



**community
advisory board**

City of Santa Rosa

**Community Advisory Board
Community Improvement Grant
2021 Application Form**

Project Name: COVID-19 Nutrition Program		Requested Grant Amount: <u>\$2,500</u>	
Project Physical Address: 6550 Railroad Ave. Forestville, CA 95436 **With home deliveries to the City of Santa Rosa (location varies)		Other Funding Sources: <u>\$127,355</u>	
		TOTAL Project Cost: <u>\$129,855</u>	
Nearest cross street: Railroad Ave. & Front St.		Group or organization: Food For Thought	
How did you hear about the Grant Program? City of Santa Rosa website			
What is your CAB area? (Check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest <input type="checkbox"/> Northeast <input type="checkbox"/> Southwest <input type="checkbox"/> Southeast <input type="checkbox"/> Core <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Citywide Not sure? Click here: http://srcity.org/DocumentCenter/Home/View/14754			
Property Owner (see page 3 for all requirements):			
Food For Thought		Executive Director	
Name – Property Owner		Title	
Food For Thought			
Contact Person responsible for Grant Application			
Helen Myers	HelenM@FFTfoodbank.org	(707) 887-1647	
Name – Contact Person	Email	Phone	
6550 Railroad Ave.	Forestville, CA	95436	
Address	City	Zip	

GRANT SCOPE: This Application Packet describes the intended use of the requested Grant funds to complete the Project identified above and the elements listed in the Project Budget. I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that the information contained in this Application Packet, including required attachments, is accurate.

Print Name Ron Karp

Signature 

Title Executive Director

Date 9/28/2021



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Community Improvement Grant Project Budget and Matching Funds

PROJECT NAME:

Cost Estimate: List all features, amenities, supplies and plans (Add or delete rows as needed)

Cost Estimate		Requested Funds	Match
Salaries/Wages (In-kind only)			
	Delivery Volunteers (\$22.14/person/hour)(15 volunteers for 50 weeks)(3 hours/week)	N/A	\$16,605
Contracted Services			
Materials/Supplies			
	Purchased Food - Groceries, fruits & veggies, diapers if needed, toilet paper, masks	\$2,500	\$100,000
	Grocery bags, safety and sanitation supplies, carts, coolers, office supplies		\$5,000
Printing/Reproduction			
	Route forms, maps, labels, referral forms, client information, order sheets,		\$750
Rentals			
Other			
	Occupancy costs		\$5,000
Total Requested Grant Amount		A. \$2,500	
Total Matching Funds			B. \$127,355
Total Project Cost (A+B)		\$129,855	

Other Funding Sources:

Funding Sources	Date Committed	Amount
County of Sonoma - Emergency Services Department	9/3/2021	\$40,000
Foundation Grants	Varies	\$29,000
Individual Donations	Varies	\$58,355
Total		\$127,355

Food For Thought Response to Questions

City of Santa Rosa
Community Advisory Board
2021 Community Improvement Grant Application

1. Describe your project, including objectives and goals, and explain how your project will meet these goals.

In May of 2020, Food For Thought (FFT) launched a new program to provide comprehensive nutrition services to low-income Sonoma County residents affected by COVID-19. To date, we have served more than 4,500 clients impacted by the virus, including 2,630 residents in the City of Santa Rosa.

Each eligible client, plus any dependents living in their home, receives the following, all free of charge for up to four weeks:

- *Weekly groceries and meals:* Each order includes enough healthy food for up to 21 meals per person and consists of the clients' choice of fresh produce, high-quality protein sources, healthy grains, fresh soups and salads and medically tailored meals. We deliver these items to their doorstep each week so that no one in their household needs to leave the house for food while quarantining.
- *Vitamins and supplements:* Based on recommendations from health care providers and our on-staff dietitian, clients may also receive vitamins and supplements tailored to their unique conditions.
- *Household items:* We also deliver items such as toilet paper, diapers, hand sanitizer, masks and more.
- *Individual nutrition consultations and case management:* Our registered dietitian and client services staff speak with our clients regularly to overcome barriers to nutrition and connect them with other social service providers.

