



2011-2012 Annual Report & 2013 Wall Calendar





Photo: Marilyn Robinson

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Dear Friends,

So much of our attention in 2011 and 2012 was absorbed with the Brickway project — the design and build-out of our new facility and the fundraising to make it possible. It has been so energizing to create the Food Bank of our dreams, without the constraints of an existing space, designed years ago when food banking was a different business than it is today. We've been immersed in creating a space where we can innovate to meet needs and seize opportunities we can't even anticipate today. It's been a joy to share that vision with those of you who have invested in the future of ending hunger in our community.

But for all the excitement that Brickway generated, it's not about the building. It's about feeding hungry people. Because of your support, in 2011-2012 we were able once again to feed 78,000 people in need of food assistance each month. We were able to significantly expand our Diabetes Wellness Project, an innovative partnership with local clinics that enables us to identify and refer to medical care people with type 2 diabetes, while clinics can refer

their diabetes patients to us for the healthy food they need. We were able to reach more children than ever before through our six programs designed to pick up where school lunch programs leave off, ensuring that children have nutritious food during the summer, over the weekend, after school, and before they reach school age.

We are grateful for the generosity of nearly 10,000 financial supporters who have made it possible for us to build the food bank of tomorrow at Brickway while continuing every day to meet our mission of ending hunger in our community. We are humbled by the 3,500 volunteers who help us move over 13 million pounds of food each year from the loading dock to the tables of low-income families. That army of volunteers works as many hours each year as our entire paid staff. And we look forward to sharing with you our new home, where — with your continued support — we will be able to serve every person in our community in need of food assistance.

Sincerely,



David Goodman
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Suzy Marzalek
BOARD PRESIDENT



1 in 6 people in Sonoma County struggles with hunger

78,000

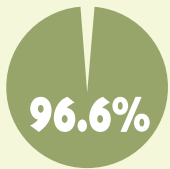
people receive
food from the
REFB every month

- 34,000 are children
- 11,800 are seniors
- 13,500 are working families

The median household income of food recipients is

\$930
A MONTH

(Hunger in Sonoma County 2010 Survey)



of total donations go to our food programs to ensure every one who needs food receives it

*“Everybody can be great,
because everybody can serve.”
— Martin Luther King, Jr.*

The Redwood Empire Food Bank – Sonoma County’s Largest Hunger-Relief Organization

Since 1987, the mission of the **Redwood Empire Food Bank (REFB)** has been to end hunger in our community. Why? The health and well-being of our neighbors is important to us and the thousands of people who support our mission by donating time, energy and funds. With their — and your — help the REFB is Sonoma County’s largest hunger-relief organization. Now, more than ever, food insecurity is closer than you think. We provide food to over 78,000 people every month through our own three Hunger Initiatives (detailed in our *Accomplishments* section following), and a network of 166 charitable organizations throughout Sonoma County. The REFB also helps smaller food banks and charitable organizations acquire food in Lake, Mendocino, Humboldt and Del Norte counties. Over 13 million pounds of food is distributed annually, the equivalent of 28,500 meals each day.

REFB Volunteers – Essential to Ending Hunger

Volunteers play a crucial role in the work of the REFB — we appreciate their generous help. Volunteers assist in all areas of the REFB activities, including driving to pick up and deliver food, sorting and gleaning donated products, stocking shelves, packing food boxes for children and seniors, organizing food drives and special events, sharing their special talents in areas such as graphics and computers, and hosting distributions in their local communities to help their neighbors who are in need.

Fiscally Responsible – Our Mission Comes First

The REFB is a trusted institution in Sonoma County, and is pleased that for the 9th year in a row, the REFB holds the highest rating — Four Stars — from Charity Navigator, America’s premier independent charity evaluator.



For more information, visit www.refb.org.

How the Food Bank Works...



Donors make food and financial donations.



Food is obtained from growers, food stores, manufacturers and community food drives.

