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Sent: 7/12/2018 10:17:52 AM
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Cc:
Subject: EBT/SNAP at farmers markets - conference call to update & strategize statewide advocacy

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Community Food Strategies will host a conference call this coming **Monday, July 16 from 2-3pm** for food council members and their community partners to discuss the recent change in software companies by the USDA that will disrupt the ability to process mobile EBT transactions at farmers markets after July 31st.

PleaseÂ RSVP hereÂ to receive call in information and a call agenda.Â

Our understanding of details and information available is changing quickly, below is the background and updates I have at this moment.
Kiera

Background:
SNAP recipients to lose benefits at farmers markets:Â Many SNAP participants will no longer be able to redeem their money at more than 1,700 farmers marketsÂ afterÂ July 31, when an Austin-based software company that processes mobile transactions ends its service, FERNÂ reportsÂ in partnership with The Washington Post.

Here is a brief update from the processing company:

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MM+ Status Update

Many of you have reached out to us with questions and concerns as a result of articles and announcements regarding the shutdown or discontinuation of the Mobile Market+ systems.Â At this time we continue to work with our processing partners, advocacy groups, and other members of the community to explore every option to avoid any interruption of service.Â Â We expect to be able to provide more detailed updates in the coming days, and greatly appreciate your patience as we work through this process.
Â
Sincerely,

Â The Mobile Market+ team

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Coordinator

Asheville Buncombe Food Policy Council
Policy. Advocacy. Change.
www.abfoodpolicy.org

Our mission *is to identify, propose and advocate for policies, financial appropriations, and innovative solutions to improve and protect our local food system in order to advance economic development, social justice, environmental sustainability, and community resiliency.*