Improving Equitable Access to Food in San Juan County
San Juan County Health & Community Services
Healthy Communities Division
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Farm to Community: Programs to support Food Equity and Local Agriculture

Economic Multiplier for very $1 spent on incentives generates $2.70 to support local economy
Market Match

• At Orcas Island Farmers Market
• $40 in matching $ for:
  • Fresh vegetables
  • Fresh fruits
  • Mushrooms
  • Fresh herbs
  • Seeds and plants that produce food (for example, tomato seeds or tomato plants)
Fresh Bucks Program on San Juan and Orcas Island
Increasing Healthy Food Access

• EBT Match promotes buying power – up to $20 match at Farmers Market and Co-ops
• Increases consumption of fruits and vegetables for low-income families
• Increase dollars invested in local agriculture

• **Fresh Bucks 2022:**
  • **Orcas** – 130 Households, 285 people, $13,738 redeemed
  • **San Juan** – on hold 2022, (2021 -155 Households $13,906 Fresh Bucks at Co-op and Farmers Market)
    • 2023 raised $10,500 in funds to support.
Island Grown Food Access Card

• Enrolled 166 households/ 342 individuals to receive a $150+ benefit on debit/credit card

• Spend on locally grown EBT eligible foods at the San Juan Islands Food Hub (sjifh) and Farm Stands/ Farmers Market Vendors that accept debit/ credit cards

• Use your debit card to purchase any **EBT eligible food items; fruits, vegetables, meat, fish, poultry, eggs, dairy products, bread, and seeds/plants starts that produce food.**
To date:
562 transactions
$20,857 spent

2022 Survey: 40 responses, 9 LatinX

45% last 12 months couldn’t afford to eat balanced meals

87% Island Grown helped them better afford balanced meals

“It made it easier (to) afford and encouraged me to take advantage and eat healthier”

“It has been wonderful to have a card that is just like any other cc and doesn’t stand out as EBT, which I can use at my own discretion”