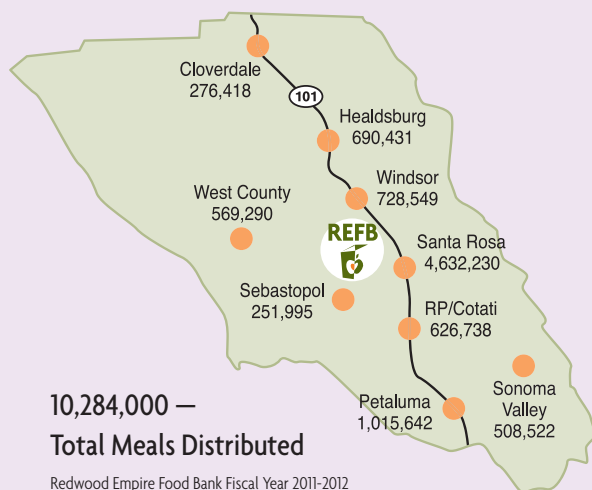


Thousands of volunteers sort and pack over 13 million pounds of food annually.



78,000 recipients receive food through the REFB's own programs and 166 charitable organizations.

...to Feed Sonoma County



Accomplishments 2011-2012

Since 1987, the Redwood Empire Food Bank has grown to serve every area in Sonoma County. In that time, we have developed three major hunger initiatives — **Every Child, Every Day**; the **Neighborhood Hunger Network**; and **Senior Security**. These initiatives provide our neighbors experiencing food insecurity — low-income individuals, families, seniors, and children — with their most basic necessity: food. We do this through our own programs and those of our 166 partner organizations.

Every Child, Every Day

Most children from low-income families have access to free and reduced-price lunch programs at their schools. The REFB's **Every Child, Every Day** programs pick up where school lunch leaves off. Because of your support, every month 34,000 local children are getting the nourishment they need to succeed in school and have healthier futures.

Farm to Family School Pantries began in 2009. Each week, Farm to Family provides 450 families with 20 pounds of fresh produce and staple food items at three of Santa Rosa's highest-need elementary schools, where over 90% of the students qualify for the free or reduced-price lunch program. The sites served are Lincoln, Monroe and Luther Burbank Elementary Schools. The REFB teamed up with the **Network for a Healthy California** and the **Northern California Center for Well-Being** to also provide weekly nutrition education to the participating families at all three Farm to Family School Pantries.

The Backpack Program provides 10 pounds of food for the weekend to students at six elementary schools in Geyserville, Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa and Sonoma Valley. In fiscal year 2011-2012, over 76,000 pounds of food, over 28,000 pounds more than in the previous year, was distributed.



Photo: Amy Schmitt

"We enjoy our partnership with the Food Bank. They understand the connection between good nutrition and a child's ability to learn. I'd love to see this program expanded throughout Sonoma County."

—RACHEL VALENZUELA,
Principal, Monroe Elementary
School, Santa Rosa School
District



Sonia's Story

Sonia is a mother of three-year-old twins, Shelsey and Sharlyne. The Farm to Family School Pantry Program at the Lincoln Elementary school site is important for her family, because fresh vegetables and fruit are expensive. Without this program, Sonia would be forced to make hard choices between buying nutritious food and paying other bills for basic necessities such as gasoline, electricity, and rent. Sonia enjoys using the recipes Farm to Family has provided to incorporate a variety of vegetables into daily cooking, such as spinach, peas, broccoli, carrots and cabbage. The sisters love the Veggie Tortilla Roll-Up recipe. The girls also love broccoli, which Sonia steams or puts in salads raw. Besides eating carrots raw, Sonia found another way for her daughters to get their vitamin A. She juices carrots with celery, which the girls are delighted to drink. All of the lessons have been useful, and according to Sonia, the variety of fresh fruit and vegetables made available by Farm to Family School Pantry has helped Shelsey and Sharlyne stay healthy.



Sonia's daughters Shelsey and Sharlyne sample fresh raspberries.

