



Drive-Thru Food Pantry Targets Families With School-Aged Children
Sowing Seeds for Life Looking for Donations as Supplies Run Low

Pomona, CA (Aug. 28, 2020) – After a month-long hiatus, non-profit food pantry Sowing Seeds for Life will resume drive-thru food giveaways at the Pomona drag strip at Fairplex in September, supplementing food needs for families with children taking part in online schooling during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sowing Seeds for Life, a La Verne-based partner with the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, will resume its food pantry at Fairplex on Sept. 2 with another scheduled for Sept. 16. Both events run from 8 a.m. to noon.

The food pantry plans to continue the drive-thru events through the end of the year on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. The pantry serves Los Angeles County residents but IDs are not checked – anyone in need may participate.

With children virtually returning to school, families are in need of nutritious meals to serve for breakfast, lunch and dinner. While some school districts continue to offer free meals during the pandemic to children who are schooling from home, food pantries can offer supplemental food assistance and provide needed meals to families who are unable to receive school meals, said Fran Robertson, executive director of Sowing Seeds for Life.

“For September and October, we really want to focus on families whose children are taking classes at home. It’s already a stressful situation; they should not have to worry about feeding their children,” Robertson said.

When school campuses closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, school districts could provide free meals to any child regardless of whether they attended schools in the district or were eligible for free meal programs. Since the beginning of the new school year, the federal government returned to pre-COVID rules, only reimbursing districts for meals served to students who qualify for free or low-cost breakfasts and lunches. Districts will have to charge students who aren’t eligible

for the federal program and can no longer serve children from other districts or from charter or private schools.

The drive-thru food pantry at Fairplex is at 1101 W. McKinley Ave, Pomona, 91768. Enter Gate 17 and drive down the drag strip to pick up food boxes. The food pantry abides by Los Angeles County Department of Health guidelines for COVID-19. Volunteers wear masks and food boxes are placed in vehicle trunks or truck beds for a no-contact experience.

In addition, Sowing Seeds is looking for monetary donations. Anyone wishing to donate may make a contribution online at www.sowingseedsforlife.org. No amount is too small.

The pantry is also preparing for the upcoming holiday season. As the pandemic continues, the holiday season is expected to be doubly hard on families in need. Sowing Seeds is accepting gift cards to stores such as Target or Walmart that will be given to families to buy holiday gifts. Visit www.sowingseedsforlife.org for more information.

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