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For Immediate Release

First California Farm to School Conference will connect and strengthen nutritional education programs throughout the state

Pacific Grove, CA, April 24, 2015 – More than 200 Farm to School leaders will attend the first California Farm to School Conference May 4-6 in Pacific Grove, CA at the Asilomar Conference Grounds. The event will bring together Farm to School stakeholders from all regions of the state, and will include a broad cross-section of school food service staff, educators, parents, farmers, distributors, and government and nonprofit allies. The conference will span three days, including one day of preconference tours and short courses, and will also include a Taste of Farm to School Reception catered by foodservice leaders of the California Farm to School movement.

The conference organizers, the Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF), and the California Farm to School Network (CFSN) hope that the conference will allow a unique opportunity to connect with the influencers and decision makers in the California Farm to School movement. “California has long been a leader in Farm to School,” says Diana Abellera, CAFF’s Chief Operations Officer. “With the launch of our statewide network and now our first conference, we are growing and unifying this movement and taking it to the next level of impact.”

The conference will offer field trips to local farms and schools, a series of workshops, panels and discussions that will be of significant educational and networking value to attendees who will represent all facets of the farm to school movement, including farmers, distributors, government representatives, procurement officers, educators, and food program administrators. Congressman Sam Farr (D-Salinas) will give a welcoming address, and speak to his long experience of advocating and supporting California agriculture and Farm to School efforts throughout his career.

For questions or more information about the conference please visit www.cafarmtoschoolconference.org/.

This project is supported by the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, as well as the USDA Farm to School program.

The California Farm to School Network is a project of CAFF, in partnership with Urban and Environmental Policy Institute (UEPI) and Life Lab. More information can be found at www.cafarmtoschool.org. CAFF is a non-profit organization working statewide to advocate for family farmers and sustainable agriculture. For more information please visit www.caff.org.

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