**SAMPLE WRITTEN AGREEMENT 2**

**[name of the market] Farmers Market**

**Vendor Agreement for Credit/Debit/SNAP (food stamp) Program**

[Introduce the what?, why?, and benefits. Example below.]

The [name of the farmers market] is implementing a new credit/debit/SNAP (food stamp) program. The market’s goal, with you as partners, is to provide a value-added revenue source for the vendors and to offer fresh fruits and vegetables to low-income families who receive food stamps. In addition, because we are combining this technology with credit/debit services, we feel confident that the [name of the farmers market] can increase the overall vendor sales with the current average daily crowd count of the market. We expect that all vendors will benefit as if they have individual wireless credit/debit/SNAP machines themselves. However, with our market program, you will not have any of the additional bookkeeping tasks or expenses.

[Spell out your market policies. Example below.]

For consistency in the program and clarity for the market customer, the board requires that *all* vendors participate in the program.

[Spell out your market protocol – how tokens will work. Example below.]

Shoppers will purchase credit/debit/EBT tokens at the market’s information table. Shoppers will use tokens to purchase eligible products. Please see list of eligible purchase on page 2.

[Spell out specific market procedures vendors will need to know for how to redeem tokens.]

[Spell out to vendor what the market will be doing and its role in the program? Example below.]

To help ensure the success of this program, the market will promote it in a variety of ways including market signage, press releases, in our monthly advertising and through other, non-traditional means. All revenues and expenses of the program will be reviewed each year for its value to the market, the farmers and to the community.

[Explain legal context and responsibilities. Example below.]

As a federal program, the SNAP (food stamp program) is regulated by USDA’s Food and Nutrition Service. We are asking vendors to sign this agreement to assure that they are aware of the rules of the program. The [name of the market] sees this program as a joint responsibility.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on behalf of my business, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ agree to abide by the rules described herein as they relate to the processing Credit/Debit/SNAP (Food Stamp) transactions. I/we agree to follow all USDA SNAP rules, as outlined on the bottom of this agreement. I/we understand that the Market Board has the right to remove vendors from the market who do not comply with these rules.

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Vendor Signature Business Name Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Market Signature Market Position Date

**ELIGIBLE FOOD ITEMS for USDA SNAP (food stamps) PURCHASES**

Additional information on the SNAP rules is available online. If you have any questions, please ask your market manager.

Source: [www.fns.usda.gov/snap/retailers/eligible.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/retailers/eligible.htm) (Accessed July 2012)

Shoppers **CAN** use SNAP benefits to buy:

1. Foods for the household to eat, such as:
* breads and cereals;
* fruits and vegetables;
* meats, fish and poultry; and
* dairy products.
1. Seeds and plants which produce food for the household to eat.

Shoppers **CANNOT** use SNAP benefits to buy non-food items, ready to eat foods or hot foods.

1. Any prepared or hot food items that are intended to be eaten on site.
2. Any nonfood items, such as:
	* pet foods;
	* soaps, paper products; and
	* household supplies.
3. Vitamins and medicines.
4. Beer, wine, liquor, cigarettes or tobacco;

Also note:

* Vendors are not allowed to set a minimum purchase requirement.
* Cash cannot be given as change for SNAP/EBT (food stamp). (Change can be given for Credit/Debit tokens.)