

# CalFresh Forum 2019

Crest Theatre | Sacramento, CA

March 6, 2019



 California  
Food Policy  
Advocates



# 2019 Agenda

**8:30 Registration**

**9:30 Welcome and Opening Remarks**

George Manalo-LeClair, Executive Director,  
California Food Policy Advocates

**9:50 State of SNAP: A National Perspective**

Dottie Rosenbaum, Senior Fellow,  
Center on Budget & Policy Priorities

**10:15 Special Focus: SNAP, Seniors & SSI Recipients**

Ty Jones Cox, Senior Advisor, Food Security,  
AARP Foundation

**10:30 State of CalFresh 2019**

Kim McCoy Wade, Chief, CalFresh Branch,  
California Department of Social Services

**11:00 Break**

Transition to Morning Breakout Sessions

**11:10 Morning Breakout Sessions**

**2019 CalFresh Legislation**

**Main Theatre**

Jessica Bartholow, Policy Advocate,  
Western Center on Law & Poverty

Tracey Patterson, Legislative Director,  
California Food Policy Advocates

Andrew Cheyne,  
California Association of Food Banks

Moderator: Tia Shimada,  
California Food Policy Advocates

**Implementing the ABAWD Time Limit:  
Lessons Learned from Counties and  
Outreach Partners**

**Empress Cafe**

Alexis Fernandez, Chief,  
CalFresh Policy Branch

Welcome to the 2019 CalFresh Forum!

Let's party like it's 1999! There is much to celebrate.

It is hard to believe it has been 20 years since the first Forum in 1999. So much has changed since that first Forum—and not just the name of the program, CalFresh!

Back in 1999, a long list of barriers to accessing CalFresh were identified. Successful policy initiatives over the last two decades have helped remove a large number of these barriers.

And at this year's Forum we look forward to celebrating what could be the greatest expansion of CalFresh in the program's history with regard to SSI recipients. We can party like it isn't 1999!

But as much as things have changed over the 20 years, some things haven't. Poverty persists. Populations like single adults and immigrants continue to be the targets of punitive policies. Participation among seniors is much, much too low.

So please join us in tackling those persistent problems while celebrating all that has changed over the last 20 years.

Party on!

Sincerely,



**George Manalo-LeClair**, CFPA Executive Director

Francesca Costa, San Francisco–Marin  
Food Bank

Peri Weisberg, San Francisco County  
Human Services Agency

Tracy Wetherby, Second Harvest Food Bank of  
Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties

Roseann Berthron–Arechiga,  
Santa Clara County Social Services Agency

Caitlin Sly, Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano

Carolyn Foudy, Contra Costa County  
Department of Employment and Human Services

Moderator: Becky Gershon,  
California Association of Food Banks

**12:10 2019 Freshy Awards Presentation**  
Main Theatre

Kim McCoy Wade, Chief, CalFresh Branch,  
California Department of Social Services

Jared Call, Managing Policy Advocate,  
California Food Policy Advocates

**12:30 Lunch and Networking**  
Crest Theatre

**1:30 Break**

Transition to Afternoon Breakout Sessions

**1:40 Afternoon Breakout Sessions**

**All In, All Together: Ensuring a  
Successful SSI Eligibility Expansion  
Through Planning and Partnerships**  
Main Theatre

Kim McCoy Wade, Chief, CalFresh Branch,  
California Department of Social Services

Andrew Cheyne & Mike Herald,  
CA4-SSI Coalition

Mr. Edward Williams, CA4-SSI Coalition

Carrie England & April Wick,  
California Department of Rehabilitation

Margarita Cabral, Ventura County  
Human Services Agency

Moderator: Jared Call, California Food  
Policy Advocates

**Food for All: Protecting and Expanding  
Food Access for Immigrants**  
Empress Cafe

Tracey Patterson,  
California Food Policy Advocates

Marcela Ruiz, California Department  
of Social Services

Sociah Aquino, California Immigrant  
Policy Center

Moderator: Gabby Tilley, California Food  
Policy Advocates

**3:00 Closing Remarks**

**3:30 Event Closes**

# Social Media Tools @ the Forum

## Participate via Twitter

The official 2019 CalFresh Forum hashtag is: **#2019CalFreshForum**. **Hashtags** can occur anywhere in a Tweet. Popular hashtags often become Trending Topics on Twitter.

**A Twitter handle is** an individual's address on Twitter. Handles always include "@" and a username. California Food Policy Advocates' Twitter handle is **@CAFoodPolicy**.

### When live tweeting:

- **Tweet in the moment.** If something strikes you let the Twitter community know.
- Use the official forum hashtag **#2019CalFreshForum** in every tweet.
- Interact with your Twitter audience to bring your personal networks into the conversation.
- Take pictures of attendees (with their permission) and tweet them. Selfies encouraged!
- Include speakers' Twitter handles when quoting them.
- Type **RT** at the beginning of a retweet to signal a repost of someone else's content.





