



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
SOCIAL SERVICES

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.



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May 21, 2019

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Report from the Department of Health and Human Services regarding CalFresh Expansion to Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Payment (SSI/SSP) recipients and Resolution recognizing May as CalFresh Awareness Month.

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Receive Department of Health and Human Services' report regarding the CalFresh Expansion to Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Payment (SSI/SSP) recipients, which starts June 1, 2019.
2. Supervisor Arnold requests Board approval of the Resolution proclaiming May as "CalFresh Awareness Month in Marin County."

SUMMARY: Food insecurity affects one in five Marin County residents, and disproportionality affects low-income adults, older adults, and children. Persons who experience food insecurity are at increased risk of negative health outcomes and health disparities.

CalFresh (known nationally as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP) provides more than 9,500 eligible Marin County residents with financial resources to access nutritious food. CalFresh fights food insecurity and supports the local economy. The United States Department of Agriculture estimates that every \$1 in federal SNAP benefits generates \$1.79 in economic activity. In 2018, the average monthly federal SNAP issuance in Marin County was \$1.3 million, which translates to more than \$2 million in local economic activity generated every month.

Despite the benefits of CalFresh to individuals and communities, program participation has been historically low in Marin County. In 2017, only 42.3 percent of eligible Marin County residents received CalFresh while an estimated 13,498 potentially eligible individuals were not enrolled in the program.

Starting June 1, 2019, CalFresh is being expanded to an additional 3,000 older adults and individuals with disabilities who receive SSI/SSP in Marin County. The Department's report to your Board will give an overview of local efforts to implement the CalFresh Expansion to SSI/SSP recipients. This expansion will increase the ability of older adults and individuals with disabilities to purchase nutritious food, which may greatly improve their quality of life. The CalFresh Expansion is a key opportunity for stakeholders to debunk myths, fight stigma, and increase program

participation. The Department encourages stakeholders, other County departments, and local leaders to raise awareness about CalFresh Expansion to SSI/SSP recipients, and the benefits of the overall CalFresh program to Marin County.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal component associated with the acceptance of this report.

REVIEWED BY:	County Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Department of Finance	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	County Counsel	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Human Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Respectfully submitted,



Hyacinth Guillermo Hinojosa
Acting Director