

Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2014

Office of the President Community

Dear Colleagues:

In recognition of National Food Day and the UC Global Food Initiative, I would like to invite you to take part in the UCOP Food Drive that is taking place this week in collaboration with the Alameda County Community Food Bank.

Food Day in the United States is celebrated annually on October 24 to raise awareness about hunger, food access, sustainable agriculture, and healthy eating. The goal of the UC Global Food Initiative is to harness UC expertise, creativity, and leadership to address these critical issues.

In 2012, the Alameda County Community Food Bank distributed 23.2 million pounds of food to families in need, over half of it in the form of fresh fruits and vegetables. Through a network of over 200 local food pantries, soup kitchens, childcare centers, senior centers, after-school programs and other community-based organizations, the Food Bank distributes enough food every week for 380,000 meals!

The easiest way to participate is to make a donation via credit card on the Alameda County Community Food Bank Virtual Food Drive website. Select "UCOP" in the dropdown menu under "Start Shopping!" on the right side of the page.

Each dollar donated will be used by the Food Bank to purchase \$6 worth of healthy foods that are rarely donated. Also, each dollar donated is worth two points for the UCOP competition!

The Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources is donating \$100 of fresh fruit and vegetables from the Oakland Farmer's Market to the floor that makes the most donations. This friendly competition will include the Franklin, Kaiser, 20th Street, and Broadway buildings.

If you are in the Franklin Building, you can also donate non-perishable items to the bins located near the elevators on Floors 5-12. Each healthy item (see the 'Shopping List' on the attached flier) is worth two points, while all other items are worth one point in the competition.

I hope that you will find this Food Drive is a fun way to celebrate Food Day *and* to help families in our local community who are struggling to put enough healthy food on their table. Please join me in supporting this effort.

Yours very truly,
Janet Napolitano
President