



<p>Meeting Minutes: SD County Farm to School Taskforce March 15, 2013, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. SMUSD District Office</p>	<p>Next Schools & After-School Subcommittee Meeting:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">SD County Farm to School Taskforce May 17, 2013, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Santee School District 9625 Cuyamaca St., Santee, CA 92071</p>
<p>Attendees: <i>Institutions:</i> Trieste Chiquete (Coronado Unified School District), Taryin Casillas (Lemon Grove School District), Kelly Bowman (San Marcos Unified School District), Emily Cena (Poway Unified School District), Steve Gregg (Poway Unified School District), Greg Harms (Poway Unified School District), Jon Hansen (National School District), Jeff Landers (Chula Vista Unified School District), Naomi Shadwell (Oceanside Unified School District), Marlene Tuft (San Diego Sherriff’s Department)</p> <p><i>Growers/Vendors:</i> Jared Bray (Stehly Farms Organics), Phil Noble (Sage Mountain Farm)</p> <p><i>Community Partners:</i> Alyssa Earley (SD Hunger Coalition), Ashley Cassat (County of San Diego HHSA), Ann Baldrige (Resource Conservation District), Ron Troyano via phone (Alchemy), Dwight Detter (Whole Foods Market), Russell Levan (Garden Consultant), JuliAnna Arnett (Community Health Improvement Partners/ SD County Childhood Obesity Initiative)</p> <p>Recorder: JuliAnna Arnett (CHIP/COI)</p>	

Topic / Issue	Discussion	Action
Welcome & Farm to School Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trieste and Greg led the welcome and introductions. • Lemon Grove School District has hired a part-time farm to school coordinator. 	
Update & Discussion: Distributor Showcase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Taskforce discussed the current status of the “Let’s Go Local!” Showcase and Growers’ Workshop. 	Lower grower and distributor registration fee.



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<p>& Growers 101</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ JuliAnna announced that nearly ½ of the school districts in San Diego County (i.e., 20 of 42) have already signed up for the event. JuliAnna has received a mixed response from distributors about participation in the event. Cost has been identified as an issue. ○ The group discussed how to strategically engage vendors, particularly distributors, in the showcase, which is approximately 6 weeks out. Trieste pointed out that this event is designed to help food services find the product they want and get better product for a better price; it's important to encourage the distributors and growers they work with to participate. ○ It was determined that the cost would be lowered for growers and distributors to participate. Food services that source from a particular vendor would be asked to encourage their distributor to participate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● JuliAnna announced that the showcase subcommittee has decided to co-host a growers' workshop with the San Diego County Farm Bureau in order to prep growers for the showcase. The workshop will provide growers an overview of expectations and best practices for selling to the school market. announce the date of the training once it is set. <p>Update: We currently have 4 vendors registered for the showcase. A list of current vendors is available at: http://www.eventzilla.net/web/event?eventid=2138990782</p> <p>Update: Growers' Workshop will be April 18, 2 – 4 p.m. at SD Farm Bureau.</p>	<p>JuliAnna follow-up with schools to encourage their vendor's participation in the showcase.</p> <p>School food services encourage your vendors participation in the showcase.</p> <p>JuliAnna is able to work with vendors to ensure they are well prepared for the event.</p>
<p>Discussion: F2S Baseline Survey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● JuliAnna led a discussion on a farm to school baseline survey. ● The purpose of creating a baseline survey is to: 1) identify a common definition of farm to school and consistently measure activity from that point, 2) identify opportunities and challenges related to farm to school, 3) measure progress on the implementation of the Taskforce's strategic plan, and 4) gather information to inform future revisions to the strategic plan. A baseline survey was drafted based on these goals and best practices from national, state, and local. ● JuliAnna provided a brief overview of other farm to school surveys that have been conducted in San Diego County to help give the Taskforce context and ensure we are asking the most strategic questions. ● A 2010 Tierra Miguel Foundation survey identified that of the 15 school district respondents annual produce expenditures range from \$18k - \$2.5 Million; produce drop offs range from daily to weekly; few districts reported scratch cooking; 7 reported buying local (local was not defined in the survey); lettuce, carrots, apples, and oranges were reported as top produce purchases; and common barriers (cost, deliveries, volume requirements, year-round availability, processing). ● A 2011 SDHC School Food Security & Nutrition Assessment found that 11 school districts self- 	<p>JuliAnna schedule 15 minute interviews with food services and growers to gather feedback on survey.</p> <p>Kristine, Emily & Greg, Jon, Phil, and Jeff volunteered to provide JuliAnna feedback on the survey.</p> <p>JuliAnna get updated food services director list from Jeff.</p> <p>Naomi provide interns to collect data on f2school outside of the</p>



