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Subject: News from the Food System Collaborative
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Sacramento/Capital Region

food system collaborative

- access
- agriculture
- education

Good Food News

The Newsletter of the Sacramento Region Food System Collaborative

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What are we missing?

Is there something you would like us to include in our newsletter?

Email [Adriane Lepage](mailto:adriane.lepage@valleyvision.org) and let her know what topics/issues you would like to learn more about.

Project Sponsors



Issue #8

September 2011

Dear Adriane,

The FSC kicked off the month of September with our quarterly meeting, which focused on upcoming changes to the Farm Bill and how they may affect our region. We were fortunate to have a great panel of experts representing government, nonprofit, production agriculture, and grower's associations. If you were unable to join us, you can view the meeting notes [here](#). Our next meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2012 (time and location TBD), so mark your calendars!



In this month's newsletter, we announce the creation of the **Food System Collaborative Directory**, present draft findings from the **CSPC's Hunger Project**, provide information about **Food Day**, and highlight **Capay Valley Vision** in our partner profile section. We are also excited to introduce the **California Garden Project**, a project working to create a botanical garden here in our region.

Please remember to sign up for the new **Action Alert System** if you haven't already.

Don't forget to check out the **Upcoming Events** section! Our partners have a lot of exciting things going on as fall draws near.

Cheers,
Robyn

Food System Collaborative Directory

We are excited to announce the creation of the Food System Collaborative Directory! This website is designed to be an interactive tool where you can find organizations involved with the FSC to connect, network, and act together. We welcome your participation in developing and maintaining this



Quick Links

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Project Management



Connecting Citizens
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directory. Our intent is that it will grow and evolve to serve individuals, organizations and agencies across the regional food system. While Valley Vision will maintain and edit this directory, you as a participant in the FSC will drive its content.

If you would like your organization to be listed in this directory, please complete [this form](#).*

If you have any questions about this project, please contact [Adriane Lepage](#). We will be presenting the directory website at the January meeting.

**If you filled out a paper sign-up sheet at our September 6th convening, you do not need to fill out the online form.*

Hunger Project Draft Findings Presented

[Community Services Planning Council](#) and [Valley Vision](#) are pleased to share the initial findings from the first phase of the [Hunger Free Communities Project](#).

This project, funded by the USDA and Sierra Health Foundation, is researching the causes and consequences of hunger in Sacramento County and developing an action plan to overcome them.



CSPC surveyed more than 500 individuals in Sacramento County who suffer from hunger and/or food insecurity. The preliminary review of findings indicates that individuals identify cost of food, transportation, awareness of food assistance programs, and eligibility for food assistance programs as key barriers to food access. In addition to challenges, the population identified a variety of opportunities for change, such as being able to grow their own food, education on cooking healthy low-cost meals, and tips on how to get more for your money when shopping at grocery stores.

Valley Vision conducted 27 key-informant interviews and hosted two policymaker focus groups to identify the systems-level causes of hunger. The causes were identified as: lack of jobs, institutional/systemic poverty, cost of living, lack of healthcare, location, difficulty in accessing federal aid, barriers for youth, and poor nutrition. When addressing opportunities for change, six themes were identified: education, CalFresh, direct service providers, food waste, homeless food needs, investments, and coordinating emergency food efforts.

CSPC and Valley Vision are currently conducting further analysis of the findings, and soon will be reaching out to the public to participate in the development of a plan for systematically increasing food access in Sacramento County.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact [Alan Lange](#) at CSPC.

Partner Profile: Preserving a Sense of Place

This month, we are excited to be highlighting the work of [Capay Valley Vision](#). Capay Valley Vision, located in Esparto, was created in 2000 to enhance ongoing communication within the diverse community of the Capay Valley, reflecting all opinions and searching for common ground on the vision for the Valley's future. They work to preserve the local character of the valley, including farmlands, rangelands, and wildlands, and



they do this not only to protect those natural resources, but to enhance community healthy & well-being and support a strong local economy. To assist in their mission, they have created five task forces (which are open to the public): [Agriculture and Environment](#), [Economic Development](#), [Housing](#), [Recreation](#), and [Transportation](#). Their current projects include: [Esparto Revitalization and Economic Development](#), [Capay Valley Grown](#), the [Agriculture Task Force](#), and [Partnership for Community Facilities](#).

The eighth annual [Taste of Capay](#), will be on Sunday, October 23rd from 1PM-5PM at Capay Organic home of [Farm Fresh to You](#) in Capay. This great event features a live and silent auction highlighting the local bounty of the Capay Valley. Enjoy an old world rustic Italian meal prepared by award winning chefs from Cache Creek Casino Resort utilizing local ingredients. Experience local wine and music along with tractor tram tours of the oldest organic farm in the Capay Valley. Tickets are \$55 and available at www.capayvalleyvision.org or by calling (530)787-3353.

If you are interested in having your organization highlighted in our newsletter, please email [Adriane Lepage](mailto:Adriane.Lepage).

Food Day is October 24th!

[Food Day](#) - October 24, 2011 - is a movement made up of individuals and organizations passionate about promoting a healthy, sustainable, and just food system. Touted as Earth Day for food, this day of action is open to anyone and everyone who wishes to participate, and you can do anything you like to promote this campaign, such as host a local foods dinner, organize food policy lectures, engage with your local legislators to improve health & food policy, or create an event tailored to emphasize your community's food successes and challenges.



