

How CalFresh Benefits SANTA CRUZ COUNTY



25,586 COUNTY RESIDENTS RELY ON CALFRESH

to supplement meagre food budgets so their families have enough to eat in order to work, study & contribute to society.



\$42 MILLION A YEAR IN DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT

More than \$42 million a year is pumped directly into the county's economy through the CalFresh program.

**\$75 MILLION
A YEAR
IN TOTAL
ECONOMIC
ACTIVITY**



ADDITIONAL \$33 MILLION A YEAR TO LOCAL BUSINESSES

An additional \$33 million a year is generated by CalFresh spending, helping farmers, grocers, truckers, packing sheds & other businesses in the county stay profitable and competitive.



\$36 MILLION A YEAR IN HEALTH CARE SAVINGS

By helping families with food, CalFresh keeps them healthy. CalFresh participants incur \$1,400 less in health care costs per year than non-participants, saving taxpayers \$36 million in our county.



HEALTHIER, MORE PRODUCTIVE ADULTS

Children who receive CalFresh benefits are likely to do better in many ways as adults—securing better jobs as a result of improved academic performance and experiencing lower rates of obesity, diabetes, and high blood pressure.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, known in California as CalFresh, is the nation's most important anti-hunger program. CalFresh provides critical support to low-income families while strengthening the local economy.

For more information: Kenneth Hecht • Nutrition Policy Institute, University of CA • (510) 409-6436 • kenhecht@ucanr.edu

Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the view or position of the University of California.

A full list of references is available at <http://npi.ucanr.edu/CalFresh>.

