



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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FEEDING SAN DIEGO ANNOUNCES EXPANSION OF FEEDING EAST COUNTY RURAL HUNGER INITIATIVE DURING COVID-19 CRISIS

SAN DIEGO (March 26, 2020) — [Feeding San Diego](https://www.feedingsandiego.org) today announced it will launch a weekly drive-through food distribution in Ramona, it is increasing food supplied at its ten Feeding East County rural mobile pantry distributions and it is adding two additional special distributions on Monday, March 30 in Campo and Jacumba to meet rising demand. The organization will continue to increase the supply as needed to meet the fast-growing need in San Diego's mountain and desert regions during the coronavirus pandemic.

"From Borrego Springs to Potrero, hunger is a serious issue in our rural east county," said Vince Hall, CEO of Feeding San Diego. "The COVID-19 crisis has worsened an already serious problem by increasing food insecurity for communities that lack access to affordable groceries. Our Feeding East County initiative has been serving these communities for years and is growing rapidly during this time of crisis."

Through the Feeding East County initiative, Feeding San Diego provides free, twice-monthly farmer's market style distributions in neighborhoods that have a high incidence of poverty and limited access to food. During the COVID-19 outbreak, an additional supply of food at these critical distributions will help residents in rural areas to access the nutrition they need to endure the unprecedented crisis.

The new distribution in Ramona will offer east county families safe and convenient drive-through access to food with no questions asked. First Congregational Church of Ramona (404 8th St, Ramona, CA, 92065) will be hosting the distribution every Friday at 1:30 PM, beginning March 27.

"Feeding San Diego is stepping up during this time of crisis and providing a critical opportunity for east county residents in need," said District 2 Supervisor Dianne Jacob. "It's a much-needed and much-appreciated helping hand for our rural families."

"I want to thank Feeding San Diego for serving the people of Borrego Springs during this crisis and all year round," said District 5 Supervisor Jim Desmond.

(continued)

The bimonthly distributions are free, open to anyone in need, and no paperwork is required. The schedule of distributions is as follows:

Alpine	First Baptist Church of Alpine	1st and 3 rd Wednesday	9:00 to 10:00 AM	1912 Arnold Way Alpine, CA 91901
Borrego Springs	Borrego Springs Catholic Church	1st and 3 rd Monday	10:00 to 11:00 AM	611 Church Lane Borrego Springs, CA 92004
Boulevard		1st and 3 rd Monday	9:30 to 10:30 AM	39605 Old Highway 80 Boulevard, CA 91905
Campo	Mountain Health & Community Services	2nd and 4 th Monday (plus 3/30)	12:00 to 1:00 PM	976 Sheridan Road Campo, CA 91906
Descanso	Descanso Branch Library	1st and 3 rd Thursday	9:00 to 10:00 AM	9545 River Drive Descanso, CA 91916
Guatay	Guatay Christian Fellowship	2nd and 4 th Thursday	10:00 to 11:00 AM	27521 Old Highway 80 Guatay, CA 91931
Jacumba		2nd and 4 th Monday (plus 3/30)	9:00 to 10:00 AM	44600 Old Highway 80 Jacumba, CA 91934
Julian	Julian Library	2nd and 4 th Wednesday	9:30 to 10:30 AM	1850 California 78 Julian, CA 92036
Potrero		1st and 3 rd Thursday	12:00 to 1:00 PM	24954 Potrero Valley Road Potrero, CA 91963
Shelter Valley		2nd and 4 th Wednesday	12:00 to 1:00 PM	7217 Great Southern Overland Trail Julian CA 92036

Over half of the food provided at these distributions is healthy, fresh produce. Families are asked to bring their own shopping bags or carts.

In addition to the Feeding East County distributions, Feeding San Diego offers food assistance at [sites throughout San Diego County](#). Additional community resources are accessible by calling 2-1-1 or visiting 211sandiego.org. For more information on Feeding San Diego's coronavirus response, go to feedingsandiego.org/coronavirus.

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ABOUT FEEDING SAN DIEGO

[Feeding San Diego](#) is a non-profit organization on a mission to connect every person facing hunger with nutritious meals by maximizing food rescue. Established in 2007, Feeding San Diego is the leading hunger-relief and food rescue organization in San Diego County and the only Feeding America affiliate in the region. Feeding San Diego provides more than 26 million meals every year to children, families, seniors, college students, military families and veterans and people facing homelessness in partnership with a network of 300 local charities, schools, faith communities, meal sites and food pantries. Through an efficient model focused on reducing our impact on the environment, every dollar donated helps provide four nutritious meals to people in need. To learn more about Feeding San Diego and its hunger-relief initiatives, visit feedingsandiego.org.