The Megan Furth Harvest Pantry combines the distribution of fresh produce with nutrition education, and has broadened its nutrition curriculum from anemia prevention to include obesity prevention. The Megan Furth Harvest Pantry serves nine locations in four towns — Cloverdale, Healdsburg, Petaluma and Santa Rosa — in neighborhoods where children are at risk of anemia. In the fiscal year 2011-2012, The Megan Furth Harvest Pantry distributed over 930,000 pounds of fresh produce.

Low-income children benefit from school-based free and reduced-price lunches during the academic year. During the summer when low-income children risk missing meals, the **Every Child, Every Day Hunger-Free Summer Initiative** ensures access to at least one healthy meal, including fresh fruits and wholesome ingredients like brown rice, five days a week. In 2012, Summer Lunch provided over 105,000 meals to low-income children, as well as educational activities like gardening and nutrition-based activities and free theater productions for over 2,700 children.

After School Snacks for Kids began in 2004, and now distributes healthy snacks at 38 sites. In fiscal 2011-2012, Snacks for Kids served over 332,000 snacks to at-risk children enrolled in community enrichment programs like Boys & Girls Clubs and Recreation and Parks Programs throughout Sonoma County. This is an increase of more than 37,000 snacks from the previous year.

Senior Security

Many seniors in our community are living on fixed incomes that are not adequate to take care of their basic needs. The REFB's monthly grocery boxes, weekly produce pantries and special nutrition programs provide the nutritional stability seniors need to lead healthy and independent lives. The REFB provides food assistance to 11,800 seniors every month.



David Pier, the Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club of Sonoma Valley, asked a staff member what it was like before the REFB provided snacks and now. She responded: "There are no more hungry kids."



Christina and The Living Room

The Living Room is one of the 166 nonprofit and faith-based partner agencies that enable the Redwood Empire Food Bank to get food to hungry people wherever they are in Sonoma County. At The Living Room, a daytime drop-in shelter for women and children without homes, we met Christina and her sons, two-year-old Curtis and five-month-old Jordan. Christina told us that her unemployment insurance had run out. The Living Room's Mother and Child Program provides a child-friendly environment for mothers and their children. It's a refuge for Christina, a safe place where her children are able to eat hot meals. When asked what Christina's vision of eating well is for her family she responded, "Everyone sitting together as a family, being able to afford fresh fruits and vegetables, and healthy snacks for my boys, like yogurt and graham crackers." The Living Room provides 25,000 meals annually to their guests.



"My sons eat hot meals thanks to The Living Room's partnership with the Food Bank," says Christina, mother of two-year-old Curtis (pictured above) and three-month-old Jordan.

Neighborhood Hunger Network

The Redwood Empire Food Bank (REFB) defines ending hunger as providing sufficient resources in all areas of the county for anyone seeking food assistance. We accomplish this through our own direct service food distributions as well as through our partnering agencies, which create a network of pantries, kitchens, shelters, group homes, child care facilities and other programs. The REFB is the hub of 166 partner agencies with programs located in every city, town and unincorporated area of Sonoma County. Our partners come to the REFB for food to support their programs. The REFB, through our own programs and agency partners, provides food assistance to 13,500 working families each month.

Innovations

In 2011, the REFB was the recipient of a multi-year \$800,000 grant from Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation, which enables the REFB to implement an innovative approach to improving health outcomes for low-income adults with diabetes who are facing food insecurity in Sonoma County. The REFB was one of three Feeding America Food Banks nationwide to receive these grants. To date, the REFB has enrolled over 250 adults into the project, conducted over 560 blood sugar risk screening tests, and received 118 patient referrals from our eight Sonoma County community clinic partners.

Blueprint to End Hunger Campaign

The REFB is nearing completion of a 60,000-square-foot facility that will replace our current warehouse, office space, and leased spaces. The new site will include, in addition to warehouse and office space, several features designed to enable us to innovate as new challenges and opportunities arise:

- **Value Marketplace** to provide low-cost food to participants in the *Women, Infants, and Children*



"Type 2 diabetes places a tremendous burden on individuals and families, and food-insecure populations have an increased risk for developing the disease. The REFB's Diabetes Wellness Project works to help clients manage type 2 diabetes."

