



THE FRESNO CENTER

City of Fresno/ The Fresno Center

COVID-19 Food Distribution Project

Project Period: Aug 1, 2020 – Dec. 31, 2020

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Through strategic planning, TFC has grown from a staff of 3, in the height of newly arriving Hmong refugees in 2004-2005, to a staff of nearly 100 currently. TFC was the lead organization in establishing the Hmong Resettlement Task Force in partnership with other local ethnic agencies, elected officials, and government service providers. One of the core service providers included the Federal Office of Refugee Resettlement.

1.2 Since 1991, TFC has focused on mental health, education, employment services and civic engagement. TFC's founder and first Executive Director was Dr. Tony Vang. In 1992, Lue N. Yang assumed the position after Dr. Vang assumed a teaching position at CSU Stanislaus. In 2007, Pao Yang assumed the position of Executive Director and is the current President and Chief Executive Officer. The Fresno Center is proactive and values partnerships with health professionals, educational institutions, elected officials, public service providers, and private foundations. One such notable relationship is our collaborative research on Hmong health in the Central Valley with Dr. Peter Kunstadter of UC San Francisco. TFC has been consistently funded by Fresno County to provide refugee and employment services based on our linguistic and cultural competency, and private foundations have selected TFC as a local grantee to deliver health education, civic services, advocacy, and leadership development.

1.3 TFC is highly sought for our cross-cultural expertise in the areas of health, law, and social integration. We continue to provide services in employment, citizenship, leadership, networking, mental health, research, and advocacy. These services serve as the foundation for TFC as we transition refugees to become new Americans. TFC will continue to evolve to address the changing needs of new Americans through civic engagement, voting registration, and personal empowerment.

1.4 The City of Fresno COVID-19 Food Distribution Project is a food distribution project that aims to feed those in need who are struggling to put food on the table for their

families and themselves during this stressful pandemic and economic time.. The Fresno Center's goal is to distribute food boxes and food bags to families and individuals in need on a weekly basis every month at TFC's location for as long as the City of Fresno COVID-19 funds appropriated for this effort will allow.

- 1.5 Distribution will occur on Wednesday of each week during the hours of 8 am to 3 pm or until the weekly food stock is exhausted.
- 1.6 The objective is to provide food in the form of family or individual meal boxes, with each box containing enough food to last several days each week. Our hope is to assist those impacted by this pandemic by easing the strain caused by unemployment, wage loss, and other financial effects associated with the pandemic. We hope to act as a platform for community members who are interested in food donation and charity projects to participate as volunteers and donors and to raise awareness on charitable activities and the challenges that those affected by the pandemic and the underprivileged groups face.
- 1.7 Target Clients: Our target clients are located in the 93727 area of Southeast Fresno. Target clients include, but are not limited to, Southeast Asians (Hmong, Laos, Khmer), African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Caucasians, and other people of color.
- 1.8 Number of Clients to be served each week: 600 clients will be served each week. The 600 clients will feed 6 family members in their household, which equals 3,600 clients reached per week.
- 1.9 (Fill in how they register, who is eligible, documentation for audit purposes). Staff will pre-register all clients (walk-in and non-walk-in clients) using an intake form. Pre-registration will be done on a first come, first serve basis, and all clients will be required to pre-register before receiving their food.

2.0 PROJECT MECHANISM

2.1 Procurement of the Food: Staff will procure food items from local farmers, food suppliers, and the Central Community Food Bank.

2.2 Actual Physical Set-up Description:

The physical location will be at 4879 E. Kings Canyon Road, Fresno, CA 93727. Cars will enter through the back ally of the above address, pick up their food in the parking lot, and exit on Winery or Kings Canyon Road. The food distribution event will be a drive-thru food distribution. A second distribution line will be created for clients with no vehicle.

Sample Set-up Schedule:

8 am to 12 pm – staff and volunteers will set up canopies, tables, traffic cones, and hip collars.

8 am to 12 pm – staff and volunteers pre-register clients using an intake form

12 pm – food is delivered on site.

12:30 pm – staff will hold an orientation to go over health safety procedures and regulations, food safety practices and rules

1 pm – staff and volunteers begin to pack food in bags and boxes

1:45 pm – Food distribution begins.

Six canopies will be set up by staff and volunteers. Up to 15-50 volunteers will assist with each food distribution event.

Logistics: Cars will drive up to the food distribution inventory station, and staff will give one box/bag to each client.

Refer to Food Distribution Map in Attachment B.

2.3 Food: Vegetables, canned food, package food, drinks, and meat (limited),

2.4 Budget: Refer to Budget Template in Attachment A.

3.0 Conclusion

3.1 The goal of the Food Distribution Project is to provide families and individuals impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with food in the form of meal boxes. The food distribution will help ease the strain caused by unemployment, wage loss, and other financial effects associated with the pandemic. The project will serve 600 clients each week. The 600 clients will feed 6 family members in their household, which equals 3,600 clients reached per week or 79,200 clients served over 22 weeks. This project will also be a platform for community members to participate as volunteers or donors and raise awareness on charitable acts and the challenges faced by those affected by the pandemic and underprivileged groups.