



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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PRESS RELEASE

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GREAT PLATES VENDORS ANNOUNCED, EXTENSION SOUGHT

The County of Santa Cruz is pleased to announce that five local restaurants/caterers have been chosen to deliver fresh, nutritious meals to hundreds of local seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Great Plates Delivered in Santa Cruz County is designed to address the food needs of vulnerable older adults through a federal economic stimulus package for restaurants. In May, Santa Cruz County sought interest from local restaurantuers and caterers to prepare and provide meals. Of the applicants, 4 restaurants and 1 caterer were chosen:

- The Back Nine
- Johnny's Harborside
- Roaring Camp
- Pearl of the Ocean
- Swing Time

Great Plates Delivered began meal deliveries during Memorial Day weekend, and has now served thousands of meals to 413 participants, with additional applicants pending approval. Overall, the program delivers more than 1000 healthy meals to local older adults each day.

The County is grateful to the Area Agency on Aging, 211, Community Bridges, Grey Bears, Senior Network Services, City of Watsonville, Second Harvest Food Bank, and the Volunteer Center for participating on the Steering Committee and assistance during the selection process.

Great Plates Delivered is due to expire June 10 unless the federal government grants the State's request for a 30-day extension. We await FEMA's response to the State's request for a 30-day extension of the FEMA funding. Seventy-five percent of Great Plates is funded through the federal CARES Act, with the State providing 18.75 percent.

The County thanks the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County for providing the remaining funding to assure the needs of local seniors are met.