# The 2019 Freshy Award Nominees

The Freshy Awards honor the actions of individual Californians and organizations from across the state that have worked diligently in the last year to improve CalFresh. The winners are nominated by and selected for a Freshy Award based on the input of Californians from across the state. Based on your votes, the Freshy Award winners will be announced in each of the following categories:

- Administrator of the Year
- Elected Official or Capitol Staffer of the Year
- Grassroots Mobilizer of the Year
- Outreach Leader of the Year
- SSI CalFresh Expansion Advocate of the Year

## Access the full nominations at:

<https://cfpa.net/CalFresh/Events/Forum2019/CalFreshForum-FreshyNominees-2019.pdf>

## Administrator of the Year

### **Amber Bonilla**

CalFresh ABAWD Policy Unit Manager, CDSS

### **Alexis Fernandez**

Chief, CalFresh Policy Branch, CDSS

### **Gabriela Gomez**

Program Assistant, Los Angeles County DPSS

### **Kim McCoy Wade**

CalFresh Division Chief, CDSS

### **Nolan Sullivan**

Director, Yolo County HHSA

### **Bonnarith Tim**

Appeals Hearing Specialist, Los Angeles County DPSS

### **Dennis Tivey & Jose Clemente**

Communication & Outreach Coordinator, Department Business Specialist, Santa Barbara County DSS

### **Megan Van Sant**

Senior Program Manager, Mendocino County HHSA

## Elected Official or Capitol Staffer of the Year

### **Assemblymember Dr. Joaquin Arambula**

Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Health & Human Services

### **Taryn Smith**

Chief Consultant, Senate Human Services Committee

### **Nicole Vazquez**

Deputy Chief Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee

### **Senator Scott Wiener**

Chair, Senate Human Services Committee (2018)

## Grassroots Mobilizer of the Year

### **Carly Finkle**

Policy and Advocacy Manager,  
Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano

### **Orange County CalFresh Collaborative**

### **Gilbert Ramos**

Director, San Bernardino County  
Transitional Assistance Department

### **Eli Zigas**

Food and Agriculture Policy Director, SPUR

## Outreach Leader of the Year

### **Alexandra Danino**

CalFresh Program Manager, San Francisco/  
Marin Food Bank

### **Dave Guarino**

Director of GetCalFresh.org, Code for America

### **PHFE WIC Program**

Heluna Health

### **Robin Ronkes**

Public Health Nutritionist,  
San Bernardino Department of Public Health

### **Brandi Simonaro**

Program Manager, CFO Program, Far North & California  
Higher Education Center for Healthy Communities

### **Matt Smith**

Interim Associate Vice President of Student Affairs,  
CSU Dominguez Hills

### **Darlene Spurgeon**

CalFresh Program Manager, Placer Food Bank

### **Yaceth Virgen**

CalFresh Outreach Coordinator,  
Second Harvest Food Bank—Santa Cruz

## SSI CalFresh Expansion Advocate of the Year

### **Janny Castillo**

Seniors for Hope & Justice Program Coordinator,  
St. Mary's Center

### **Andrew Cheyne**

Director of Government Affairs,  
California Association of Food Banks

### **DOGFITE**

CA4SSI Coalition

### **Diana Jensen**

Senior Policy Analyst, San Francisco–Marin Food Bank

### **Ronald Nagby**

Hunger Action Los Angeles (HALA)

### **Frank Tamborello**

Executive Director, Hunger Action Los Angeles (HALA)

**Congratulations to ALL the Nominees!**

You are an inspiration to us all, and we are honored to work beside you  
to improve the reach and impact of CalFresh!

# Stop the Trump Administration from taking food from 755,000 people

The USDA has proposed a rule that would eliminate the flexibility states have always had to waive time limits on SNAP/CalFresh in areas with insufficient jobs for low-income workers. Under the rule, approximately 755,000 SNAP participants would be newly subject to a time limit, meaning if a childless adult (aged 18 to 49) can't find and maintain employment (at least 20 hrs/week), they will only be eligible for 3 months of SNAP benefits over three years.



No one should be punished for lack of opportunity.

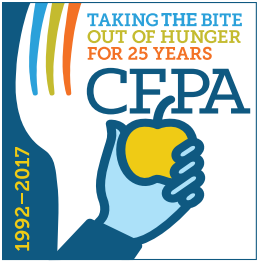
## **Act Now to Protect CalFresh!**

Comments due by April 2nd, 2019

Tell the USDA why taking CalFresh away from unemployed and underemployed Californians would harm your community.

**CFPA Template Comments:** [bit.ly/noSNAPlimits](http://bit.ly/noSNAPlimits)

**Submit Comments Here:** [frac.org/timelimitcomments](http://frac.org/timelimitcomments)



**Food insecurity** exists in all 58 counties in California, but so do solutions (especially in Sacramento). That’s why CFPA staff travel by plane, train, car, and bike to advocate for improved nutrition and health.

