

# Hunger Free Kids Task Force

## Welcome and Introductions

Introduce yourself in the chat  
with your name, title and organization

November 15, 2021

Mission of San Diego Hunger Coalition's Hunger Free Kids Program:  
Ensuring San Diego's children have access to nutritious meals wherever they  
live, learn, and play.

SDHC convenes these meetings to provide a space to learn more about  
Policy, Advocacy, Resources, Programs and to hear from guest speakers,  
experts and colleagues.



# Agenda for CACFP At-Risk Afterschool

- **Opportunities**
  - San Diego Hunger Coalition “State of Hunger”
    - Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> 10am-12pm
  - Friends of the Earth “Supply Chain Crisis or Opportunity? Local and Organic Purchasing Solutions for California Schools”
- **Snapshot - SDHC Overview of CACFP in San Diego County**
- **CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Supper at Escondido Elementary**
  - Kim Segura, Escondido Union Elementary School District
- **Keynote Presentation: CDSS State Update/Waiver Discussion**
  - Staff Services Manager, Sean Hardin
  - Nutrition Education Administrator, Elizabeth Moreno
  - CACFP Specialist, Monica Ortega
- **Supper Partnership Opportunities**
  - Brianna Guerrero, Feeding San Diego
- **2022 Vision - Hunger Free Kids Task Force**

**3rd Annual  
State of Hunger**

**Resources are decreasing.  
Hunger is not.**

November 16, 2021  
10:00 am | Virtual event  
Registration: \$25

**Register Now:**  
[sdhunger.org/state-of-hunger](https://sdhunger.org/state-of-hunger)



Thank you to our event sponsors:



# Nora Stewart

## Friends of the Earth



**Friends of the Earth**

**Climate-Friendly Food**

For Healthy Kids and a Healthy Planet



[www.sdhunger.org](http://www.sdhunger.org)



- **Friends of the Earth's Food and Agriculture Program** works to rapidly transition our food system to one that is sustainable, healthy, and just.
- **Our Healthy, Climate-Friendly School Food Program** works to shift K-12 food service purchasing dollars to support local farmers and ranchers and drive market shifts and consumption towards healthier, plant-forward, sustainable food.





## **Supply Chain Crisis or Opportunity?** **Local and Organic Purchasing Solutions for California Schools**

**A FREE webinar for CA School Districts**  
**Wednesday, Nov. 17th 2:00pm - 3:15pm PST**

**Register at [bit.ly/3npMBCi](https://bit.ly/3npMBCi)**

- ▶ Experiencing challenging supply chain shortages?
- ▶ Want new local vendors and more reliable supply chains?
- ▶ Interested in purchasing more, local, plant-based or organic food?

Learn about new organic offerings from DoD Fresh and hear from speakers including LunchAssist, Morgan Hill USD, and local suppliers such as Mary's Organic Chicken & Farm Fresh to You!



**Friends of the Earth**  
**Climate-Friendly Food**  
For Healthy Kids and a Healthy Planet

# School District Case Studies

- San Luis Coastal USD
- West Contra Costa USD
- Encinitas Union Elementary
- Natomas USD
- Tahoe Truckee USD
- Morgan Hill USD
- Riverside USD
- San Francisco USD
- Novato USD
- Santa Barbara USD
- Boulder Valley SD, CO
- School District of Lee County, FL

Case Study: San Luis Coastal USD



**How a Rockstar Lentil Burger Inspired More Plant-Forward School Food**

**SCHOOL DISTRICT PROFILE**

Erin Primer, Director of Food Services  
San Luis Obispo, CA  
18 K-12 schools, 7,801 students  
294,252 lunches served annually (pre-Covid)  
33.7% free & reduced-price meals eligible (pre-Covid)  
Food Service Model: scratch cooking; local and organic farms; local food businesses

**Overview**

What started as an experimental menu item shared by a Maine school district, **San Luis Coastal Unified School District (SLCUSD)'s Thai Basil Lentil Burger** has become one of the school's most popular plant-forward entrees. Concerned about lower school lunch participation, some school food service directors may be reluctant to offer plant-forward meals. However, many plant-based school lunches, like the Thai Basil Lentil Burger, are proving a big hit for students, school budgets and the planet! This story shows how a tasty, scratch-made, primarily plant-based burger (with egg as the only animal product) can be just as popular, if not more so, than commonly served meat burgers in K-12 schools. It also shows that educating students about how plant-forward foods make a difference for human health and the planet is a powerful motivational tool, especially when paired with fresh delicious menu items.

