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City of San José Launches “Great Plates Delivered” Program to Stimulate Local Restaurant Recovery and Increase Meal Access for At-Risk Seniors

In coordination with World Central Kitchen, initiative to provide 30,000 meals per week to seniors in need

Today, Mayor Liccardo announced the launch of San Jose’s [Great Plates Delivered](#) (GPD), [a program recently created by Governor Gavin Newsom](#) that serves to encourage restaurant recovery, bolster food distribution efforts, and provide 30,000 meals per week to eligible seniors and high-risk vulnerable populations. The City, currently serving as the County of Santa Clara’s lead in food distribution during COVID-19, is collaborating with Chef José Andrés’ World Central Kitchen (WCK) on this initiative. GDP is the newest addition to the food distribution portion of Silicon Valley Strong, a coalition of school districts, neighboring cities, faith and community-based organizations, serving two million meals per week to those affected by COVID-19.

“Through this partnership with World Central Kitchen, we will deliver more high-quality meals to more of our vulnerable seniors, while providing a much-needed shot in the arm to our local restaurants,” **said San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo**. “Thanks to Governor Newsom and his team for engaging with us to launch Great Plates Delivered in San Jose, and thanks to all of our resourceful, hard-working City staff and many partners who have scaled countywide food delivery to exceed 2.6 million meals weekly.”

GPD was announced by Governor Gavin Newsom on April 24 as an “Emergency Feeding Program Framework” seeking to expand meal access to include a population of newly defined vulnerable persons and stimulate local restaurant recovery. The number of qualified Santa Clara County participants for this program is expected to generate demand for approximately 30,000 meals per week.

“Our older adults in Santa Clara County must be treated with dignity and great care so they can get through the pandemic by eating well & maintaining their physical and mental health,” **said**

Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors President Cindy Chavez. “This program is a testament to local & state government working hand in hand for the greater good of our community.”

[World Central Kitchen \(WCK\), a 501\(c\)3 non-profit organization founded by chef and humanitarian José Andrés,](#) will coordinate and provide fresh meals through their Restaurants for the People program, which activates local restaurants and delivers meals to those in need. In addition, they will provide logistics and food distribution support to augment the City’s existing food distribution network, create new distribution channels and meet the data reporting requirement.

“This new initiative reflects World Central Kitchen's mission to use food as a solution to empower communities and strengthen economies,” **said Nate Mook, CEO of World Central Kitchen.** “We partner directly with small family businesses, female- and minority-owned restaurants to deliver these meals.”

WCK has also [contracted with Sourcewise, a 501\(c\)3 non-profit, that provides services](#) to seniors, persons with disabilities and other at-risk adults in Santa Clara County to process and provide support through their one-stop shop model.

“We empower vulnerable populations with access to information, countywide services, and local resources that have become crucial during this pandemic,” **said Aneliza Del Pinal, Chief Executive Officer of Sourcewise.** “We are proud to support World Central Kitchen and the older adults served through this initiative.”

A trial of GPD was conducted during the week May 11, to ensure operational readiness. To launch the program and deliver meals quickly, WCK utilized restaurants that met set [Cal OES guidelines](#), possessed the ability to rapidly scale the necessary number of meals, and met a variety of cultural and dietary needs. Currently, the following restaurants have been activated for GPD:

- [Bloom Catering](#)
- [Adelitas](#)
- [Vegetarian House](#)
- [Pedro’s](#)
- Malaya - Malaysian and Pan Asian Kitchen

- Restaurants who wish to participate in GPD can sign up [here](#).
- Residents in need of GPD services can call 211, 408-30-3230, option 1 and visit www.SiliconValleyStrong.org/GPD or [at www.mysourcewise.com](http://www.mysourcewise.com) to sign up.
- Media can access [B-roll in Dropbox](#) and find more information in the [Great Plate FAQ](#).

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