Our main goal is to meet the nutrition needs of our clients and provide them essential food and supplies so that they can stay quarantined and prevent further spread of the virus. We expect that clients who complete at least one month of services will achieve (1) a 25% decrease in food insecurity, and (2) a 25% increase in consumption of fruits and vegetables as compared to before they began receiving services. We will measure this impact through interviews and pre- and post-surveys.

a. Also include who will benefit from this project and how many people your project is expected to impact.

Santa Rosa residents, who are quarantining with COVID-19, as well as the members of their households, will benefit from this program. So far, we have delivered groceries to the homes of 2,630 people in Santa Rosa. While it is difficult to predict the trajectory of the pandemic, we expect to continue serving a high number of clients in Santa Rosa as the pandemic persists.

b. Please describe any approvals and permits needed and obtained for your project (i.e. land use, City, etc.)

There are no approvals or permits that we need to obtain for this program.

2. What is your outreach plan? Please also explain how your project will be open and accessible to the community.

Our COVID-19 Nutrition Program is accessible to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in Sonoma County and the members of their household. Unfortunately, COVID-19 disproportionately affects low-income people of color. Over 70% of Food For Thought's COVID-19 Nutrition Program clients are Latinx and all are low-income and food-insecure. We offer bilingual services and grocery options that are culturally appropriate for all our clients.

To reach potential clients, we work closely with the COVID-19 contact tracers at the County of Sonoma Health Services Department, the staff at the CURA Project, and other health care providers in Santa Rosa and across Sonoma County.

3. Describe the community support for your project.

a. What organizations, neighborhood associations, non-profits, residents, etc. are involved in the project?

Our primary partners for the COVID-19 Nutrition Program are the Sonoma County Department of Health Services and the CURA Project.

b. What roles are they playing and how collaborative is the project?

The County Health Department and the CURA Project screen their patients/clients with COVID-19 for food insecurity and ability to access food during quarantine. When a patient/client is in need of food assistance, they refer the patient/client to us via fax or email.

c. **What other support exists for your project?** Since the launch of our COVID-19 Nutrition Program, we have served 2,630 residents in Santa Rosa with COVID-19. We regularly get positive feedback from our clients for our quality of service.



In the words of Alejandro, COVID-19 Nutrition Program client and Santa Rosa resident, "I couldn't work. I tried to apply for unemployment benefits, but nothing was coming through. Finally, I connected with Food For Thought and learned about their COVID-19 Nutrition Program. Within a couple of days, we were receiving groceries and other necessities including diapers for the baby. We were so happy to get the support. Food For Thought was the only support we had because of it we could keep our family and the community safe"

4. Is there ongoing maintenance required for your project? If so, what is the plan for maintenance and who is going to be responsible?

While this program does not require physical maintenance, we do need funding to ensure that the program is sustainable and to meet the need for food assistance for people with COVID-19 in our community. We are proud to have a strong, diverse development plan to support this program.

5. Projects should reflect environmental consciousness regarding materials, energy, and conservation. Please describe how your project will meet this goal.

FFT considers environmental sustainability to be critically important. In addition to municipal recycling and compost, we compost the majority of our food waste in our onsite organic permaculture garden. We installed a 30 kw solar array on our building in 2005. We don't use bottled water, purchase recycled paper, limit use of plastics whenever possible and use reusable or compostable plates and utensils at all of our events. In general, we try to make the greenest choice whenever feasible and applaud the City of Santa Rosa for being a leader in championing environmental causes.

6. Please provide a brief statement on how you will keep project participants safe during implementation (e.g. social distancing protocols, gloves, masks, etc.).

Here at Food For Thought, we follow a strict food safety protocol and adhere to the CDC and Sonoma County COVID-19 safety recommendations. Our delivery drivers preform contactless grocery deliveries to all our clients to ensure the safety of our staff, volunteers and clients.

7. Project Budget: Grant requests may not exceed \$2,500. Please explain how the requested funds will be used, how the cost estimate was determined and the status of matching funds. This section is supplemental information to the Cost Estimate Form.

The funds we acquire through this grant will be used to provide weekly, home-delivered groceries our neighbors in the City of Santa Rosa who are quarantined with COVID-19.