—MORGAN SMITH, RN, PHN,
CNS; REFB Diabetes Wellness
Project Lead



John's Story

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) participant and volunteer John Lynch (pictured on our August Calendar page) recently celebrated his 84th birthday. An active senior, John has volunteered to feed the hungry in Sebastopol and Forestville for over 32 years. He now volunteers at the Sebastopol and Santa Rosa Veterans Buildings, where he distributes CSFP boxes and emergency food. The REFB reaches more than 1,450 seniors each month through its Commodity Supplemental Food Program. John is no stranger to hard work. He spent 50 years painting houses for a living before retiring, and continues to help out his family with chores on the ranch. Volunteering is something John enjoys: "The Food Bank's CSFP box is important to many seniors living on small pensions."



"Helping folks means a lot to me. That's why I volunteer," says John.

(WIC) nutrition program and *CalFresh* (formerly Food Stamps).

- **Three distinct areas for volunteer projects**, especially sorting and packing food. Materials and equipment for sorting and packing projects can be set up in a more productive way. Segregation of these projects from the main warehouse space, where forklifts and pallet jacks are always on the move, will enhance safety.
- **Commercial kitchen** for nutrition and cooking education; partnerships with nonprofits that provide culinary training; food production for our own programs; and revenue-generating activities such as catering, small food-business incubation, and rental to food entrepreneurs.
- **Safer** (better segregated from warehouse forklift traffic) and **more efficient shopping area** for the 166 partner agencies through which half of our food recipients get their food.
- **Large conference room with video systems and teleconferencing capabilities** that will be available both for our own use and that of our partner agencies, and for rental to professional associations and businesses seeking meeting locations.
- **Breakfast and lunch to-go café that will raise revenue** and bring people to the facility regularly, giving us the opportunity to **inform, educate, and cultivate** support in the neighboring business community.

To create this food bank for the future, we invited our supporters to join *Our Blueprint to End Hunger Capital Campaign*. Shortly after the close of the 2011-12 fiscal year, we reached the campaign's \$9 million goal, thanks to the exceptional generosity of the Sonoma County community. We expect to move in during April, 2013.



Photo: Marilyn Rubattino

"Solving the hunger problem in Sonoma County is a task for community involvement, and it is something well within our grasp to achieve."

—VIC TRIONE, Chairman,
Luther Burbank Savings



Statement of Financial Position

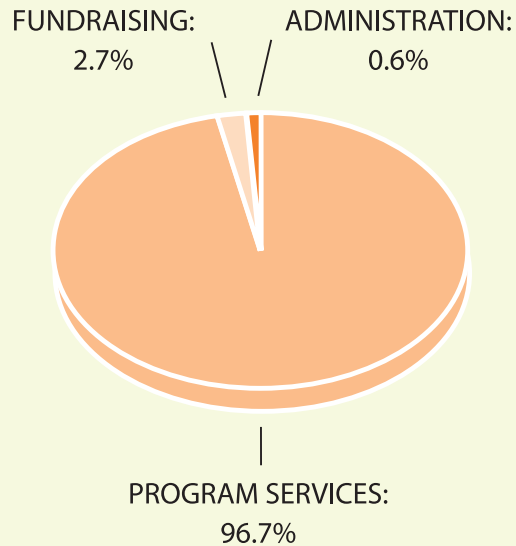
JUNE 30,	2012	2011
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,288,736	\$ 924,053
Certificates of deposit	441,426	438,328
Accounts receivable	361,914	346,732
Pledges receivable, current portion	639,642	446,803
Food inventory	1,032,055	1,051,660
Other current assets	62,867	55,605
Total current assets	3,826,640	3,263,181
Property, equipment and improvements, net	6,564,092	1,300,748
Pledges receivable, less current portion	780,931	271,725
Restricted cash for capital campaign	1,577,730	1,482,647
Other assets	3,890	75,000
	\$ 12,753,283	\$ 6,393,301
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 290,461	\$ 231,199
Accrued expenses	117,748	120,022
Current portion of long-term debt	63,184	-
Total current liabilities	471,393	351,221
Long-term debt	800,613	-
Total liabilities	1,272,006	351,221
Net assets		
Unrestricted	8,163,756	3,671,086
Temporarily restricted	3,317,521	2,370,994
TOTAL NET ASSETS	11,481,277	6,042,080
	\$ 12,753,283	\$ 6,393,301

