



## MEDIA ADVISORY

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## COVID-19 and Hunger Relief in San Diego

San Diego Hunger Coalition leads collaborative action during crisis

**San Diego, March 18, 2020** – San Diego Hunger Coalition (SDHC) and its 150+ partners across San Diego County remain committed to ensuring that everyone has enough to eat during the COVID-19 pandemic. SDHC is carefully monitoring the situation, coordinating with partner agencies, gathering the lasting information on resources, and working to expand access to food assistance.

Up-to-date information on all facets of food assistance in San Diego during the Coronavirus scare may be found at [sdhunger.org/covid19](http://sdhunger.org/covid19).

This web page also serves as an information clearinghouse for community-based organizations. San Diego Hunger Coalition is serving as a hub to make it easy to stay up to date on the ever-evolving landscape of available food assistance resources.

### About Hunger Relief and COVID-19

During this crisis, food insecurity is on the rise as people are temporarily laid off of work and grocery supply shortages occur. All hunger relief agencies remain active and supportive, although many will begin working remotely and providing virtual services via internet and telephone. Food banks and pantries remain largely open. The two largest food banks, Feeding San Diego and the Jacobs and Cushman San Diego Food Bank, are not only continuing regular service, but increasing their output to meet rising demand.

All public assistance benefits will continue to be issued as normal. CalFresh and WIC applications and assistance have moved entirely to internet and phone as county and nonprofit offices close or allow their staff to telecommute to avoid COVID-19 exposure. Resources to determine where to find help and who is still open may be found on our web page.

School meals and senior citizen food assistance have adopted a grab-and-go takeaway model in most locations. San Diego Hunger Coalition is working with its partners to continue to expand these services throughout the county.

### About San Diego Hunger Coalition

San Diego Hunger Coalition leads collaborative action to end hunger in San Diego County supported by research, education, and advocacy. SDHC functions as an information clearing house, collaborative command center, and communications hub during times of public crisis.

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*San Diego Hunger Coalition is available for interviews, information, and to facilitate connections with any of our over 150 local hunger relief partners and their clients.*

*Continually updated information on the current crisis is available at [sdhunger.org/covid19](http://sdhunger.org/covid19)*

***Our offices are currently closed, and our team is telecommuting from their homes. In-person interviews are still available at our offices or in-studio with enough lead time, and phone interviews are available at any time.***

***Please contact Joe Shumate, Communications Officer on his cell phone at 310-903-7480 or [joseph@sdhunger.org](mailto:joseph@sdhunger.org).***

