

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 19, 2020

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The Common Market Texas awarded grant to connect local food to food insecure families impacted by COVID-19

In Texas, a nonprofit regional food distributor is connecting nutritious food from local farmers to meet growing need for food assistance amidst the pandemic.

HOUSTON, TX – June 19, 2020 – The Common Market Texas has received a grant to support COVID-19 emergency food relief from the Still Water Foundation. The contribution will support local food procurement and distribution in Central Texas.

“This grant supports small- and mid-scale family farmers in Texas and food insecure families during the unprecedented challenge of the novel coronavirus pandemic,” says Margaret Smith, director, The Common Market Texas.

“We are deeply concerned that a growing number of families are struggling with food access and food insecurity. We are proud to deliver 30,000 pounds and counting of local food grown on family farms to the Central Texas Food Bank.”

With news of the sharply increasing number of families turning to emergency food resources at the same time as large farms plowing under crops, the Still Water Foundation was motivated to provide funding to positively impact rural agriculture communities in Texas and families in-need.

Since the partnership began in May, The Common Market Texas has delivered over 25,000 pounds of Texas produce to the Central Texas Food Bank with plans to continue to deliver tens of thousands more throughout the summer.

“We are so grateful to The Common Market and the Still Water Foundation for this donation of nutritious, locally-grown food, especially during this time of unprecedented need,” said Derrick Chubbs, president and CEO of the Central Texas Food Bank. “This generous gift will not only help us feed thousands of our neighbors who are facing increased food insecurity due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it will also help support local farms, which are so vital to all of us.”

The Common Market Texas and the Central Texas Food Bank are working collaboratively to leverage the donation funds alongside the food bank produce procurement budget, increasing the impact on Texas farmers and families. The goal of the partnership is to increase locally grown produce that is high-quality, rich in nutrition, and compliments other sources of food donations at the food bank.

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For more information about The Common Market, visit www.thecommonmarket.org.

About The Common Market

The Common Market is a national nonprofit with a mission to connect the good food from sustainable family farms to communities. The organization builds the infrastructure to support local and regional food systems. The Common Market is particularly focused on improving economic opportunity and health outcomes for the most vulnerable— low-income communities, communities of color, and children and seniors. The national organization was founded 12 years ago and expanded to Houston, TX, opening The Common Market Texas in 2018. The Texas chapter operates healthy food distribution across Greater Houston, Central, and South Texas and currently partners with over 40 Texas farmers and ranchers.