBLEM STATEMENT



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San Diego County has the most farms of any other county in California, and the greatest diversity of farmers in the state. Yet, our agriculture sector is shrinking; marketing local food is difficult; support for food businesses is limited; and most farms in the region are small and generate low sales. Small- and mid-sized farmers struggle to make a living and maintain viable businesses.

According to the San Diego Hunger Coalition, one in three San Diegans experience nutrition insecurity, or are unable to provide three nutritious meals per day for themselves and/or their families.



# EQUITY AND SUSTAINABILITY



- **Equity** – LFPA project will support the viability of socially disadvantaged farmers and producers, specifically Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, as well as contribute to reducing food insecurity in San Diego County.
- **Sustainability** – LFPA project will support the County's Sustainability Goals through reducing carbon emissions.



# OUTCOMES



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- 1. Local produce purchasing directly from small, beginning and socially disadvantaged producers/farmers will move San Diego closer to a viable and equitable local food system.**
- 2. Increased demand for local, climate-smart produce and purchasing power will establish or strengthen ten farm businesses.**
- 3. Produce distributed will meet or exceed food safety standards.**
- 4. Farm boxes (6,240) will be distributed to families in need.**
- 5. Establish a replicable model for future food distribution and food system development.**



# AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDS



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**Requesting the Health Services Advisory Board's  
support for the Board of Supervisors to approve and  
authorize the Clerk of the Board to execute:**

***The Local Food Purchasing Assistance Program***

**Funding: \$849,995**

**Term: September 1, 2022 - July 31, 2024**



# QUESTIONS?

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