

SPRING 2024 NEWSLETTER



LFCC HITS 6 MILLION MEALS MILESTONE AMIDST SOARING DEMAND FOR SUPPORT

LFCC has recently achieved a significant milestone by providing over 6 million meals, and the demand for our services is on the rise. The need for LFCC's assistance is increasing, with a growing number of individuals, seniors, families (including many with young children), and the homeless seeking our support.



CLIENT SPOTLIGHT TURNING TIDES

Brent once enjoyed a stable life with a good job and a home where he lived with his mother and children. However, a series of challenges, including losing his job, led to the unraveling of his life. Eventually, he found himself homeless with his 9-year-old daughter, living in a tent.

During these difficult times, Brent turned to Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa in Antioch for support. The organization became a lifeline, ensuring that he and his daughter didn't have to struggle for their next meal. Loaves and Fishes not only provided them with a daily hot meal but also offered a sense of community. Little did Brent know that these connections would play a pivotal role in giving him purpose later in life.

Reflecting on those challenging times, he considers them a blessing, as they marked the beginning of his journey to overcoming his addictions. Today, he serves as the Program Director at RESTORE, focusing on homeless outreach. Now, Brent delivers 45-50 meals a day, bridging the gap between Loaves and Fishes and homeless encampments.

For Brent, expressing the significance of Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa in his life is hard to put into words, "Loaves and Fishes offers so much more than a meal".

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

We are truly grateful for the extraordinary generosity shown by Embarc Cannabis! Their donation of a refillable water station at our Martinez dining room will make a huge difference in providing hydration and comfort to those we serve. Thanks to partners like Embarc Cannabis, we can continue our mission of providing nourishment and support to our community.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



JANETTE KENNEDY
Executive Director,
Development and External
Relations



JOLEEN LAFAYETTE
Executive Director,
Operations

As we embrace the arrival of the spring, a season synonymous with new opportunities, rejuvenation, and growth, we are delighted to share exciting updates about our meal program. It has undergone significant growth and transformation, directly addressing the evolving needs of our community, all thanks to our dedicated team and the unwavering support of our community.

In the wake of the post-Covid-19 relief programs ending, we faced an unprecedented demand for meals. From our usual 650 meals per day pre-pandemic, we've adapted and expanded, now averaging an impressive 3,000 meals daily.

In 2023, LFCC's meal program underwent a significant transformation. LFCC's Karen Introcaso Mobile Unit

(KI Mobile Unit) now collaborates with Bay Area Community Services (Delta Landing and Opportunity Village) and Bay Area Community Resources (West Pittsburg Community Church) to take meals to where people are. Drop-off partners include Mt. Diablo Adult Education and Opportunity Junction, while RESTORE (weekdays), Martinez Shelter, and Martinez Senior Center (weekends) serve as pick-up partners.

As we move forward, we want to express our thanks for your ongoing support. Please think about contributing to LFCC this spring to help us maintain our impactful work. Your donation is an investment in a program with a committed team striving to improve our community.



NEW PARTNERSHIPS

The KI mobile unit ensures the timely delivery of nourishing, hot meals to our partner agencies, maintaining a busy delivery schedule. This service complements the meals served at LFCC's five dining room locations: Antioch, Martinez, Pittsburg, Oakley, and Walnut Creek.

WE EXTEND OUR GRATITUDE TO THE FOLLOWING PARTNER AGENCIES:

ANTIOCH

Opportunity Village (Partner Agency: BACS) – Transitional housing units. LFCC provides 50 hot meals per day, Mondays to Fridays.

Community Outreach Center/ Golden Hills Church – Open to the Antioch community. LFCC offers hot meals on Mondays and Fridays.

Fruit of the Spirit Church – Open to the Antioch community. LFCC provides hot meals on Mondays.

PITTSBURG

Delta Landing (Partner Agency: BACS) – Transitional housing units. LFCC provides 200 hot meals per day, Mondays to Fridays.

Stoneman Village – Low-income senior housing. LFCC supplies hot meals on Fridays.

BAY POINT

West Pittsburg Community Church via Bay Point All N One – Offers shower, medical, clothing, and other services. LFCC provides 100-350 hot meals per day, Tuesdays to Thursdays.

Additionally, we collaborate with partners who receive meal drop-offs and manage the distribution themselves.

