SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FOOD SYSTEM COALITION

Accomplishments

Speakers at Quarterly Meetings:

- 2013 Andrea Chavez, Manager, Talley Farms Fresh Harvest CSA Developing a CSA
- 2014 John DeRosier, Farmer, With the Grain New & local farmers in the food system
- October 2015 Rob Rutherford, Cal Poly Emeritus Professor in Animal Science Farming for Ecosystem Resilience in a Changing Climate
- April 2016 Ellen Burke, Cal Poly Associate Professor of Sustainability in the Built Environment - Mapping Food Production and Culture in SLO County
- April 2017 Roundtable with SLO County Food Service Directors about local food sourcing in public schools

Advocacy Events:

- June 2015 1st advocacy training attended by over 30 organizations
- Nov. 2015 Discussed statewide advocacy efforts with the Policy Director of the CA Association of Food Banks
- March 2016 Presented to the SLO Health Commission about the FSC
- May 2016 2nd advocacy training, focusing on local success stories, featuring speakers from Bike SLO County, Margarita Proud, and HEAL-SLO
- July 2016 Meeting with Chief of CalFresh Branch of CA DSS, attended by Supervisor Gibson, which sparked the formation of the CalFresh Alliance work group and collaboration with our local DSS

Work Group Outcomes:

- EBT at Farmers Markets
 - Assisted North County Farmers Market Association to apply for market match funding
 - Started conversation with market manager of SLO Thursday night farmers market about accepting EBT, and now he does
- CalFresh Alliance:
 - Funding for new CalFresh Outreach Coordinator through DSS and Food Bank
 - Local DSS hosted educational workshops about CalFresh enrollment
- Farm to School:
 - Hosting Growing Edible Education Symposium in October 6 & 7, sparking widespread stakeholder engagement
- Farm to Markets:
 - Hosted Farmer-Buyer mixer, connected local growers with local buyers
 - Fostered relationship with Harvest Santa Barbara, a small-scale local produce distributor, who is now buying from smaller farmers in SLO County and selling to Paso Robles School District and Cal Poly

Partner Organizations

Affordable Housing Paso Robles (Youthworks) CAFES Center for Sustainability Center for Family Strengthening (Promotores) Central Coast Grown Chumash Farms Community Action Partnership of SLO County **CREEC Network Diringer and Associates** eatSLO network Ecologistics, Inc. Farmers Guild San Luis Obispo Food Bank Coalition of SLO County GleanSLO HEAL-SLO North County Farmers Markets Association One Cool Earth SLO Guild SLO County Public Health **SLO Permaculture Guild** Slow Money SLO UC Cooperative Extension - SLO County