

Volunteer Matters

The Food Bank's Volunteer Newsletter • Spring/Summer 2019

Beyond our Warehouse

Every year, nearly 20,000 people spend time sorting food in our warehouse. In just three hours, they're able to help provide thousands of nourishing meals to food-insecure neighbors. It's important work. But, you'd be surprised by how much goes on outside our warehouse walls to support our work. Volunteers collect food, educate the community, and ensure families have the healthy food they need to thrive. Here are a few examples:

Our volunteers **Otto and Betsy** recently helped at the Bay Bridge Half marathon. This first-time event was an exciting one, and a portion of the proceeds benefited ACCFB! We sent a dozen volunteers to hand out water, cheer on runners, and provide information about our Food Bank.

Sarah started volunteering in our warehouse, but wanted to become more involved. She started working on our **Client Voice** initiative to collect information from the people we're serving to

better understand their needs, dietary restrictions, and preferred days and times for distribution. "Getting out into the field allows you to meet and interact with the people who rely on the Food Bank. It is extremely rewarding to meet the families and see the real impact," Sarah said.

The **Letter Carriers Food Drive** is one of our biggest single-day food drives. This year, we collected more than 80,000 lbs. of food. Volunteers helped letter carriers unload their trucks and deliver the food

**Longtime
volunteer John
at a Mobile
Food Pantry
distribution**



donations to us. "Hard work makes the couch feel better in the afternoon," **Jeff Roy**, volunteer, said of the day.

Every month, over a dozen volunteers staff our **Mobile Pantry**. **John** started volunteering in our

warehouse 14 years ago. And though he still sorts food, he enjoys setting up our Mobile Pantry and providing a free farmers market. "I like seeing the impact of the work I do in the warehouse and getting to know the people in the community," he said.

Inspired to get outside our warehouse walls? Learn how you can deepen your support at accfb.org.

A HOMERUN FOR HUNGER



**Oakland A's employees –
including Stomper! – sort food at
the Food Bank**

The Oakland A's know a thing or two about teamwork – especially when it comes to pitching in at ACCFB. This year, we will distribute the equivalent of 28 million meals, but we can only do that thanks to teammates like the A's who work alongside us to strike out hunger.

The A's have been showing their support of our Food

Bank for more than a decade. They've hosted several food drives, provided funds, and volunteered to help our efforts. Just last year, they launched their first fundraising match which raised over 90,000 meals for our neighbors. This year, they've already spent 540 volunteering hours in our warehouse which led to 36,000 more meals.

"To us, 'Rooted in Oakland' is more than a slogan, it's our commitment to our community and our home of 51 years. Our employees, players, and fans love volunteering at the Alameda County Community Food Bank as we work to strike out hunger together," said Catherine Aker, A's Vice President of Communications & Community

Thank you, A's, for all you do to create a healthier, more vibrant community!

A fresh way to spend your summer

There's so much to love about summertime in the Bay Area. The sunshine and longer days are great. The best part? The fresh produce flowing into our warehouse. Fruits and veggies add nutrients, flavor, and vibrant colors to our tables all season long. But, families we serve often face challenges affording or accessing produce. That's why more than half the food we provide is fresh fruits and veggies.

But, we need your help getting it out the door and into our neighbors' homes. Between the picnics, barbecues, and trips to the beach this summer, consider signing up for a shift sorting fresh produce in our warehouse. We can't reach the 1 in 5 neighbors we serve without you. Head to accfb.org/volunteer to learn more.



**Linda,
Food Bank
volunteer**



7900 Edgewater Drive
Oakland, CA 94621

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LANGUAGE SKILLS NEEDED!

We're recruiting volunteers fluent in Cantonese, Mandarin, and Spanish to help with future projects. For more information, please email volunteer@accfb.org.

Join the Produce Challenge



Your gift will be matched — up to \$100,000!
Donate at [ACCFB.ORG/PRODUCE](https://accfb.org/PRODUCE)

Check to see if your employer matches volunteer service hours with donations: matchinggifts.com/accfb



Join us for our annual
Volunteer
Appreciation Picnic

Saturday, July 27
11 AM – 2 PM
MLK Regional Shoreline Park

RSVP by July 23 to
volunteer.rsvp@accfb.org or call
(510) 635-3663 ext. 312



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