



OnTarget

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THERE'S STILL TIME TO SUPPORT CFF'S END OF YEAR FUNDRAISER



The California Fresh Fruit Association invites its members to support California Farmworker Foundation's (CFF) end of year fundraiser. The event is set to take place on Wednesday,

January 13th, from 11 a.m. to noon. CFF Executive Director Hernan Hernandez will update attendees on the Foundation's accomplishments over the past year and their vision for 2021. The virtual fundraiser will take place via Zoom. To participate, please visit <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82682539600?pwd=bnpnRnJSZlVpNGt4eU5TajZ3LzBVZz09#success>.

Over the past year, CFF has been a vital partner to agricultural employees and employers. The Foundation has provided programs and services for farmworkers by having two outreach specialist employees in Madera, Fresno, and Tulare Counties. The goal of this fundraising effort is to ensure that CFF is able to keep these positions in 2021. CFF is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to assisting the farm employee community with immigration, English language, health, and professional development services.

To date, CFFA has raised \$127,500 for this effort, with our goal being to raise \$200,000. These dollars will go to assisting CFF to employee additional employees to service membership.

Sponsorship Levels

PLATINUM: \$20,000

GOLD: \$10,000

SILVER: \$5,000

BRONZE: \$2,500

**Please note, any contribution amount will be appreciated and can be made out to CFF or by way of CFFA.*

Please join us and help the California Farmworker Foundation attain the necessary resources to meet farm employee needs for 2021 and beyond. If you would like to contribute, please respond to Ian LeMay at ilemay@cafreshfruit.com or by calling the CFFA office at (559) 226-6330.

EMPLOYER AND COVID-19 WORKPLACE COMPLIANCE

On January 1st, several new laws pertaining to COVID-19 compliance in the workplace went into effect. To assist membership with complying with these new orders, **Barsamian & Moody** has put together a checklist in both English and Spanish that summarizes the current status and outlines actions to take in various situations that may come up in the workplace. CFFA will inform membership as changes arise.

English **Checklist** visit <https://files.constantcontact.com/35cbbf3f001/ac1952c6-4b1d-42d3-a331-c384b794d5b4.pdf>

Spanish **Checklist** visit <https://files.constantcontact.com/35cbbf3f001/9b98787a-837d-47da-971c-8693fb41ae1f.pdf>

For questions or more information, please contact Ian LeMay (ilemay@cafreshfruit.com).

The goal of this article is to provide employers with current labor and employment law information. The contents should neither be interpreted as, nor construed as legal advice or opinion. The reader should consult with Barsamian & Moody at (559) 248-2360 for individual responses to questions or concerns regarding any given situation.

CFF WORKING TO PROVIDE COVID-19 TESTING AND ADMINISTER VACCINES

The California Farmworker Foundation (CFF) has announced that it is working with several Central Valley Public Health Departments to administer COVID-19 vaccines as they become available in the upcoming weeks. If your worksite location is in Tulare County and your business would like to participate in the distribution program, please contact Valerie Ayala at (661) 690-6000 or Valerie.ayala@californiafarmworkers.org. CFF's goal is to expand this service to other Central Valley counties in the coming weeks.

Additionally, CFF continues to provide free COVID-19 testing for farm employees and employers throughout the Central Valley. The COVID-19 testing performed by CFF is in the format of self-swab and will have a two to three-day turnaround time for results. If you are interested in testing your employees or would like more information, please contact CFF COVID-19 testing lead, Daity Tapia at (661) 778-0015 or daity.tapia@californiafarmworkers.org.

RAIN AND HAIL ENDORSEMENT



At the November meeting, CFFA Board of Director's voted to continue the endorsement of **Rain and Hail Insurance Service, LLC** for 2021. This is the 25th consecutive year of the partnership and both organizations truly value the relationship.

All crop insurance companies operate with uniform rates and some growers may not be concerned about who their provider is. The Association would like to help you with that decision by recommending Rain and Hail Insurance because of its commitment to the agricultural industry and the company's financial strength.

Again, the Association recommends Rain and Hail Insurance for its members. Rain and Hail Insurance works with numerous agencies throughout California to provide this coverage.

Please be aware the crop insurance deadline for peaches, plums, nectarines, apricots, cherries, table grapes, pears and apples are January 31, 2021.

If you have questions, please contact Ian LeMay at (559) 226-6330 or Craig Gonzales at (559) 224-2300.

LATEST FEDERAL COVID-19 ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE PASSED

On December 27th, President Trump signed the nearly \$900 billion COVID-19 economic relief package into law. Passed with supermajority bicameral and bipartisan support in Congress, the legislation was paired with an omnibus appropriations bill that funds the federal government through the

remainder of its fiscal year, which ends on September 30, 2021. Of interest to the CFFA membership, the COVID-19 legislation provides a total of \$26 billion in funding to agriculture-related programs, including the following:

- \$1.5 billion to purchase food and agriculture products for distribution, especially fresh produce, dairy, and meat, to those in need.
- \$225 million in supplemental payments to producers of specialty crops if they lost their crop in 2019.
- \$100 million as part of a specialty crop block grant program.
- Additional \$100 million for specialty crop state block grants to mitigate challenges related to COVID at the state level.
- \$100 million for the Local Agriculture Market Program (LAMP), originally established in the 2018 Farm Bill designed to target small and medium sized producers for a broad range of eligible support, to mitigate COVID-19 impacts.
- \$75 million in increased funding for retail SNAP fruit and vegetable incentive projects.
- \$5 million to expand SNAP online purchasing program.
- Additional \$300 billion in funding for a second round of Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans, which were used widely by produce companies.