The **Thai Basil Lentil Burger**, made with locally grown organic lentils, is flavorful, climate-friendly, nutrient-dense, and cost-effective. Launched with other plant-forward menu items during the 2020-21 school year, it was successfully marketed for its wonderful flavor and climate benefits. Complementing the lentil burger, the district included Mighty Mariposa chickpea pasta and Black Bean Fajitas in its plant-forward pandemic take-home meal kits. While families were not initially given the plant-forward option, once the lentil burger was introduced (twice a week) with its companion dishes, 30% of families chose the plant-forward meal kit.

Since plant-forward meals were introduced, the district has seen a significant increase in school meal participation. The fresh and local ingredients in these dishes helped boost participation from a few hundred thousand meals each year to more than one million meals annually. In contrast, some school districts that replaced scratch cooking with packaged foods have seen a decline in participation, despite the increased need for food assistance that communities have experienced during the pandemic.



## Thai Basil Lentil Burger

Made with red lentils from Kandarian Organic Farm in Los Osos and buns from Edna's Bakery!



**FOOD FACTS**

- Friends of the Earth
- Lentil burgers are better for us and the planet!
- Uses 60% less water
- 165 fewer Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Healthier For Us

When compared to beef burgers

For SLC Case Study: visit [foe.org/resources/slo-lentil-burger-study](https://foe.org/resources/slo-lentil-burger-study)



**Friends of the Earth**  
**Climate-Friendly Food**  
For Healthy Kids and a Healthy Planet

# Snapshot - SDHC Overview of CACFP At-Risk Afterschool in San Diego County





# CACFP At-Risk Afterschool in San Diego County

- **437 CACFP sites currently operating**
  - 29 sponsors
    - 18 school districts
    - 11 community organizations



# Opportunity for CACFP At-Risk Afterschool in San Diego County

- 8 school districts are FRPM eligible but not yet sponsors
- 1 school district is a sponsor but not yet operating
- **~92 sites with opportunity to feed more kids**



**CACFP At-Risk Afterschool  
Supper at Escondido Elementary**  
Kim Segura  
Escondido Union School District





*ESCONDIDO UNION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
“ALL THINGS C.A.C.F.P.”*

We Are In This Together

# HOW WE GOT STARTED

- ❖ STARTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR
- ❖ SITES GOT INTO A RHYTHM OF WHAT THEY NEEDED TO DO
- ❖ FAMILIES KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT

# BENEFITS

- ❖ ALL STUDENTS EAT AT NO COST
- ❖ AREA ELIGIBILITY WAIVERS ALLOW US TO REACH FOOD INSECURE STUDENTS WHO ATTEND A SCHOOL THAT WOULD NOT NORMALLY QUALIFY FOR SUPPER
- ❖ NON CONGREGATE FEEDING WAIVER ALLOWS GRAB AND GO MEALS
- ❖ SERVING MORE MEALS DAILY
- ❖ HAVE EARNED \$794,626.00 FOR SUPPER ALONE

# CHALLENGES

- ❖ STORAGE ISSUES
- ❖ SUPPLY CHAIN ISSUES
- ❖ WASTE
- ❖ STAFFING SHORTAGES

# WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT

- ❖ UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY
- ❖ REACH THOSE NOT NORMALLY BENEFITTING FROM THE PROGRAM
- ❖ FOOD INSECURITY



# FINALLY

- ❖ CHALLENGES HAVE BEEN MET WITH POSITIVE ENERGY
- ❖ LOOKING FORWARD TO GETTING BACK TO NORMAL

TOGETHER WE HAVE PERSEVERED THROUGH THE  
TOUGHEST YEAR EVER AND WE SURVIVED. WE  
CONTINUED TO FEED THE KIDS EVERY POSSIBLE CHANCE  
WE HAD AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO

