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FOR



IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Alhambra USD Food & Nutrition Services Launches Unique Food Recovery Program in Partnership with Tzu Chi USA + San Gabriel High School**

***Media Advisory: Kick-Off on Monday, January 14, 2019, at 12:10 to 12:30 pm at San Gabriel High, 801 S. Ramona Street, San Gabriel, CA***

ALHAMBRA, CA – Alhambra Unified School District Food & Nutrition Services, in partnership with San Gabriel High School and the Tzu Chi Foundation, launches the district’s first Food Recovery Program on Monday, January, 14, 2019 at San Gabriel High School.

The students will have the opportunity to reduce waste by recycling their unwanted whole uneaten fruit. There are many ways schools can reduce food waste and teach students about the impact it has on the environment and in their community.

“Despite efforts to promote healthy eating habits by looking at lunchroom layouts and providing choices to students with the offer-versus-serve approach (students can select three out of five items with fruit or vegetable as one of those options), it is inevitable that we see uneaten food discarded into trash cans. The ultimate goal of school meals is

to provide students a nutritious well balanced meal,”said Judy Huffaker, AUSD Food & Nutrition Services Director.

“‘Choose What You Want...Eat What You Choose’ is the message to students,” Huffaker adds. “After lunch, if a student decides not to eat their fruit, rather than discarding it, let’s recycle.”

There are many ways to reduce, recycle, and recover food waste in school cafeterias. At this time, the pilot Food Recovery Program is beginning with the recycling of unwanted, uneaten whole fresh fruit or unopened packages of raisins and raisins. By implementing the Food Recovery Program, San Gabriel High School students play a vital role in scaling back the amount of food taking up landfill space.

Teaching students the concept of reducing food waste as a learning opportunity will instill better habits in our young people who then become more community-conscious adults.

San Gabriel High School students’ participation in the Food Recovery Program gives them a platform for taking a positive step towards the care for their school campus environment.

The Food Recovery Program is a collaborative partnership between San Gabriel High School, Food & Nutrition Services and the Tzu Chi Foundation. The Tzu Chi Foundation is a nonprofit organization provides food banks for needy families, among many other charitable programs.

The Food Recovery Program Kick Off event is on Monday, January 14, 2019, from 12:10 p.m. until 12:45 p.m. (Suggested time for the media is 12:10 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.) San Gabriel High School is located at 801 S. Ramona Street, San Gabriel, CA 91776.

There will be three main components of the Kick Off:

12:10 pm Food Recovery Program Kick Off and Introductions  
12:15 pm Food Recovery Program Vision & Collaborative Partnerships  
12:30 pm Reduce Waste – Recycle Uneaten Fruit!

For more information about San Gabriel High School, please contact:

Debbie Stone, Principal 626-943-6810 Email: [stone\\_debbie@ausd.us](mailto:stone_debbie@ausd.us)

For more information about Food Recovery Program, please contact:

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For more information about Tzu Chi Foundation, please contact: Shirley Yang, Charity Program Director E-mail: [shirleyyba101@gmail.com](mailto:shirleyyba101@gmail.com)

CAPTION: Twelve-grade ASB Member at SGHS, Lindsay Nguyen, joined in the Kick-Off ceremonies on January 14, 2019 for the AUSD Food and Nutrition Services' first Food Recovery program, a partnership the with Tzu Chi Foundation and San Gabriel High School, to recycle unwanted, uneaten whole fruit.

PHOTO CREDIT LIEZEL GUTIERREZ



CAPTION: Kick-Off ceremonies on January 14, 2019 launched the AUSD Food and Nutrition Services' first Food Recovery program, in partnership with the Tzu Chi

Foundation and San Gabriel High School. The unique pilot program creates a recycling of unwanted, uneaten, whole fruit.

PHOTO CREDIT LIEZEL GUTIERREZ



CAPTION: San Gabriel High principal, Debbie Stone, addressing the media and SGHS students at the Kick-Off ceremonies on January 14, 2019 for the AUSD Food and Nutrition Services' first Food Recovery program, in partnership with the Tzu Chi Foundation and San Gabriel High School. The unique pilot program recycles unwanted, uneaten, whole fruit. Tzu Chi Foundation leaders and AUSD Board of Education president, Bob Gin, far right, are on hand to announce the launch.

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