Beyond the agricultural provisions, there are other parts of the COVID-19 economic stimulus and government funding package that will be helpful for farmers in California:

- Reauthorization of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) and authorization of funding for California water projects, including \$206 million for the Friant-Kern Canal, \$13.7 million for Sites Reservoir, and additional funding for the Delta-Mendota Canal and the Del Puerto Canyon Project.
- \$7 billion to expand broadband access, including \$300 million for rural broadband and \$250 million for telehealth, and \$635 million in FY 2021 for USDA's ReConnect broadband program.

Vaccine Prioritization – Strong CDC Recommendations:

Earlier this month, the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended that essential frontline food and ag employees receive priority access for vaccinations in Category "1b". This means our frontline workers from farm to grocery store fall right behind "1a" status for frontline health care workers and long-term care facilities residents and employees.

While this is a very strong statement from the federal government, state and local authorities still have the final say in how doses of the COVID-19 vaccine are allocated. Promisingly, the incoming Biden Administration is supportive of this prioritization.

For more information, contact Adam Borchard (aborchard@cafreshfruit.com).

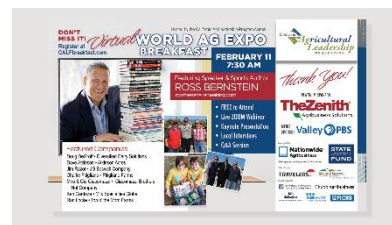
ATTEND THE VIRTUAL 2021 CALF BREAKFAST

Join the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation for its virtual World Ag Expo Breakfast on Thursday, February 11th at 7:30 a.m.

The event will feature Ross Bernstein, the 2020 keynote speaker, and he will be presenting his popular program "Wearing the C: Leadership Lessons from the Greatest Captains and Coaches in Sports." This year, because of the uniqueness of the situation with COVID-19, Ross is going to come out early, re-interview those same folks he featured in his presentation last year and some new ones, to highlight how they pivoted, adapted, and survived 2020.

To register for the breakfast, visit (https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xw9w_uk2RkCiHgtP8QVvLQ).

For additional information and sponsorship opportunities, visit ([https://one.bidpal.net/calfbreakfast2021/browse/donation\(details:item/1\)](https://one.bidpal.net/calfbreakfast2021/browse/donation(details:item/1))).



NEW LEGISLATION NOW IN EFFECT FOR 2021

On January 1st several new laws went into effect. **Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP** has provided an overview of what your business should be prepared for. Highlighted in the memo are:

- Minimum Wage**
- AB 685 (Reyes)**
- AB 979 (Holden)**
- SB 1383 (Jackson)**

To view the complete memo, see attached. For questions, contact Adam Borchard (aborchard@cafreshfruit.com).

PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY HOSTS PSPS PARTNERSHIPS WEBINAR



Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) will host a no-cost webinar on January 14th from 10 a.m. to noon on PSPS Partnerships. The

forum will focus on the critical component of water utilities' preparation for and response to Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events. This webinar will provide an overview of the partnerships with CalWARN, electric utilities, Office of Emergency Services, Division of Drinking Water and CalFire.

For more information or to register for the webinar, visit https://horsleywittenevents.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?nome nu=true&siteurl=horsleywittenevents&service=6&rnd=0.47319861617685566&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Fhorsleywittenevents.webex.com%2Fec3300%2Feventcenter%2Fevent%2FeventAction.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26%26EMK%3D4832534b0000004abc65a9992a3f28603c22e1536091ae834217f3b89a354e69a818220e26910f8%26siteurl%3Dhorsleywittenevents%26confViewID%3D173993269929213631%26encryptTicket%3DSDJTSwAAAAQtskLfeZj2gdgkHrcR5aQdB42dUvSP595D76wdvcS5-g2%26.

CALIFORNIA TABLE GRAPE GROWERS OFFERING SCHOLARSHIPS

The California Table Grape Commission announced three different types of scholarships are available to seniors that live in the Coachella and San Joaquin Valley's.

Two types of scholarships are available for students whose parents have worked as field workers in a table grape vineyard. One scholarship for \$25,000 for those who plan to attend a four-year California university and one for \$14,500 for students that choose to attend a two-year community college. The third scholarship category is for \$25,000 for those interested in studying agriculture and plan to work in the table grape industry.

The deadline to apply for all scholarships is Friday, February 12, 2021 by 5 p.m. Applications can be found by visiting (<https://www.grapesfromcalifornia.com/community-outreach/>).