# SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



ITEM: 3.72 (ID # 27996) MEETING DATE: Tuesday, May 20, 2025

#### FROM : BOS DISTRICT 5

**SUBJECT:** BOS DISTRICT 5: Approve the allocation of Unincorporated Communities Initiative (UCI) funds to sponsor produce distributions events across Nuevo, San Jacinto, Cherry Valley, and Cabazon in Partnership with the non-profit organization, Bienestar is Wellbeing. [\$90,000 Total Cost - 100% District 5 Unincorporated Communities Initiative/General Fund](4/5 Vote Required)

#### **RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1. Approve the Fifth District Unincorporated Communities Initiative (UCI) project outlined below; and
- 2. Direct the Executive Office to pay \$90,000 from the Unincorporated Communities Initiative Fund to the non-profit organization, Bienestar is Wellbeing
- 3. Authorize the Director of the non-profit organization, Bienestar is Wellbeing, or a designee, to coordinate and plan the produce distribution events.

ACTION:Policy

5/16/2025

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Gutierrez, seconded by Supervisor Spiegel and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes:	Medina, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Gutierrez
Nays:	None
Absent:	None
Date:	May 20, 2025
XC:	BOS-D5, EO



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FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:		Next Fiscal Year:			Total Cost:		Ongoing Cost	
COST	\$ 90,000 \$ 0 \$ 9			\$ 90,0	\$ 90,000		\$ 0		
NET COUNTY	\$	90,000	\$		0	\$ 90,000		\$0	
COST									
SOURCE OF FUND	Budget Adjustment: No								
Initiative/General Fund (UCI)									
	For Fiscal	Year:	24/25						

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

## BACKGROUND:

#### <u>Summary</u>

On November 17, 2020, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors (Board) directed the Executive Office to implement an Unincorporated Communities Initiative (UCI). The UCI is a focused, ongoing, and coordinated effort to improve the infrastructure and services provided to the residents of unincorporated communities, with emphasis on Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUCs). The program is funded through the General Fund/Net County Cost (NCC) monies from the County during the annual budget and quarterly budget revision process.

Based on the foundational work completed by the UCI Team and further analysis by the Office of Supervisor Gutierrez, \$90,000 of the remaining available UCI funding for the Fifth District will be allocated to the non-profit organization, Bienestar is Wellbeing, for them to plan, organize, and host produce distribution events across Nuevo, San Jacinto, Cherry Valley, and Cabazon.

Bienestar is Wellbeing is a non-profit organization with a mission of, "addressing hunger and food insecurity in underserved communities throughout California by providing sustainable access to healthy and nutritious food to those in need."

Since July 2023, Bienestar is Wellbeing has distributed 18 million pounds of produce to communities across the Inland Empire Region, including the cities of Riverside, Hemet, Moreno Valley, and many more. Over 150,000 people have benefited from these distributions, with surveys conducted by the non-profit demonstrating increased access to healthcare and improved health outcomes for community members.

Bienestar is Wellbeing partners with over 40 organizations to distribute produce across communities in California, including the Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP) and Molina Healthcare.

With the allocation of \$90,000 in funding, Bienestar is Wellbeing will organize and simultaneously host 36 produce distribution events across Nuevo, San Jacinto, Cherry Valley, and Cabazon in the timespan of 12 months.

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The community of Nuevo will receive a monthly distribution for 6 months. The city of San Jacinto will receive a monthly distribution for 6 months.

The community of Cherry Valley will receive a monthly distribution for 12 months.

The community of Cabazon will receive a monthly distribution for 12 months.

Each event will distribute roughly 22,000lbs of produce to residents, for a total of 792,000lbs of food distributed to the designated areas within 12 months.

#### Impact on Residents and the Community

These produce distribution events will benefit the residents of District 5 by addressing food insecurity and hunger. Additionally, at the distribution events, participating residents will be able to access resources such as healthcare and county departments' programs and services. With consistent and free access to healthy food options, the District 5 community can see improved health benefits. Moreover, the events will assist the County of Riverside in bridging gaps in service, as participating residents are made aware of and connected to county resources and programs.