



PARTNER AGENCY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2025



Dear Partners,

Implementation of Service Insights Meal Connect (SIMC) is approaching quickly, and we'll need your support during the transition. As we move closer to the transition date, we'll be reaching out for system testing and additional support—your help will be invaluable.

In response to discussions from our recent quarterly meeting, the Food Bank will be hosting three sessions to share updates and strengthen collaboration. We encourage each agency to send at least one representative. Stay vigilant and nimble.

Lastly, I want to share that I'll be leaving the Food Bank, with my last day on February 12, 2025. It has been an honor to work alongside you in serving our community. In the interim, [Rosa Quezada](#), our Case Specialist Manager, will step in as department lead, with continued support from RJ and Fernando. You're in great hands.

Thank you for all you do—onward!



Josue Barajas
Chief Programs Officer

AGENCY NETWORK UPDATE

REMINDER FOR USDA PARTNER AGENCIES

The EFA-7 intake process has changed. Now, only the participant's zip code is required in the address section, and only their initials are required in the name section. Please use the current form until an updated version is released. Our Agency Network Team will notify you when it is available.



SHOP SMART

Thank you to all partner agencies who participated in our Shop Smart Survey! Our supply chain team will use your input to identify and source products for the shared-cost Shop Smart program. We're excited to explore lower-cost options to supplement the items you are already sourcing.

PARTICIPATION DATABASE

Our Participation Database is currently experiencing issues with data submission and email generation. We appreciate your patience as we work to resolve it and will notify you once it's back up.

VIVERY MAPPING CLAIM DEADLINE

Partner agencies, check your email for instructions on claiming your profile on our Find Food Map via Vivory. This lets you update hours, contact details, and programs while also providing access to a free automated website. If you need help, contact our Agency Network Team.

OFFICE HOURS

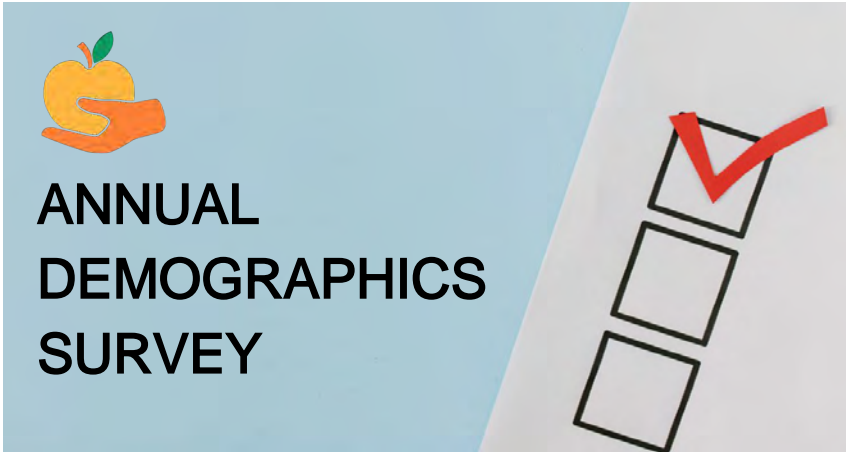
Tuesday, February 18,
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
[Join the Meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 841 4141 0973

ANNUAL DEMOGRAPHICS SURVEY

It's time for the Annual Demographics Survey!

In March and April, our partner agencies will collect vital data for grant reporting and for our parent organization, Feeding America. This required survey helps guide how we allocate resources to support our community.

To ease concerns, questions have been simplified, and all responses remain anonymous. For any questions, contact our Agency Network Team.



Please add these events to your calendars!

Monday, February 17

Food Bank Closure - President's Day

Monday, February 18

Agency Network Team Office Hours

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Via Zoom - [Join The Meeting](#)

Monday, April 21

Partner Agency Meeting

Time TBA

Location TBA

Friday, May 2

CalFresh Forum

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Twin Lakes Church

2701 Cabrillo College Dr, Aptos

Please **notify us** of any changes or cancellations to your distributions.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

WALNUT AVENUE FAMILY AND WOMEN'S CENTER

My name is Leticia Medina-Kohrs and the reason that I volunteer for the Walnut Avenue Family and Women's Center (WAFWC) is to give back to the local community.

I retired from UC Santa Cruz and became a volunteer at WAFWC over a year ago. I enjoy helping the Family Support Services Program each week.

Each Thursday, WAFWC, holds a Farmer's Market. I help set up the Farmer's Market with the produce that Second Harvest Food Bank delivers to WAFWC.

I enjoy seeing the families partake of the produce that Second Harvest has to offer. I'm glad that there are services like Second Harvest that are beneficial to the participants of WAFWC.