**No matter where we are in the state, you can reach us here:**

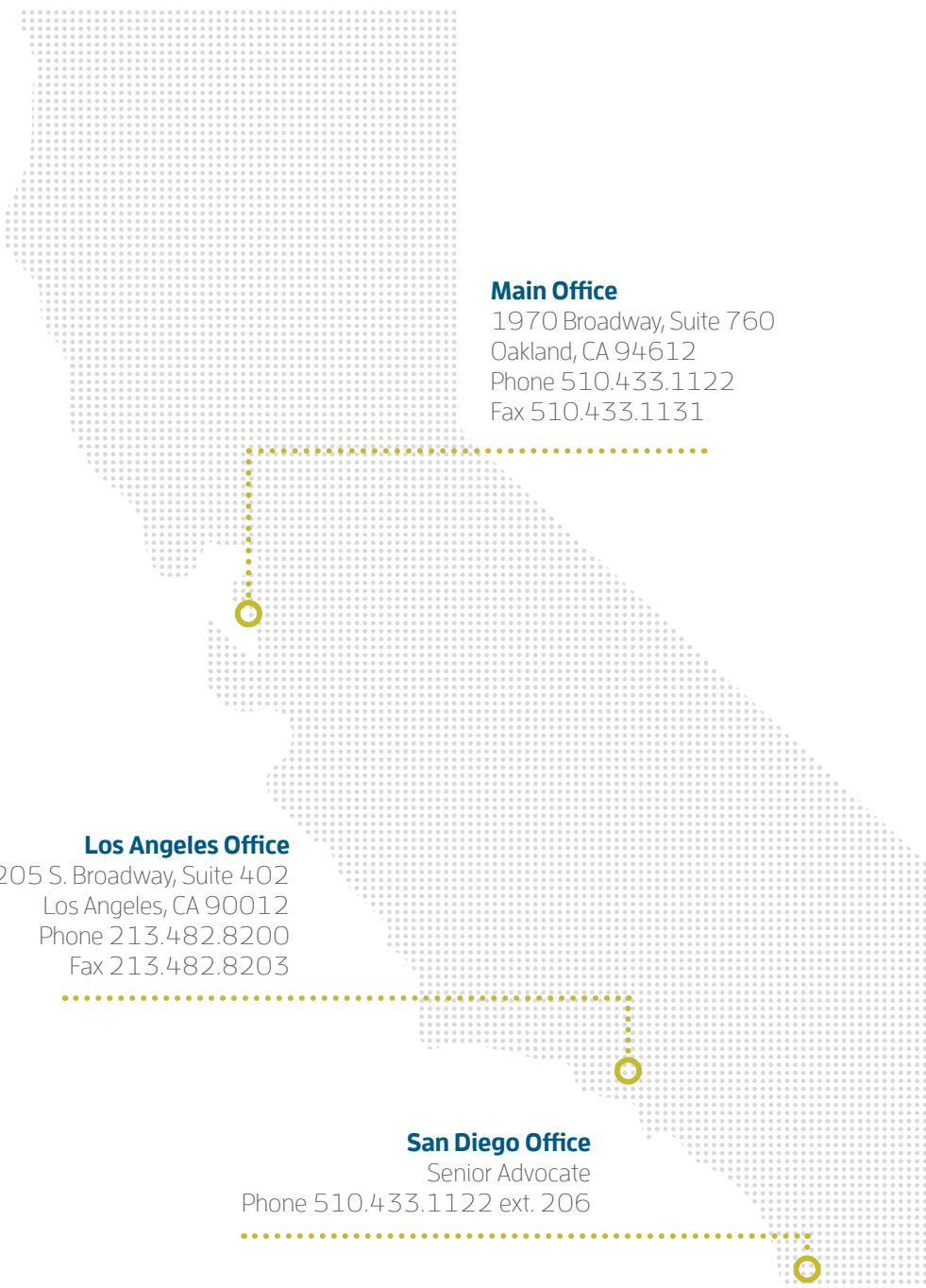
**Online:** <http://cfpa.net>

**Find Our Advocates:** <http://cfpa.net/contact-us>

**Donations:** <http://cfpa.net/donate>

**Join Our Mailing List:** <http://cfpa.net/subscribe>

**Twitter:** @CAFoodPolicy



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Phone 510.433.1122 ext. 206



Each year, CFPA’s CalFresh Forum brings together hundreds of key stakeholders from across the state to identify opportunities and discuss strategies to improve the reach and impact of CalFresh. The 2019 CalFresh Forum will focus on upcoming opportunities to improve how CalFresh serves vulnerable populations as we look to the future and continue to work toward improving access and participation across the state. This year’s program will feature a special focus on the upcoming rexpansion of CalFresh eligibility to the state’s SSI recipients and opportunities for administrators and stakeholders to work together to ensure a smooth and successful rollout.

**Program Credits**

Jared Call , Project Director

Back Cover Photograph: Share Our Strength

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