

## **BANPAC Food Security Committee Minutes 6/8/10**

**Attendees:** Jenny Huston, Farm to Table Food Services, Janet Leader and Monica Gaspar, 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest of San Mateo and Santa Clara, Sara Marin, Alameda County Community Food Bank, Sarah Nelson, Pacific Coast Farmers Market Association, Susan Stuart, Santa Clara County Public Health Department

### **EBT Brochure:**

Susan S. briefed committee on status of brochure. Communications company is working on the brochure. They have been provided with lists in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese, low literacy text in the three languages, fruits and vegetables images, logos, and graphic for EBT. May still need some translation help but should be able to handle it at Public Health Department. Janet L. and Sara M. offered to help with translation if needed. Contract was worked out so that other counties will be able to use the graphics free of charge.

Discussed the need to double check lists to make sure they are accurate (i.e. acceptance of EBT and whether markets still exist). List of markets has been vetted for Santa Clara and San Mateo. Monica researched the list of CAFF markets. Fruitvale and Jack London both accept EBT. Susan S. cross referenced WIC lists with other lists. Paula Jones has recently prepared new flyer for farmers markets in SF. All accept EBT. Sarah N. forwarded the flyer. **Sara Marin will cross reference the list for Alameda County.** Sarah N. Suggested contacting Penny Leff at Ecology Center who is reaching out to FM's to help them implement EBT (530-902-9763). Still a need for low-literacy brochure for outreach to low-income population.

Susan S. clarified that the FM list will not include markets that only accept WIC vouchers. Will include information on WIC vouchers if they also accept EBT.

Timeline: Santa Clara brochure finished and printed by mid to late July (funded by Steps to a Healthier Santa Clara). Graphics available by mid-July or earlier to start creating on-line flyers/brochures for other counties to be posted on BANPAC website.

Susan suggested working more with market managers to see if they will accept EBT. Corresponded with managers of Urban Village FM's (only Oakland market of their 10 markets accepts EBT) and Japantown FM (doesn't accept) when vetting Santa Clara County list. Janet L. mentioned the request for assistance from the farmers' market manager in Half Moon Bay. Susan S. offered to follow up to see if they were able to implement after receiving technical assistance.

Sarah N. will send flyers for \$5 and \$10 market credits.

### **Building A Business Case for EBT:**

Discussed which stores accept food stamps. Janet L. said that only 3 Subway stores in San Jose (or Santa Clara and Mateo County??) take food stamps. Supertaqueria, Wal

Mart, Target, and Costco also accept. **Susan S. offered to do the research to see if there is an existing list of stores that accept food stamps.**

Janet L. said that 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest would like to align with California Food Policy Advocates strategy for addressing the barriers to food stamps. **Sara Marin offered to contact George Manolo-Clair to see if he would like to have a conference call with the committee to discuss.**

Need for food is still very great. Sara M. reported that 1 in 6 Alameda County residents are being served by food banks. Janet L. mentioned the millions of “missing meals” in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties documented by the Hunger Index.

**Next meeting:** Sara M. will organize a conference call in three or four weeks to touch base on progress on brochure and the meeting with Manolo-Clair.