



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 23, 2020

Contact:

Sylvia Soublet

Social Services Agency, Public Affairs Director

O: (510) 267-9434 / C: (510) 207-2074

F: (510) 271-9120

ssoublet@acgov.org

Alameda County's Online Tool Link Residents in Need with Food Distribution & other Essential Services

Oakland, CA – To meet the unprecedented need for assistance during the COVID-19 emergency, the Alameda County Social Services Agency (ACSSA) is deploying additional online resources to connect residents with food distribution sites and other essential services.

“It’s no secret that the COVID-19 crisis has created both an unprecedented need for services and confusion about locations and access,” said Lori A. Cox, ACSSA’s director. “As thousands of job cuts hit the County, calls to the Alameda County Food bank have increased by 1,000 percent. New CalFresh applications submitted to the Alameda County Social Services Agency are up 119 percent from this time last year. The numbers are startling.”

The Social Services Agency in partnership with the Alameda County Emergency Operations Center, Alameda County Community Food Bank and other community partners have worked together to assemble and organize county-wide data on food distribution and emergency resource information to help cut through the confusion and connect residents with vital services that they need to meet their basic needs.

The information provided is meant to be as comprehensive as possible, which includes dates and time of operation, a description of services provided and location information (www.acgov.org/maps/food-services.htm). County residents are encouraged to visit the website early and often – resource information will be updated regularly as more information becomes available.

No matter which format they choose, residents are advised to call sites before they visit to confirm location, hours, current availability of supplies, and any other necessary information.

County Supervisor Wilma Chan noted, “the additional online resources are part of the County’s work with its community partners to keep residents connected with benefits and services during the emergency. While social distancing is crucial, we want to close any distance between County residents and the services they need for nutrition and health.”



###