

Agenda Item: File ID20-00609

Date: 5/15/2020

Council Meeting Date: 5/14/2020

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## Supplemental Information Packet

**Agenda Item – ID 20-00619, Actions related to Fresno Micro Farmers Farm to Family Program, Item 4-A**

**Content of Supplement: Letters of Support Received During the Meeting**

### **Supplemental Information:**

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed. The Supplemental Packet is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 2600 Fresno Street, during normal business hours (main location pursuant to the Brown Act, G.C. 54957.5(2)). In addition, Supplemental Packets are available for public review at the City Council meeting in the City Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno Street. Supplemental Packets are also available on-line on the City Clerk's website.

### **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):**

The meeting room is accessible to the physically disabled, and the services of a translator can be made available. Requests for additional accommodations for the disabled, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or translators should be made one week prior to the meeting. Please call City Clerk's Office at 621-7650. Please keep the doorways, aisles and wheelchair seating areas open and accessible. If you need assistance with seating because of a disability, please see Security.



May 12, 2020

Fresno City Council and Mayor  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

**RE: Farm to Families Program**

Dear City Council and Mayor,

On behalf of The Fresno Center (TFC), I am writing this letter in support of the Farm to Families Program introduced by Councilmember Esmeralda Soria, Council President Arias, and Councilmember Chavez. The Farm to Families Program is crucial to our farming community that is suffering from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Administered by TFC and ABRIC, the Farm to Families Program will use \$500,000 in funding to provide small grants of \$1,000 to small farmers who will agree to donate all surplus products to the California Food Bank. This program will support both our farming communities as well as our most vulnerable communities that are in need of food during these unprecedented times.

TFC has over 28 years of history providing services to the community-at-large and has been recognized and trusted by many organizations and community leaders in Fresno with the capacity to work with refugees, new Americans, and the mainstream community. TFC has over 100 staff and volunteers who come from ethnically and culturally diverse backgrounds and has staff with the capacity to serve clients in 8 languages: English, Hmong, Lao, Thai, Khmer, Spanish, Punjabi, and Hindi. TFC and ABIRC is well-positioned to promptly and efficiently provide services and support to meet the identified critical needs of clients impacted by the pandemic. Prior to the pandemic, TFC served an average of 3,500 clients per month. With this funding, TFC and ABIRC will be able to immediately deploy the Farm to Families Program to the hundreds of families in need. For these reasons, we strongly urge you to support this necessary and crucial program.

Thank you in advance for considering this program. Should you have any questions, please contact me at 559-255-8395 or [pao.yang@fresnocenter.org](mailto:pao.yang@fresnocenter.org).

Sincerely,

Pao Yang  
President & CEO

CC: Fresno City Clerk



May 13, 2020

**Address:**

4010 E. Amendola Dr.  
Fresno, CA 93725

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559-237-3663

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

Fresno City Council and Mayor  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

May 11, 2020,

Dear City Council and Mayor,

**2019/20 Board of Directors**

Julie Olson-Buchanan, Chair

Beth Pandol, Vice Chair

Justin Emmi, Treasurer

Kay Davies, Secretary

Mark Riley, Past Chair

Paula Armstrong

Jim Bates

Joel Brownell

Brian Decker

Justin Emmi

Joan Hensleit-Minasian

Bill Littlewood

Jim Lynes

Rosa Pereirra

David Schecter

As a representative of Central California Food Bank serving the community of Fresno, I am writing this letter in support of the Farm to Families Program introduced by Councilmember Esmeralda Soria, Council President Arias, and Councilmember Chavez. The Farm to Families Program is crucial to our farming community that is suffering from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Administered by ABRIC, the Farm to Families program would use \$500,000 in funding to provide small grants of \$1,000 for small farmers who would agree to donate all surplus products to Central California Food Bank. This program will not only help our farming communities but also our most vulnerable community members in need of food during these unprecedented times.

Central California Food Bank strongly urges you to support this necessary and crucial program and help our community as a whole during this pandemic.

Regards,

Natalie Caples  
Chief Operations Officer  
Central California Food Bank

**President & CEO**

Andrew T. Souza