Statement of Activities & Changes in Net Assets

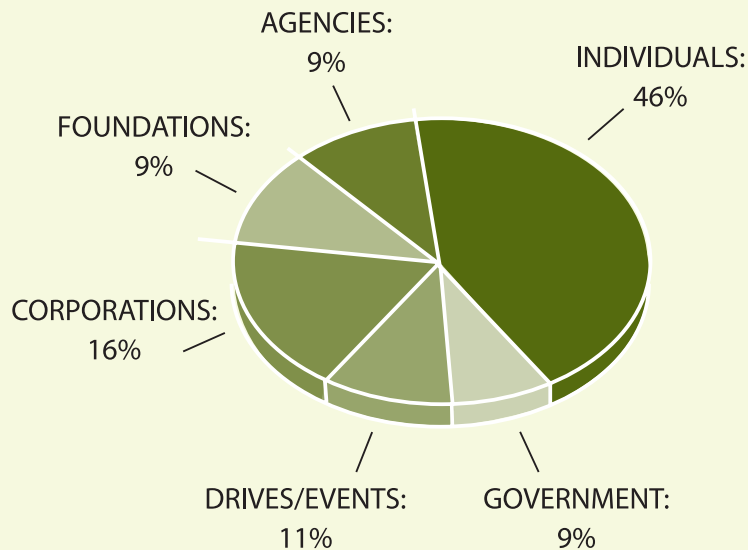
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
SUPPORT AND REVENUE			
Shared maintenance	\$ 992,947	\$ -	\$ 992,947
Grants	1,001,362	-	1,001,362
Donations	7,656,329	1,052,641	8,708,970
Fundraising events	297,156	-	297,156
Donated food	17,168,462	-	17,168,462
Investment income	4,599	-	4,599
Total support and revenue	27,120,855	1,052,641	28,173,496
Net assets released from restrictions	106,114	(106,114)	-
Total support, revenue and net assets released from restrictions	27,226,969	946,527	28,173,496
EXPENSES			
Program services	21,980,180	-	21,980,180
Fundraising	610,367	-	610,367
Management and general	143,752	-	143,752
Total expenses	22,734,299	-	22,734,299
Increase in net assets	4,492,670	946,527	5,439,197
Net assets, beginning of year	3,671,086	2,370,994	6,042,080
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 8,163,756	\$ 3,317,521	\$ 11,481,277

Expenses



Sources of Support



A Seasonal Calendar of Food and Food Systems

At the Redwood Empire Food Bank, we like to share ideas on healthy eating systems. Our favorite healthy eating idea: Eat more fruits and vegetables! One way to get high-quality produce is to eat what's in season. In-season produce has been grown nearby. If you're eating food that's not in season, it was either picked a long time ago (and lost some of its nutrients and taste) or was transported from another part of the world, with a lot of energy used on transportation to get it to your grocery store.

So we're offering a selection of healthy, seasonal recipes on our calendar. Each recipe features vegetables and fruit that are in season during the month the recipe is featured. You can get more recipes like these from the *Champions for Change* website of our partner, the *Network for a Healthy California*: <http://www.cachampionsforchange.cdph.ca.gov/en/index.php> (click on **My Kitchen**, then **Recipes**).

You can learn all about what's in season throughout the year at the website of the *Center for Urban Education About Sustainable Agriculture*: <http://www.cuesa.org> (click on **Seasonal Foods**).