While the FSC is not hosting an event for Food Day, we would love to know what your organization is doing to celebrate Food Day. Send us an [email](#), post on our [Facebook page](#), and be sure to also post your event on the [Food Day website](#). If you are interested in participating in an existing Food Day event, visit their website for a listing of all Food Day events around the country.

For more information, visit www.foodday.org.

Introducing the California Garden Project

This month, the FSC was excited to learn about the [California Garden Project](#). Their vision is a world-class botanical garden that represents the culture, environment, and panorama of California, and this garden would be located right in our region. The outdoor gardens will include California environments, children's discovery gardens, habitat conservation, water gardens, community gardens, international heritage gardens, and many other types of gardens. The plan is to also have extensive facilities with a butterfly house, education centers, a library, a conservatory, an open-air theater, a restaurant, and much more. Click [here](#) to read more about these plans and others. To view a drawing of the project, click [here](#).



This project presents many exciting opportunities in our region and there are many ways you, your organization, your friends, and your family can become involved. Click [here](#) to see how you can become a Friend of the Garden, a volunteer, or (if you like) how to give a gift to the garden.

If you have questions or would like more information on how you can be involved with this project, email califgarden@aol.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Picnic with Leopold

Date & Time: September 23rd, 6PM-9:15PM

Location: Farm on Putah Creek, Winters

Focus: Join the [Center for Land-Based Learning](#) for the screening of *Green Fire: Aldo Leopold & a Land Ethic for Our Time*. Tickets are \$15 and include a slice of pizza baked in their new on-farm pizza oven. For more information and tickets, click [here](#).

Sunday Supper to Support Soil Born Farms

Date & Time: September 25th, 5PM-7PM

Location: Co-op Community Learning Center

Focus: \$30 per person. More information and a menu at <http://www.soilborn.org/events.html>.

Slow Food Sacramento Mixer

Date & Time: September 28th, 6PM-8PM

Location: Lucca, 1615 J St, Sacramento

Focus: Visit www.slowfoodsacramento.com for more information.

Organic Heroes: Amigo Bob Cantisano

Date & Time: September 30th, 6PM-8:30PM

Location: Co-op Community Learning Center

Focus: Amigo Bob Cantisano is a farmer, activist, and a pioneer in the organic, sustainable agriculture and cooperative movements. Tickets are \$20 (available at www.sacfoodcoop.com) and include an organic supper.

Hoes Down Harvest Festival

Date & Time: October 1st & 2nd

Location: Full Belly Farm, Guinda

Focus: For more information, including event schedule and tickets, visit <http://www.hoesdown.org/>.

South Sacramento Good Food Celebration

Date & Time: October 1st, 11AM-2PM

Location: Mc Clatchy Park, Sacramento

Focus: Free Picnic, kids activities, cooking & gardening demos during the Oak Park Farmers Market

Slow Ride through Oak Park

Date & Time: October 1st, 11AM-2PM

Location: Oak Park (meeting location TBD)

Focus: Cost is \$10. For more information and to RSVP, visit www.slowfoodsacramento.com.

Village Alchemy: Permaculture Strategies for Transforming the Urban Environment

Date & Time: October 5th, 7PM-9PM

Location: Co-op Community Learning Center

Focus: This presentation will provide a detailed, how-to overview of strategies that can engage local communities in the re-visioning and re-creation of cities and neighborhoods. Tickets are \$15 for members at \$20 for non-members. For more info and to register, click [here](#).

Alchemist 501c Day

Date & Time: October 12th, 11AM-11:30PM

Location: [Rubicon Brewing Co.](#), Sacramento
Focus: [Alchemist CDC](#) has been selected to as a feature nonprofit organization for Rubicon's 501c day. A portion of Rubicon's proceeds from that day will benefit Alchemist. Stop in for a pint or some food, and Rubicon will do the rest!

Health Education Council Celebrates 20 Years!

Date & Time: October 20th, 6PM-9PM

Location: Hyatt Regency, Sacramento

Focus: Reception, dinner, & special guest speakers. Visit www.healtheducouncil.org for more information.

Taste of Capay

Date & Time: October 23rd, 1PM-5PM

Location: Capay Organic, Capay

Focus: Enjoy an old world rustic Italian meal highlighting local ingredients, plus a live & silent auction, and tractor tram tours through Capay Valley's oldest organic farm. Ticket are \$55. For more information & to purchase tickets, click [here](#).

Food Day

Date & Time: October 24th

Location: Anywhere!

Focus: Food Day is a national campaign for delicious, healthy, and affordable food produced in a sustainable & humane way. You can host an event or attend an event! Visit www.foodday.org for more information.

SAVE THE DATE! Run to Feed the Hungry

Date & Time: November 24th, 8:35AM-10:30AM

Location: Starts at Sacramento State

Focus: Expecting to attract 27,000 participants, this 10K or 5K walk/run event benefits Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services. Pre-race day registration is \$35 for adults and \$20 for children 15 and under. Click [here](#) to register.

SAVE THE DATE! FSC Quarterly Meeting

Date & TIME: January 10, 2012 (time TBD)

Location: TBD

Focus: TBD

For event updates, visit our [online calendar](#). You can also use this calendar to add these events directly to your calendar!

Want your events listed here? Email [Adriane Lepage](#) and we'll add it to our calendar so FSC members know about it!

[Forward email](#)



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