October 17, 2016

Office of the President Community

Dear Colleagues:

In recognition of World Food Day, National Food Day and the UC Global Food Initiative, I would like to invite you to take part in this year’s UCOP Food Drive, taking place October 17 through 31 in collaboration with the Alameda County Community Food Bank.

World Food Day has been celebrated on October 16 around the world since 1979 as a day of action against hunger. The World Food Day theme for 2016 is “Climate is changing, food and agriculture must, too.” National Food Day in the United States has been celebrated on October 24 since 2011, and aims to inspire Americans to change their diets and our food policies. The National Food Day theme for 2016 is “Toward a Greener Diet,” for the health of Americans and our environment. Both themes tie in perfectly with the goal of the UC Global Food Initiative, which is to put the world on a pathway to feed itself in ways that are nutritious and sustainable by 2025.

The Alameda County Community Food Bank has a similar mission, which is to end hunger in our local community by 2018. Last year, the Food Bank distributed 25 million meals; more than half of the food was fresh fruits and vegetables.

The easiest way to participate in Food Day is to make a donation via credit card on the Food Bank’s Virtual Food Drive website: https://www.vfd-accfb.org. Select “UCOP” in the drop-down 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 Food Drive competition!

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

You also can donate non-perishable items to the bins located near the elevators in the Franklin Building (Floors 5-12); 20th Street Building Lobby, Broadway Building (Floor 14); and UCOP Floors at the Kaiser Building. Each food item is worth one point in the competition.

I hope that you will find this food drive a positive way to recognize World Food Day and Food Day while helping families in our local community who are struggling to put enough healthy food on their table. Please join me in taking action!

Yours very truly,

Janet Napolitano
President