



Mission: Promote a sustainable food system that is equitable, profitable, resilient, and health-promoting in the County of San Luis Obispo.

Vision Statement: San Luis Obispo has a thriving, sustainable, and local food economy, and every resident has access to fresh, nutritious food without compromising the ability of the system to meet the needs of future generations.

Public Meeting

Subject:	Four Roundtables for the Future		
Facilitator:	SLO FSC, Ellen Burke	Meeting Date:	2021-02-09
Location:	Virtual Meeting via Zoom	Time:	9:00a-10:30a

Agenda

- 9:00- 9:05 Welcome and Announcements
- 9:05 - 9:15 Work group updates
- 9:15 - 9:25 Roundtable discussion introduction
- 9:30 - 10:15 Roundtable breakout room sessions
- 10:15 - 10:25 Breakout room summaries
- 10:25 - 10:30 Meeting close

Announcements

- Intro committee members
- FSC will participate in April Racial Equity Challenge - <https://foodsolutionsne.org/21-day-racial-equity-habit-building-challenge/>
- Fiscal sponsorship - We are now sponsored by Ecologistics and can accept donations on our website: www.slofoodsystem.org
- This year is our 10 year anniversary - we are brainstorming celebration ideas, we are open to suggestions
- Work groups -
 - CalFresh Alliance: meeting quarterly, folks doing Calfresh outreach, next meeting March 10, 1-2pm, DSS present, outreach strategies, contact Andrea at akeisler@slofoodbank.org to get on email list
 - EBT at FM - goal to increase markets accepting CalFresh and Market Match, see overview on FSC website, contact Shannon at sklisch@ucanr.edu to join the group
- From the Farm Bureau - COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Survey for Agriculture Employers <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MT6DZJH>
- Paso Food Coop - www.Pasofoodcooperative.coop. 261 Member-Owners. Need 500 to Open the Cooperative Food Market. We have a heart for local food, education, community, etc. Please join us today.

Roundtable Introduction

- Marilyn Tseng from Cal Poly is working on a project to write up food policy - bring folks from the food system together to understand what is current, what is needed and where there is collaboration opportunities
- Food Policy Work group - link to get more information <https://forms.gle/wyC4Fe5NhVMGpnfL9>

Breakout Room Summaries

- Access - shifting policies at federal level, immigration policy changes - confusing who is eligible and caused a lot of fear to sign up for programs
 - Bureaucratic programs makes it challenging to sign up
 - Distribution of food - challenging, pandemic magnifies challenge
 - Farm Bill is significant funding source for access policies
 - Opportunity- nail down correct info and distribute because each program (SNAP, WIC, etc) has different and changing requirements



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- Different agencies have to work together for strategies of outreach and info distribution
- Events could bring program eligible folks together to help navigate programs, walk through sign up and use
 - At the table should be : DSS, faith communities, homeless advocates, grocery, Latino communities, farmworker advocates, farmers of color
- Economy Breakout Room- cost of farming is high (off farm income needed), how to boost profit for local farmers
 - Opportunities - so much food consumed in county - make more of it local
 - Programs for farmers to make value added products
- Health Breakout Room - disparities in health, low food literacy levels
 - Policy - how is legislation written and interpreted
 - Local policies - a lot of environmental, need more health
 - At the table should be: County Supervisors, community based orgs, populations for whom we are advocating (unhoused, lower income, etc.)
- Environment Breakout Rooms - themes of water, food waste
 - State level policies - farmland, water management, waste
 - Need - change education policies of FFA and other ag programs
 - Advocacy group for small farmers - can lead to more sustainable farming practices
 - Address barriers to entry such as access to land and capital
 - A need for parallel tracks - policy along with building knowledge among potential farmers

Next Meeting

- May 11, 2021

PREPARED BY: Claire Tuohey-Mote

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