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## Hot off the press!

### Dairies Donate - Keeping us Strong!

"In times like this, the resilience of the human spirit is more visible than ever. It's incredibly uplifting to see so many businesses and individuals stepping up to support employees, customers and communities," said Mariano Lozano, CEO of Danone NA<sup>1</sup>. Danone has donated 1.2 million dollars and 300,000 products to relief efforts as of the end of March. Countless dairies around the country have been pouring out milk, originally destined for school lunch programs, to food pantries.

Many dairy processors are offering special pricing and curb-side pick-up in an effort to reach out to the communities where they strive to keep the food chain strong.

The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service has been funded to implement up to \$1.4 billion in Food Purchase and Distribution according to a recent article in the Cheese Reporter. Dick Groves, the Publisher/Editor points out to the USDA, "Buying full-fat dairy products will accomplish at least two important goals. First it will provide consumers with a type of fat, namely milk fat, that has various health benefits<sup>2</sup>." Secondly, of course, buying full fat dairy products will help dairy farmers.

1. <https://www.dairyreporter.com/Article/2020/03/26/Dairy-donates-tl-me-money-and-food-to-the-coronavirus-pandemic>

2. Groves, Dick, "USDA Should Buy Whole Milk, Other Full-Fat Dairy Products", Cheese Reporter, April 3, 2020, Page 2