# Keynote Presentation: CDSS State Update/Waiver Discussion

Staff Services Manager, Sean Hardin

Nutrition Education Administrator, Elizabeth Moreno

CACFP Specialist, Monica Ortega

## CDSS



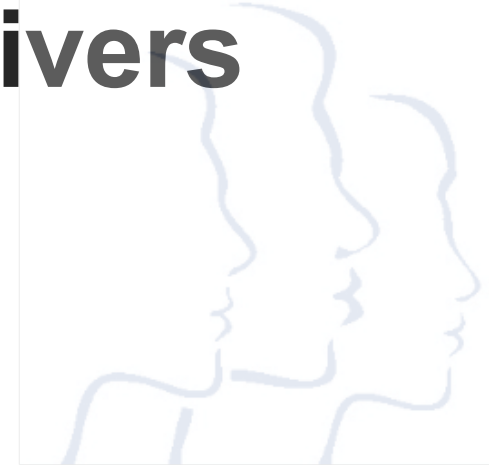


# CACFP Updates and Waivers Discussion

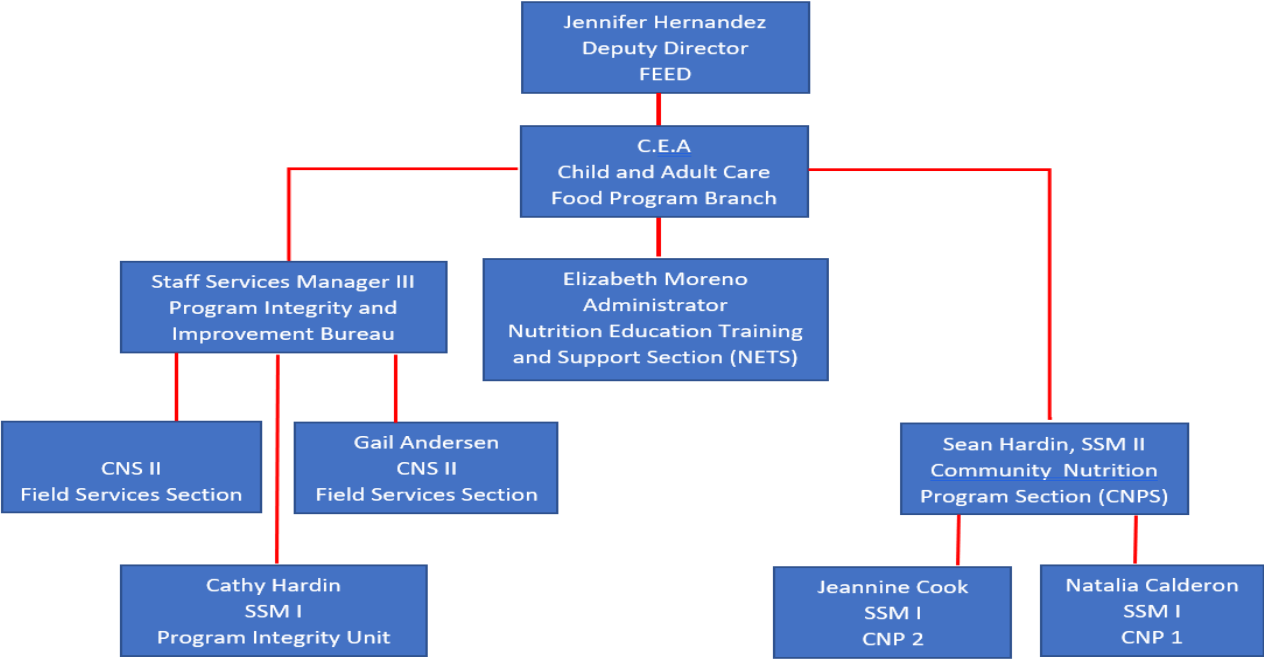
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SAN DIEGO COALITION MEETING

NOVEMBER 15, 2021



# CACFP Branch Organizational Structure



# 2021-22 CACFP Waiver Summary

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- All current CACFP Waivers are listed on the [CDE's COVID-19 Guidance in the Child Nutrition Programs web page](#) (CACFP tab)
- Operators can opt-in at any time through June 30, 2022.
- Originally, the CDE has organized the waivers into two categories: limited-use, and annual (single opt-in).
- Given recent developments with supply chain problems and USDA's support for more flexibility, the **CDSS and CDE have made all limited use waivers single-opt in waivers.**

# List of 2021-22 CACFP Waivers

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- Waiver #87: Non-congregate Feeding
- Waiver #88: Meal Service Times Requirements
- Waiver #89: Parent/Guardian Meal Pick-up
- Waiver #91: Meal Pattern Flexibilities
- Waiver #93: Area Eligibility for CACFP At-risk & Day Care Home Providers
- Waiver #96: On-site Monitoring for Sponsors

For more information refer to the [USDA Memo SP15 CACFP 13 SFSP08-2021, Questions and Answers for Child Nutrition Program Operations in SY 2021-2022](#)

# **Non-congregate Feeding Waiver COVID–19: Child Nutrition Response #87**

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**Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-Congregate Meal Service for School Year 2021-2022, remains in effect through June 30, 2022**

This waiver allows for:

- Consumption of meals off-site and outside group settings
- Meal pick-up options for participants learning virtually, and facilitate grab-and-go meals for students in school
- Before initiating a home meal delivery service, CACFP operators must first obtain written consent from households of eligible children or participating adults.

