



October 18, 2021

Dear Agency/Department Heads:

Every year, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) leads the State Employees Food Drive, raising food, funds and awareness regarding hunger issues in our state. Historically, state employees have donated over 100,000 pounds of food and approximately \$150,000, traditionally benefiting the Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services. Last year, as state employees shifted to remote work, we expanded the food drive to serve all California communities. With your help, we would like to continue this effort to support all California food banks.

Here are the ways you can support:

- Donate food to your local food bank
  - Find your food bank at the [California Association of Food Banks \(CAFB\)](#)
- Make monetary donations to your local food bank
- Volunteer at your local food bank (if you are safely able to do so)
- **NEW!** Participate in virtual events promoting the food drive
  - This year's food drive will feature 3 virtual webinars for all state employees to join
- **NEW!** Become a Food Drive Coordinator
  - Please fill out the [State Employee Food Drive Coordinator](#) form to identify your agency/department coordinator and agency/department needs, by **October 29, 2021**.
  - Duties will include disseminating weekly updates and information, encouraging employee participation, and promoting the food drive through your department's communication channels.

Elysia Fong in CDFA's Office of Farm to Fork, will act on my behalf as statewide coordinator for Food Drive activities. You may contact her at [cafooddrive@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:cafooddrive@cdfa.ca.gov).

This year continues to be a challenge, but working to support each other and alleviating hunger in our state is more important than ever, and together, we can make a difference.

Yours truly,

Karen Ross  
Secretary

