



November 9, 2020

Ventura County Board of Supervisors
C/O Clerk of the Board

Re: Agenda Item #32

Dear Supervisors Bennett, Huber, Long, Parks, and Zaragoza,

I am writing to express my strong support for approval of the use of \$3.65 million in Federal Coronavirus Relief Fund moneys to support the Farmworker Household Assistance Program(FHAP).

The FHAP was born out of a community collaboration effort. The "Friday Coronavirus Zoom group" of farmers, farm worker advocates and community-based organizations identified the need and created the Organizing Committee to design a strategy to support farm workers impacted by COVID.

To date, we have received \$320,000 in donations including \$125,000 from the ag community, and \$45,000 from individuals who sent gifts ranging from \$5 to \$4,000.

We are extremely grateful for the widespread community recognition of both the essential role of farm workers and the impact of the pandemic on their daily lives.

We are beyond appreciative for the County of Ventura's partnership and commitment to the farm worker community. The staff at the CEO's office and the Human Services Agency have worked tirelessly to support the applicants and facilitate the process, demonstrating above and beyond dedication and perseverance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yissel Barajas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Yissel" and last name "Barajas" clearly distinguishable.

Yissel Barajas, CHRO, Reiter Affiliated Companies
Member, FHAP Organizing Committee