# **Meal Service Times Requirement Waiver COVID–19: Child Nutrition Response #88**

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**Nationwide Waiver of Meal Service Time Requirements for School Year 2021-2022, remains in effect through June 30, 2022**

This waiver allows for:

- CACFP Operators to provide meals outside of the prescribed meal service time requirements



# Parent or Guardian Meal Pick Up COVID–19: Child Nutrition Response #89

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**Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents/Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children for SY 2021-2022, remains in effect through June 30, 2022**

This waiver allows for:

- Operators with an approved waiver to distribute meals to a parent or guardian to take home to the participant
- Program operators must have a written integrity plan and retain accurate records of the meals served under this waiver and report to the California Department of Social Services at the conclusion of the COVID-19 emergency

# Meal Pattern Flexibility Waiver COVID–19: Child Nutrition Response #91

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**Nationwide Waiver to Allow Specific Meal Pattern Flexibility in the CACFP for School Year 2021-2022, in effect until June 30, 2022**

This waives the following meal pattern requirements:

1. That at least one serving per day across all eating occasions, must be whole grain rich
2. That the crediting of grains by ounce equivalents must be fully implemented by October 1, 2021
3. That low-fat milk (1 percent) must be unflavored

# CACFP Meal Pattern Waiver (MPW) Application

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- Separate application than other waivers: [COVID-19 Guidance in the Child Nutrition Programs](#) (CACFP tab)
- USDA and CDSS expect CACFP Operators to meet nutrition standards to the greatest extent possible; therefore, CACFP meal pattern waiver approvals are completed on a case-by-case basis and require a justification from the operator

# CACFP Meal Pattern Waiver Approval

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- MPW Application system automatically generates confirmation email
  - Not an approval email to waive meal pattern requirements
  - Contact [CACFPMPW@dss.ca.gov](mailto:CACFPMPW@dss.ca.gov) if no response after 24 hours
- Each application reviewed to ensure justification provided is acceptable
- Within two business days, CACFP MPW Team will either:
  1. Provide an approval email to the CACFP Operator
  2. Follow-up with the CACFP Operator to obtain additional information
- Must receive approval email before waiving meal pattern requirements

# CACFP MPW Application Tips

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- Check the box for each waiver needed
- Provide a reason for each waiver requested
- Use language unique to agency's needs
- Include only allowable uses of the waiver in written responses
- Select Submit on the final MPW Application screen



# Area Eligibility for **At-risk Afterschool Waiver** COVID–19: Child Nutrition Response #93

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**Nationwide Waiver of Area Eligibility in Afterschool Programs and Family Day Care Home Providers in School Year 2021- 2022, remains in effect through June 30, 2022**

This waiver allows for:

- Schools, regardless of their location, to claim all afterschool snacks at the free rate
- At-risk afterschool care centers, regardless of their location, to apply to participate in the CACFP and claim all meals and snacks at free rate
- Day care homes participating in the CACFP to claim all meals served to enrolled children at the Tier 1 rate, regardless of location

# Area Eligibility for **DCH Sponsors** Waiver COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #93

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- This waiver does not automatically allow DCH providers to claim at the tier 1 rate for their own children.
- Payment at the tier 1 rate may be made for meals served to their own children when
  - The children are enrolled and participating in the child care program during the time of meal service
  - The enrolled nonresident children are present and participating in the child care program
  - The providers children are eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals
- Meals may not be claimed for providers own children if the above criteria are not met
- For more information refer to the [USDA Memo SP15 CACFP 13 SFSP08-2021, Questions and Answers for Child Nutrition Program Operations in SY 2021-2022, Questions 19-21](#)

# **On-site Monitoring for **State Agencies** Waiver COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #95**

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**Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for State Agencies in the Child and Adult Care Food Program – EXTENSION 3 remains in effect until 30 days after the end of the public health emergency**

This waiver allows for:

- State agencies, to the maximum extent possible continue monitoring activities of program operations offsite by means of a desk audit



