

CSET provides essentials for those who are essential



By *Ivanhoe Sol*

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CSET Tulare County is offering a bevy of services to local agricultural industry workers and their families

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With the state's new stay-at-home order now in place, Community Services Employment Training (CSET) is making sure they provide the essentials to those who are essential.

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CSET's Healthy Harvest program provides Tulare County agricultural and food industry workers and their families with essential COVID-19 resources to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Families will receive information about COVID-19 safety precautions and preventative healthcare information and techniques to prevent the spread of infections. For workers who have come in contact or tested positive for COVID-19 (and do not require hospitalization), CSET may refer them to a temporary and safe place to quarantine at no-cost if they are unable to do so at home.

Distance learning opportunities will be made available to the children of enrolled families. Children will be eligible to participate in weekly virtual sessions with an assigned tutor for additional school support. Additionally, families and their children will gain access to information about family support services, rental or mortgage assistance, utility bill assistance and employment services through CSET's range of services.

"CSET's Family Resource Center team is honored to participate in the Central Valley Healthy Harvest efforts to keep local agricultural workers and their families safe during the pandemic. We are working closely with the Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency, Proteus, Family Resources Centers Network, and other agencies across Tulare County. We are all working together to ensure agricultural industry and food production workers and their families are equipped with critical resources during the pandemic," Director of Community Initiatives Raquel Gomez Collins said.

Priority enrollment will be granted to eligible applicants who live in Tulare, Pixley, or Earlimart and surrounding areas. Specifically, those who work in agricultural industries, such as farmworkers and food processing employees where social distancing is a challenge. To be eligible for the program, the applicant or someone in their immediate household must demonstrate proof of a COVID-19 related hardship. This includes loss of job, lay-off, or reduced hours/wages due to COVID-19. Additional COVID-19 hardships may include the inability to work due to a child's distance learning or childcare services closure/ limited enrollment. Documentation of COVID-19 related hardship will be needed to approve application. Visit www.cset.org/covid19 for more information.

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