

Hacienda Helping Hands Announces Three Grants

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Hacienda Helping Hands has awarded \$15,000 in impact grants to three organizations providing local services: Alameda County Community Food Bank, Open Heart Kitchen and La Familia. Alameda County Community Food Bank was given a \$5,000 grant which will be offered as a dollar-for-dollar match of any funds raised through Hacienda's holiday Virtual Food Drive. Open Heart Kitchen received a \$5,000 grant in support of a new vehicle for community services. La Familia was given a \$5,000 grant in support of scholarships for the Alameda County District Attorney's Justice Academy youth program.

"Hacienda Helping Hands is pleased to make these grants to organizations making a difference in the community in important ways," said James Paxson, Hacienda's general manager. "We are pleased to offer our support to these initiatives as they create a means of making a meaningful difference in areas we have targeted with our initiative: addressing hunger, improving access to services for those in need and supporting youth."

Michael Altfest, Communications Director, Alameda County Community Food Bank, stated, "Alameda County Community Food Bank is extremely grateful for the tremendous support we receive from Hacienda during the holidays. When Hacienda businesses and their customers donate through this Virtual Food Drive, utilizing the generous matching grant, they'll help provide almost 23,000 meals to our neighbors struggling with the burden of hunger."

Linda McKeever, Executive Director, Open Heart Kitchen, noted, "The generous donation from Hacienda Helping Hands will help Open Heart Kitchen continue to provide nutritious prepared meals for our neighbors in need in the Tri-Valley community. Open Heart Kitchen depends solely on financial support from the community to keep our doors open. We were able to serve over 313,000 meals in 2014, thanks to the donations like yours and the support of volunteers who lend their time and talent to help us prepare and serve our neighbors in need."

Aaron Ortiz, Chief Executive Officer, La Familia Counseling Service, said, "The District Attorney's Justice Academy is built on strong partnerships and La Familia is excited about a new partnership with Hacienda Helping Hands. Through their contributions to this award-winning program, we will be able to provide the opportunity to seven young people in Dublin, Livermore, and Pleasanton."