The printed version of our annual report includes a wall calendar, which is omitted from the online version.



FINANCIAL DONORS

(Fiscal Year 2011-2012)

\$50,000+

Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation
Bruce Cohn
Community Foundation Sonoma County
Kaiser Permanente Foundation Health Plan
Merck
San Francisco Chronicle, Season of Sharing
St. Joseph Health Foundation
The Target Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Harris Family Foundation
JR Albert Foundation
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John Russell
Wine Road Northern Sonoma County



\$20,000 - \$24,999

ConAgra Foods Foundation
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Mary Clark Janis
Michael and Mary Schuh
Tonnellerie Radoux USA Inc.

\$15,000 - \$19,999

Julia L. Grant Fund
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George H. Sandy Foundation
Speedway Children's Charities
Valero – Fill Up to Fight Hunger

\$10,000 - \$14,999

Agilent Technologies
Andrew and Ellen Bradley

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The Felton Foundation
James Huhn and Betty Riley
KFOG FM; KNBR AM; KSAN FM; KTCT AM
Eric and Simone Lang
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
OdysseyRe Foundation
Thomas and Mary Stelzner
Sonoma Paradiso Fund
Sutter Health
Three Dog Yoga
Joseph Zils

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Abbey, Weitzenberg, Warren and Emery
Bergin Glass Impressions
Peter and Joanne Bice
Gordon and Ann Blumenfeld
Patricia Breuer
Barbara Briggs-Letson
John and Carol Cochenette
CommonCents
Glenn Cox

Jewish Community Endowment Fund
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Jack and Marilyn Jones
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Lucky Supermarket Customers
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MESA Beverage Co., Inc.
Sam & Betty Miller Fund
Moss Adams LLP
Charity Mulford
Rodney Strong Vineyard
Rotary Club of Rohnert Park-Cotati
SaveMart Supermarkets
Silicon Valley Bank
Sterling Savings
Target Foundation
Volunteer Center of Sonoma County - The Human Race
Stephen Weaver
John Weinstein and Heidi Stewart
John and Robin Wendler
Michael and Kelly Windsor

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Advanced Reservation Systems, Inc.
Daniel and Judy Ahrens
Hale and Janice Allen
Amy's Kitchen
Nicholas and Marcia Anton
Bank of America Charitable Foundation
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Steve and Ellen Beckwith
Mari Benson
William and Gail Bettinelli
Michael Bielawski and Alison Hannah
Max Blum and Sarah Johnson
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Albert and Paula Handelman
Henry-Burroughs Fund
Randy and Kathleen Hiseley
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Town of Windsor
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Whole Foods Corporate
Whole Foods Customers
Dr. Richard and Mrs. Annette Wilber
ZFA Structural Engineers
Paul and Michelle Zygilbaum

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Richard and Sharon Abbott
Rebecca Alger
Active 20/30 Club of the Redwood Empire #1029
Chris Anderegg and Virginia Porter
Anderson, Ziegler, Disharoon, Gallagher and Gray
Angel's Attic
Artisan Cheese Festival
Victor and Leticia Assad
Julian and Nancy Atkins
Linda Bacharach
Stephen and Vicki Bailey
Linda Balabanian
Beryl Baldwin
Bank of Marin
Ron and Jennifer Barney
Barr Charitable Foundation
Richard and Marilyn Bates
Dr. Anetha Baxter
Paul Beard
Stephen and Terry Beck
Greg Beddow
Richard and Pamela Beebe
Mark and Mary Beiting
Rhonda Berney
Fred and Vivian Bernhart
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Charles Biderman
John Bippart
Steven and Robin Black
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Bottle Barn, Inc.
Thomas and Beth Bourret
Kathryn Boyd
Ellen Brinkman
Mary Brodie
Caroline Broll
David and Suzanne Brown
Reed Buffington
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Craig and Anne Campbell
Robert and Lisa Cantrell
Carle, Mackie, Power and Ross LLP
Carl's Ready Mix
Robert and Vickie Carroll
Sheila Cauldwell
William and Isabel Cavalli
Chambers and Chambers Wine Merchants
Marie Chandoha
Amy Chesnut
Dave and Susan Chisholm
Aurelie and Kay Christiansen
Robert and Pamela Clair
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Elizabeth Cochennette
Coddling Foundation
Donald Cole
Constellation Brands, Inc.
Kevin Coonan
Charles and Jennifer Cornell
Dennis and Elaine Covell
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Curtian Family Gift Fund
Edwin and Kirsten Cutler
William and Cathryn Dabner
Darden Foundation
Daymen US