ANTIOCH

S.H.A.R.E – Shower, medical, and clothing program. LFCC provides 50 breakfasts per day on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Opportunity Junction – Career classes. LFCC supplies 35 meals per day from Mondays to Thursdays.

CONCORD

Mt. Diablo Adult Education – LFCC delivers 50 meals per day, Mondays to Thursdays.

SAVE THE DATE



DRIVE OUT HUNGER CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2024

Blackhawk Country Club
Falls Course
599 Blackhawk Club Drive
Danville, CA 94506



THE BIG LA BOCCÉ

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2024

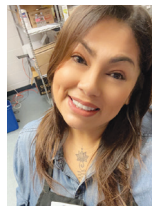
10:30 AM - 2:00 PM
Martinez Bocce Federation
Joe DiMaggio Way
Martinez, CA 94553



WELCOME OUR NEWEST TEAM MEMBERS!



KENDRA UFFELMEN, our new Development Coordinator, brings extensive experience in project management, customer relationship management, and sales. With a background in Graphic Communication, Kendra adds a unique perspective to our team, ensuring innovative solutions and outstanding client service.



MICHELLE TWIST is now part of our team as the Dining Room Manager in Walnut Creek. She brings with her experience in both the retail and food sectors. She has demonstrated effective management of store operations and skills as a Prep Cook underscoring her proficiency in food preparation and cooking.



KAI BARNES has just started with LFCC as Assistant Dining Room Manager in Martinez. He is an experienced project lead and assistant manager with a focus on customer support, safety and quality standards and consistently meeting high customer service targets.



CULINARY ARTS TRAINING PROGRAM UPDATE

We express heartfelt appreciation to Amber Lineweaver for her volunteer efforts to the preparation of our students for successful careers in the culinary industry through our Culinary Arts Training Program. Her teachings include guiding them in resume writing and honing their interview skills.

Loaves and Fishes offers a 12-week free culinary program for individuals wanting to learn how to work in the culinary industry and are looking to work in the industry. Our program will teach you basic culinary skills needed to qualify as a candidate for a starting position within the Culinary Industry.

UPCOMING 2024 SESSIONS: APRIL 16 – JULY 11 & AUGUST 27 – NOVEMBER 14

APPLY TODAY! Class size is limited

Go to: <https://loavesfishesc.org/culinary-arts-program/about-the-program>





Loaves and Fishes

OF CONTRA COSTA

Nourishing Lives

835 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA 94553
Tax ID# 68-0018077

MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

DONATE

Write a check or donate online at
www.loavesfishescc.org

We also accept food donations

Generously Printed By: **Prestige**
Printing & Graphics
FULL COMMERCIAL PRINTING

LOAVES AND FISHES OPERATED DINING ROOMS/ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

ANTIOCH

American Legion Hall
403 W. 6th Street

MARTINEZ

Dining Room/
Admin Offices
835 Ferry Street

PITTSBURG

Central Kitchen
510 Garcia Ave, Unit H

PITTSBURG

St. Vincent de Paul
1415 Simpson Court

OAKLEY

Red Man-Pocahontas Hall
1403 Main Street

WALNUT CREEK

Trinity Center
1888 Trinity Ave.



CELEBRATING VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH!

April is not just another month at Loaves and Fishes; it's a time of celebration and gratitude as we observe Volunteer Appreciation Month! This is our opportunity to express our deepest thanks to the outstanding volunteers who have dedicated their skills, passion, and time to our mission. We are incredibly fortunate to have such an amazing team of volunteers.

Their unwavering commitment is the driving force behind our success, and we are immensely grateful for the positive change they bring to the lives we touch.



SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Special thanks to Maurice Lafayette and Ed McMillian for installing a refillable water station in the MArtinez Dining Room. We appreciate the fantastic improvements they've brought about over the years. Their projects encompass replacing stained ceiling tiles in both the central kitchen and Martinez DR, remodeling both areas, painting at both locations, and reconstructing the central kitchen. They also tackled tasks like new tile installation after repairing the grease trap, periodic tile replacements due to cracks, painting for the fire inspection at Martinez DR, roof repair and handling minor repairs at the Martinez Dining Room. Their remarkable dedication and hard work for LFCC are truly commendable.

info@loavesfishescc.org

