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Working Together to Shape a Healthy Future

Facilitated by UC San Diego Center for Community Health

August Newsletter

Healthy Cities and Counties Challenge Award

The University of California San Diego Center for Community Health and the San Diego County Childhood Obesity Initiative, in partnership with the City of Chula Vista, Chula Vista Elementary School District, San Diego County Promotores Coalition, County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency, San Diego Hunger Coalition and other community partners, have received one of 20 grants across the country as part of the [Healthiest Cities & Counties Challenge](#), a program funded by the Aetna Foundation, together with the American Public Health Association (APHA) and the National Association of Counties (NACo), supporting communities that are changing the way they work together across sectors to reduce disparities in chronic disease outcomes. To learn about this project click [here](#).



USDA Farm to School Grant

Congratulations to San Diego Unified School District Food & Nutrition Services and Leah's Pantry! Leah's Pantry is a recipient of a \$92,500 USDA Farm to School Grant. The Leah's Pantry Barrio Botany project will support San Diego Unified School District's Farm to School Program through on-site production of salad bar ingredients at school gardens in high poverty, low opportunity neighborhoods. Fruits and vegetables grown by students will be harvested and used for school cafeterias, instruction that increases local food consumption among students, and food and agricultural literacy improvement. To learn more, please join the San Diego County Childhood Obesity Initiative's Schools and After-Schools Domain meeting, held August 18th, 2-3:30pm. For the Zoom link, click [here](#). Password: 196631



Advocacy

This past month, the COI signed letters of support for two pieces of legislation in partnership with the California Food Policy Advocates (CFPA) and the San Diego Hunger Coalition (SDHC).

- CFPA requested for the USDA to *extend critical child nutrition waivers* through this upcoming school year to allow schools to continue serving free meals and snacks to its students while they are not physically attending school. This nationwide request recognizes that grab-and-go meal sites have been and will continue to be integral to meeting nutritional needs of students throughout the school year.
- SDHC is endorsing the *Pandemic Child Hunger Prevention Act*. This act would make all children eligible to access breakfast, lunch, and after school snack programs either in school or through “grab and go” and delivery options.

Fresh 5 CSA Boxes

The Foodshed Small Farm Distro is a farmer-owned resource and distribution hub dedicated to growing a resilient, just food system in San Diego. They are now open for new members to join. Options include a no-commitment one week opt-in as well as monthly subscriptions. Weekly purchase availability opens Wednesday through Friday for Saturday and Tuesday pick up or Tuesday home delivery. This is an excellent opportunity to support local Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) farmers. To visit their website to learn more, click [here](#). To watch a video presentation, click [here](#). To shop, click [here](#).



Free Virtual Health Education Classes

The UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of California’s Quality Department Health Education, Cultural, and Linguistics team is partnering with Champions for Health to sponsor virtual health education classes on cooking quick and nutritious meals, women’s health, and diabetes. The classes will be offered to the community at no cost. Dates and times for the classes are listed on the flyers. To access *English flyers*, click [here](#). To access *Spanish flyers*, click [here](#).



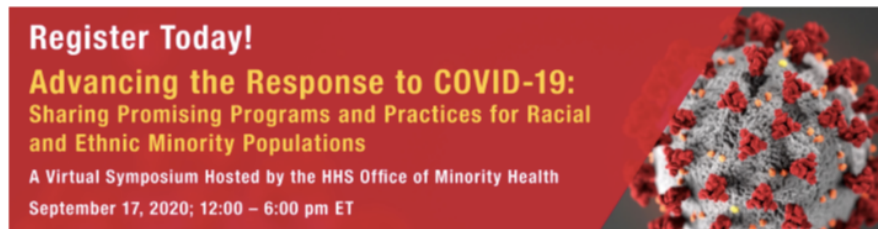
Advancing the Response to COVID-19: Sharing Promising Programs and Practices for Racial and Ethnic Minority Communities.

A Virtual Symposium Hosted by the Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Minority Health: September 17, 2020. 9:00am - 3:00pm PST.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Minority Health (OMH) is hosting a [virtual symposium](#) on Thursday, September 17, 2020 on the impact of COVID-19 among minority communities.

This virtual symposium will feature promising practices, programs, and strategies for combatting the pandemic in order to achieve health equity in communities of color.

OMH invites partners at the regional, state, tribal and community levels to join and convene with public health leaders from state and local levels to discuss their organizations' response to address COVID-19 in racial and ethnic minority and American Indian and Alaska Native populations. To register click [here](#).



Register Today!
Advancing the Response to COVID-19:
Sharing Promising Programs and Practices for Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations
A Virtual Symposium Hosted by the HHS Office of Minority Health
September 17, 2020; 12:00 – 6:00 pm ET

Core funding provided by:



Facilitated by:

