

June 7, 2018

Florida Health in Bay to Host Farmer's Market Beginning Monday

*New option will address food access in the community and for
DOH-Bay WIC clients*

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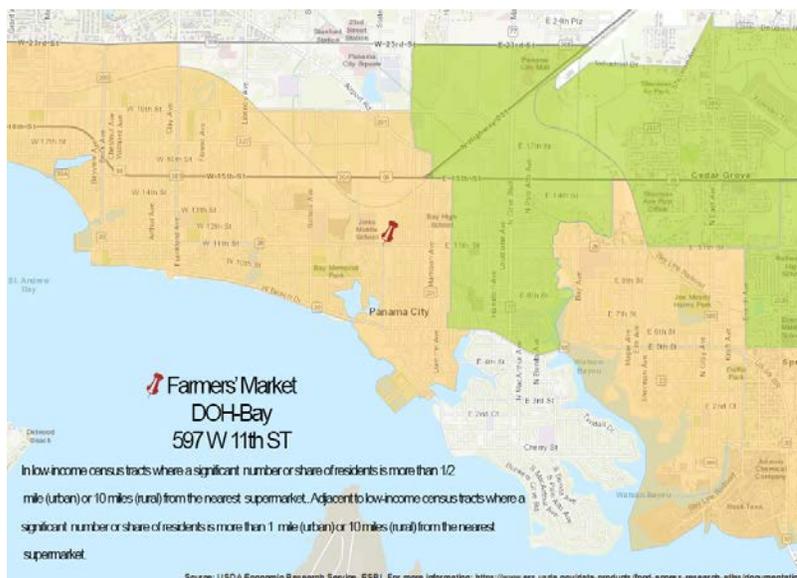
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Panama City, Fla. – The Florida Department of Health in Bay County's WIC program is opening a new Farmers' Market at DOH-Bay. This market will provide easy access to healthy foods for WIC clients. In addition, it will help DOH-Bay meet Community Health Improvement Plan goals of increasing healthy food options in areas where they are limited.

“Our local farmers are very important in supplying fresh fruits and vegetables to our WIC clients and community, what great way to show case our partnership for a health community.”, said Douglas Kent, MPH, DOH-Bay Administrator.



The Farmers' Market is opened to the public as well as all DOH-Bay clients. It will be in the front parking lot of DOH-Bay. The address is 597 W. 11th ST, Panama City. The market will open June 11. It will operate Monday through Thursday from 9:30 to 11:30 am, weather permitting. The market will accept WIC and Seniors Farmers' Market Coupons as well as cash. Debit/Credit and SNAP will be accepted based on availability.

What: Farmers' Market

When: Monday – Thursday (starting June 11) from 9:30 – 11:30 am

Where: DOH-Bay front parking lot, 597 W. 11th ST, Panama City

Who: Everyone!

Eating healthy foods can reduce the risk for chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, osteoporosis, and several types of cancer. Expanding the availability of nutritious and affordable food is an evidenced-based practice for healthy weight. Farmer's markets can increase fruit and vegetable consumption. Increasing access to healthy foods also decreases health inequities.

WIC or Women, Infants, and Children is a special supplemental nutrition program. The program provides supplemental foods, health care referrals, nutrition education, and breastfeeding support. Services are for pregnant and postpartum women and infants and children up to age five. To learn more or to apply for WIC, visit Bay.FLHealth.gov and click on Programs & Services, Clinical and Nutrition Services, and then WIC. You can also call the office directly at 850-872-4666. For breastfeeding support for WIC or non-WIC clients contact the breastfeeding hotline at 850-747-5775.

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