



Suzan W. Bateson, Executive Director

Biography

Suzan Bateson joined the Alameda County Community Food Bank, located in Oakland California, as executive director in 2001. She is dedicated to ending hunger in our communities, especially childhood hunger, and her work focuses on ensuring that low-income children and adults receive healthy and nutritious food. She oversees the operation of a \$17 million public benefit organization, which distributes a quarter of a million pounds of food each week and serves 40,000 low-income people weekly.

Bateson brings a varied background in nonprofit management and entrepreneurship to the Food Bank. From 1995 to 2001, she was executive director of the Volunteer Center of Contra Costa, an organization that assists local nonprofit organizations with all aspects of working with volunteers including recruitment, retention and recognition. She served from 1990 to 1995 as community relations manager of the Contra Costa Food Bank (now Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano). In this capacity she managed special events, handled media relations and community outreach, and supervised more than 250 volunteers. From 1981 to 1990 Bateson ran her own business, Suzan O. Designs, which produced and sold handcrafted items to companies including Nordstrom. She has also worked in retail as an administrator, store manager, and department manager.

Bateson attended the California College of Arts and Crafts, earned a certificate with distinction in Training and Human Resource Development from UC Berkeley Extension and completed the invitation-only Executive Program for Nonprofit Leaders at Stanford University's Graduate School of Business.

Bateson serves as secretary of the Board of Directors of the California Association of Food Banks, a statewide advocacy organization, as well as The CBO (Community Based Organizations Center.) She participates regularly on statewide and national panels that address anti-hunger advocacy, nutrition education and obesity prevention. She lives with her family in Moraga, California.