Edward Dayton Family Fund
Lynn and Barbara Deedler
David DeMartino
Thomas Dering
Daniel Dewell and Jeanne Bouquet
Mary Jane DeYoung
Dr. W. Reed and Mrs. Laura Dickinson
Gregory DiPaolo and Barbara Hughes
Stephen and Judy Dittmer
Sonja Duckworth
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Duncans Mills Merchant Association
Ngan Duong
Timothy Drabik and Lauren Gudath
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First Presbyterian Church
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Don and Lorene Guire
Allen and Dale Gummer
Ann Hall
Keith Hanna and Debra Leenhouts
Hansen Family Foundation
David Harris
Arvada Hartly
Sandra Heft

Peter Heinemann and Dana Kueffner
Otto Hoefler
Keith and Cheryl Hughes
Hydrofarm, Inc.
Colton and Julie Irving
ITT/BIW Connector Systems
J Vineyards & Winery
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Los Angeles
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Diane Johnston
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Ellen La Fleur McIlroy
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Gift Program
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Theatre

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Carmen McReynolds
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Santa Rosa
North Coast Builders Exchange
North Valley Bank
Howard and Pamela Nurse
Bill and Pamela Oakes
Oakmont Community Church
Frank Obertance
Donald Oberthur and Martha McEwen
Thomas and Mary Oesterle
Oliver's Market Business Office
Gloria Opperman
Reuben Otero
Pacific Gas & Electric Corp.,
Campaign for the Community
Pampered Chef – Round Up from
the Heart
Hans Paulokat
Parkpoint Health Club
Betty Paul
Marty Peart and Rory Bolzer
Frank Perez
Gayle McKinney Peterson
Linda Phillips
John Pilling
Edward and Janet Pisenti
Julia Pollock
Lawrence Prager and Linda Myszak
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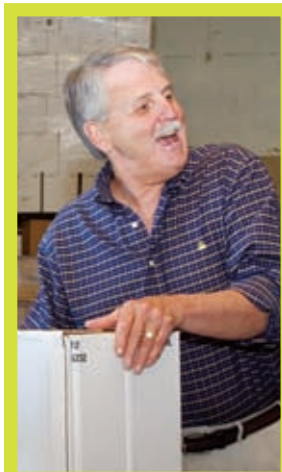
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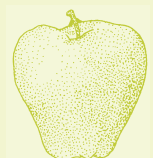
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“At PG&E, we know that our community’s energy doesn’t always arrive through power lines. It comes from the actions and efforts of those who live here in Sonoma County. Our goal is to engage, support and improve the neighborhoods where our customers and employees live and work. Whether we’re helping local communities launch new school programs for students interested in the energy industry or providing clean energy alternatives to underserved neighborhoods, PG&E is there making a difference. We are proud to support our region’s largest hunger-relief organization, the Redwood Empire Food Bank (REFB), and hope that this calendar inspires you to join PG&E and the REFB in ending hunger for our neighbors in need of food assistance.”



PG&E employees have volunteered at the REFB for four years, and have donated funds to the REFB for over a decade as part of the PG&E Corporation Campaign for the Community. Here, PG&E’s Sindy Mikkelsen and Lem Stubblefield (pictured) glean plums.



PG&E’s Executive Manager Randy De Caminada joined the REFB’s Executive Director David Goodman at the REFB’s Groundbreaking Celebration at 3990 Brickway.



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