# On-site Monitoring for **Sponsors** Waiver COVID–19: Child Nutrition Response #96

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**Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for Sponsors in the Child and Adult Care Food Program – EXTENSION remains in effect until 30 days after the end of the public health emergency**

This waiver allows for:

- Sponsors to continue monitoring activities of program operations offsite by means of a desk audit

# Waiver Submission

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- Sponsors must enroll in the waivers that they will be participating in
- Information on waiver submission is located at: [CDE COVID-19 Guidance in the CNP Webpage](#)
- A written Integrity Plan is required for Waivers #87, #88, #89, #91 and #96 that must be submitted as part of the AR process

# Waiver Contact Information

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- **CACFP waiver questions:** A list of CACFP Analysts by county is available in the Download Forms section of the CNIPS
- **CACFP meal pattern waiver questions:** [CACFPMPW@dss.ca.gov](mailto:CACFPMPW@dss.ca.gov)
- **Administrative review questions:** A list of Field Services Unit Child Nutrition Consultants by county is available in the Download Forms Section of the CNIPS



# Questions?

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THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER



# Supper Partnership Opportunities

Brianna Guerrero  
Feeding San Diego





**CACFP At Risk Afterschool**  
*Hunger Free Kids Task Force*



# CACFP At Risk Afterschool

- FSD is a CACFP At Risk Afterschool sponsor
- We work with a third party vendor to deliver scratch made suppers daily across San Diego County
- The meals are free completely free and meet the USDA meal requirement guidelines
- No forms or personal information required from children or families



# CACFP At Risk Afterschool

- School must have at least **50% FRPM**
- Must provide enrichment afterschool enrichment of some kind.
- Attend training, 3x a year monitoring and regular communication with FSD
- We are here as a *support* to schools and hope to continue growing our program to meet the hunger need in San Diego County





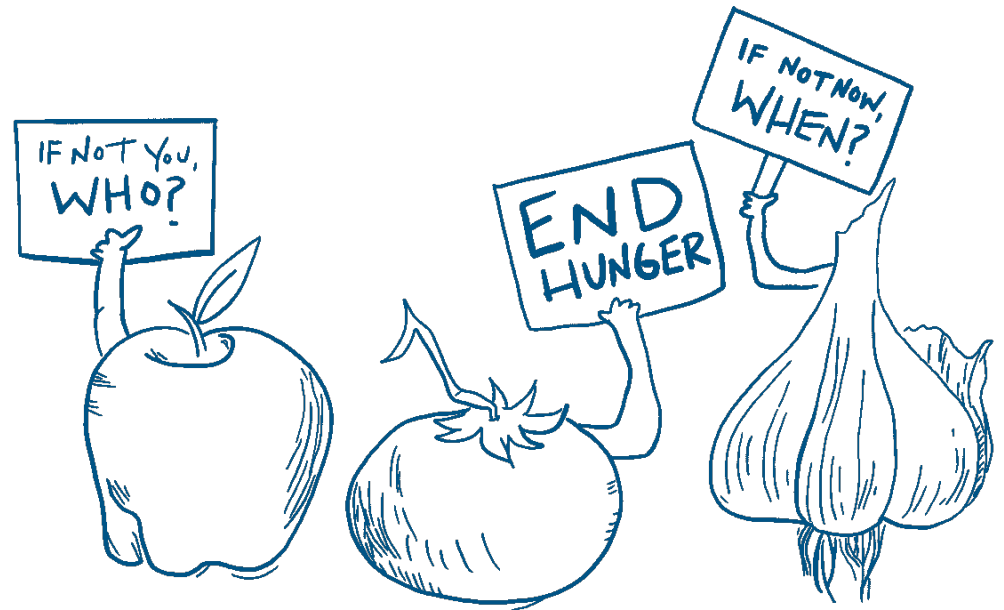


Please contact me if you are interested in learning more!

Brianna Guerrero

Youth Meals Manager

[bguerrero@feedingsandiego.org](mailto:bguerrero@feedingsandiego.org)



# 2021 Recap



# 2022 Vision



# 2022 Vision (Cont.)

- What would you like to see or see more of at HFKTF in 2022?

# Thank you!

**See you in 2022!**

**\*\*HFK Task Force will not be meeting in December 2021\*\***

Please send us your comments and feedback:

[amascia@sdhunger.org](mailto:amascia@sdhunger.org)

[ashley@sdhunger.org](mailto:ashley@sdhunger.org)