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	<p>identified themselves as purchasing local product (local identified as grown within a 100 miles); districts identified their produce sources as Suzie’s, Old Grove Oranges Inc., be Wise, Sage Mountain Farm, and Stehly Organics Farms; common challenges (lack of infrastructure; products require more time/skills; lack of knowledge about produce availability, liability, ability to take on vendors outside of contracts); and recommendations (f2s toolkit, improve communications between growers and food services, and collaboration).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The taskforce suggested that we: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ reduce the survey size (15- 20 questions) ○ make it inclusive of institutions other than just schools ○ edit out any unnecessary questions that interns may be able to gather or can be collected outside of the survey ○ send out the survey in sections to not overwhelm people • Jeff suggested that him, Jon, and the co-chairs send out the survey on behalf of the Taskforce in order to increase participation among their colleagues in the survey. • JuliAnna asked food services and growers for feedback on what information would be most useful to gather. She will schedule 15 minute interviews with those willing to help. 	<p>survey.</p>
<p>USDA Farm to School Grant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JuliAnna announced that the USDA is offering Farm to School grants. They are funding at three tiers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planning Grants (\$20k - \$45k)- to support schools in planning for future farm to school efforts ○ Implementation (\$65k - \$100k)- to support schools in implementing farm to school efforts ○ Support Service grants (\$65k - \$100k)- to provide resources to organizations that support schools in advancing farm to school to continue efforts (collaboration, implementation, technical assistance, etc.) • The grants require a 25% funding match and no more than 10% of funding can be used to purchase food. • The grant prioritizes schools with high participation in the free and reduced meal program, but JuliAnna mentioned that schools can collaborate on grant applications and no school district should automatically exclude itself from applying. Two San Diego County districts received farm to school planning grants this year and she would like to see us exceed that number next year. • The San Diego County Childhood Obesity Initiative and the County of San Diego Health and Human Services agency are both willing to write letters of support for local districts that apply. JuliAnna requested that you simply make your request to her by April 12, 2013. • In addition, the San Diego County Childhood Obesity Initiative will be applying for a support service grant to fund the work of the Taskforce. Organizations are allowed to apply as the lead in one application, but may collaborate on additional grant applications. 	<p>School food services interested in applying for a USDA farm to school grant that would like a letter of support from the San Diego County Childhood Obesity Initiative and/or the County HHS should contact JuliAnna prior to April 12, 2013.</p>



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<p>Miscellaneous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calendar topics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The taskforce discussed the main activities outlined in its strategic plan (farm visit, showcase, workshop, 3 best practice presentations, survey) and how to accomplish these throughout the calendar year. ○ See attached topical calendar. • Garden to Café <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kristine asked if the new DEH garden to café protocols applied to all garden tasting activities or just garden foods served in the cafeteria. Naomi clarified that it only applied to those garden items served in the cafeteria. Several of the directors were interested in who and how this was being done in school districts. SDUSD is currently implementing garden to café across the district in schools interested in the program that successfully complete the protocol process. 	<p>See attached calendar for scheduled Taskforce topics/activities.</p> <p>JuliAnna send out link to Garden to Café protocols.</p> <p>Conditional Approval of a Culinary Garden Food Source for a Regulated Food Policy: http://www.ourcommunityourkids.org/media/4808/San%20Diego%20County%20Culinary%20Garden%20Agreement7202011.pdf</p> <p>SDUSD Food Service’s Garden to Cafeteria page: http://www.sandi.net/Page/48553 (This page includes SDUSD’s garden to café protocols and its training resources.)</p>
<p>Action Items & Next Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Taskforce aligns its meetings with the bi-monthly directors meetings. JuliAnna will email the group the date and location of the next Taskforce meeting once the director meeting is set. 	<p>See above.</p>