

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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San Diego Hunger Coalition Awarded \$50,000 Grant from Albertsons, Vons and Pavilions Foundation's Nourishing Neighbors Program to Connect Neighbors in Need with Federal Nutrition Assistance

SAN DIEGO, CA — San Diego Hunger Coalition's work to mitigate hunger issues was aided recently by a \$50,000 grant from Albertsons, Vons and Pavilions Foundation's [Nourishing Neighbors](#) charitable program. San Diego Hunger Coalition was chosen to receive this grant because of its commitment to connecting qualified individuals with existing federal meal programs such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Women Infants and Children (WIC). That aims to help connect qualified individuals with existing federal meal programs such as SNAP and WIC.

This grant will facilitate equitable access to SNAP through outreach and resources as well as administrative and legislative advocacy. The funds will also help increase SNAP enrollment and nutrition security among college students, supplemental security income (SSI) recipients and immigrant, refugee and mixed-status households.

"This generous donation from Albertsons, Vons and Pavilions Foundation's Nourishing Neighbors program will help San Diego Hunger Coalition address hunger issues in our community by connecting individuals in need with federal meal programs and help to ensure our neighbors have enough to eat," said Anahid Brakke, President and CEO of this organization.

In 2018, California's SNAP enrollment rate was 70 percent. Due to the lack of timely information on SNAP enrollment from the USDA and the State of California, San Diego Hunger Coalition releases quarterly estimates of SNAP participation in San Diego County down to the zip code level.

In San Diego County as of December 2022, SDHC estimates that 62 percent of eligible people are currently enrolled in SNAP. This indicates that another 228,000 people are likely eligible but not enrolled in CalFresh. Of those eligible for CalFresh but not enrolled, an estimated 69,000 are seniors.

Nourishing Neighbors is a charitable program of Albertsons, Vons and Pavilions Foundation and seeks to ensure at-risk children, adults, seniors, and families have access to the food they need to thrive. More than 130 local food banks and community organizations, such as San Diego Hunger Coalition, will receive Nourishing Neighbors grants so they can conduct outreach and provide SNAP and WIC enrollment support for neighbors in need. Additionally, Albertsons, Vons and Pavilions offers online SNAP access and educational information in all stores.

"There are millions of people in this country who need access to nutritious food and qualify for federal food assistance programs, but they don't know how to enroll or get the support they need. By partnering with top-notch organizations like San Diego Hunger Coalition we know we can make a



difference in the lives of our neighbors who are facing food insecurity issues,” said Kevin Curry, Southern California Division President. “We appreciate the work of San Diego Hunger Coalition and it's dedication to helping with enrollment, outreach, transportation and other issues that might prevent people from participating in federal meal programs.”

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Founded in 1974, the San Diego Hunger Coalition is a 501(c)(3) organization that leads collaborative action to end hunger supported by research, education and advocacy. Its vision is that everyone in San Diego County has enough food for an active, healthy life. Learn more at www.sdhunger.org.