SAN DIEGO COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATED AT 27%

THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE - May 6, 2020: An estimate of San Diego County’s jobless rate near the end of April was 27 percent — surpassing unemployment numbers not seen since the Great Depression. The San Diego Association of Governments, or SANDAG, came up with the figure using federal and statewide data and applying it to San Diego County. During the Great Recession, the county hit a record high of 11.1 percent in 2010. While local records are not available that far back, the national rate during the Great Depression hit a high of 24.9 percent in 1933.

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HOW YOU CAN HELP

Find Food  Make a Gift  Donate Food  Start a Fundraiser  Spread the Word

For benefit campaigns and fund drives, click here.

MAY IS CALFRESH AWARENESS MONTH

In an effort to increase food assistance to people facing hunger during this COVID-19 crisis, the government is providing maximum benefits to CalFresh applicants in May. CalFresh (nationally known as SNAP) is a nutrition assistance program designed to help families and low-income individuals purchase healthy foods. Eligible clients receive an EBT card (similar to a debit card) that can be used to purchase food at the grocery store and participating farmer’s markets.

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FEEDING SAN DIEGO PURCHASES 133 TRUCKLOADS OF FOOD

Since March 14, Feeding San Diego has purchased 133 truckloads of food to meet a countywide surge in demand due to the COVID-19 crisis. We normally purchase approximately 24 truckloads in an entire year. The increased reliance on purchased food is helping us meet the needs of the now 1 in 6 San Diegans struggling with hunger due to the COVID-19 crisis, as San Diego’s unemployment rate reaches 27%. The increased demand comes at a time when Feeding San Diego has experienced a 30 percent decline in donations from local grocery stores.

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On Tuesday, May 5, Feeding San Diego joined the #GivingTuesdayNow movement — a day dedicated to generosity and caring in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis. In addition to raising funds, Feeding San Diego hosted an Instagram Live event, #GivingTuesdayNow Progressive Dinner Party led by Food Network host and Feeding San Diego Entertainment Council Member Troy Johnson. Chef JoJo Ruiz of Lionfish and Serẽa, Bravo Top Chef Angie Sosa of Small Barn Temecula, and Bravo Top Chef and Restauranteur Brian Malarkey each cooked and shared an amazing Cinco de Mayo inspired dish in honor of Feeding San Diego.

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Feeding San Diego is holding a series of UNITE: Stakeholder Calls over the next few weeks with CEO Vince Hall and other members of the Feeding San Diego team to keep the community informed about our COVID-19 response efforts. The webinars are conducted via Zoom video and phone conferencing. Watch the recording from this week’s call and register for our next UNITE: Stakeholder Call on Tuesday, May 19 at 1:00 PM.

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Feeding San Diego is grateful to our lead corporate and foundation partners for their generous contributions of $10,000 and above to our COVID-19 Response Fund.

To learn more about how to support Feeding San Diego, please contact Ali Colbran, Director of Development, at acolbran@feedingsandiego.org.

#SanDiegoStrong