

California Banks...
Making an
Impact in our
Communities!



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California banks play a critical role in supporting our local communities and their economies.

In addition to the loans and other financial services they provide to businesses and families to support and fuel financial success and economic growth...

Banks and their employees eagerly donate time, talent and dollars to strengthen and improve the quality of life in the communities in which they live and do business!

Included here are a few examples of how our member banks are making an impact!

Supporting the... Northern California Community

Banner Bank works to make the place they live and call home a better place by supporting Transforming Lives, Cultivating Success (TLCS Inc.), a Sacramento-based organization that has been providing mental health and supportive housing services for people with mental health challenges for more than 35 years. The bank recently provided TLCS with a grant to support programs that provide interim and permanent housing for individuals with psychiatric disabilities.

Tri Counties Bank, in partnership with Shasta Regional Community Foundation, issues nearly \$100,000 annually in scholarships to talented and deserving low and moderate income students throughout the bank's footprint, who demonstrate a keen interest in public service, community engagement, and business entrepreneurship.

Twice a year, **Charles Schwab Bank** partners with nonprofit based, youth development organizations in the San Francisco Bay area for the Schwab Workplace Tour, an opportunity for under-resourced high school students to gain real-life exposure to careers and diverse role models in the financial services industry. Employees from across the bank collaborate to host and mentor the students at the event, which includes panel discussions and workshops focused on personal branding, elevator pitches and *"Telling Your Story."* They help these teens learn and practice effectively communicating their knowledge, skills, and experience to potential employers and professional connections.

After closing a branch in an economically challenged area, **Golden Pacific Bank** converted the space into the Golden Pacific Bank Business Center, a one-stop shop resource bank for small business owners, start-ups and entrepreneurs. Located in downtown Marysville, it is a perfect hub for training, networking, and inventing. Businesses also have access to work space and professionals for consultation about lending, cash management and other financial services, marketing, staffing and other business tools.



I had the honor and privilege of presenting the scholarship awards last night. These kids were so deserving! Hearing the stories of how these children of immigrants have overcome adversity, tragedy and poverty was inspiring. I can't think of a better way to spend my evening."

TriCounties Bank team member

For the past 24 years, the Volunteer Center of Sonoma County has named **Exchange Bank** the corporate fundraising champion for the Human Race. Exchange Bank provides employees paid time off to participate in several community and non-profit events: Teen City, Rebuilding Together, United Way's Day of Caring, the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Light the Night Walk. Employees are also given time to serve on boards of local non-profits and share leadership talents to benefit the community.

In response to the devastating wildfires, Exchange Bank donated more than \$100,000 to local non-profit organizations supporting fire relief and recovery. This included the Redwood Empire Food Bank, the American Red Cross, Ceres Community Project, the Volunteer Center of Sonoma County and the Sonoma Humane Society—all of whom provided support services, shelter, food and emergency care for thousands of evacuees, including animals. In addition, Exchange Bank contributed \$50,000 to the Exchange Bank Foundation fund to support employees who lost their home in the fires.

Sharing with the community is at the heart of **Fremont Bank's**, Fremont Bank Foundation. The Foundation's mission is to provide financial assistance to nonprofit organizations that provide services and programs that enhance the quality of life for those in the communities served by Fremont Bank. Fremont Bank also has a corporate giving program and sets aside four percent of the pre-tax income for the foundation and one percent for its corporate giving program. Last year the foundation awarded over 100 grants totaling nearly \$2 million. Whether it is a grant for \$1,000 for a shed – the bank's first grant; or \$1,500,000 for a new critical care pavilion – their largest grant, Fremont Bank and its foundation are there for the community.

Umpqua Bank provided a grant to help the Schools of Hope Program expand into Lake and Mendocino Counties. Schools of Hope is an early grade reading initiative that helps children build the critical reading skills needed to succeed in school and life. In the first year of this grant, Umpqua helped expand the program to three additional schools and 60 students in underserved communities.

Supporting the... Southern California Community

Pacific Western Bank partnered with the Ventura County Community Development Corporation (VCCDC) to provide access to capital resources for hard-working families with big dreams. One single mother the VCCDC was assisting had four sons and an unstoppable determination to own her own home; juggling parenthood, a full-time job, and college, she was ultimately able to achieve her goal to provide the best for her family, with the help of the bank and its ongoing support of the VCCDC. This mother represents just one example of many low-income working families that Pacific Western Bank is committed to supporting.

Premier Business Bank changed their community by supporting an organization in need: the Big Bear Youth Baseball and Softball League, which has more than 400 players ranging in ages of 3 to 14 years old. The bank sponsored an event called Home Runs and Hot Dogs, which raised thousands of dollars to support the league.

First Choice Bank had hands-on involvement with the Blind Children's Learning Center. The bank helped organize activities where employees explained the concept of money, sorting currency by touch, and "buying" pizza. The bank encouraged children to interact with strangers to enhance their social skills and work toward future independence. Dedicating time and resources to helping disadvantaged youths achieve financial independence is a core value for First Choice Bank.



California Bank & Trust was the presenting sponsor in the Pepperdine Coastal Run/Walk for Foster Youth earlier this year, held at Dockweiler Beach in Los Angeles. CB&T secured the active participation of employees, community members, and customers in order to raise funds to support initiatives of Pepperdine University's Graduate School of Education to improve the lives of foster children in Los Angeles County.

Through their Community Possible "Month of Play", **U.S. Bank** provided more than \$50,000 to renovate the Santa Monica Boys & Girls Club JAMS (John Adams Middle School) Club site complete with a "big reveal" celebration for the youth. More than 30 U.S. Bank employees volunteered more than 200 hours to give the club a fresh coat of paint including a beautiful mural painted side by side with the youth. The bank's funding also allowed the club to replace the club's flooring, buy much needed storage, as well as 17 brand new computers for their learning center.

CIT Bank volunteers partnered with local elementary schools and taught students in grades K-5 about entrepreneurship, financial literacy and work readiness using the Junior Achievement curriculum. Additionally in June of 2017, CIT hosted its inaugural volunteer program called CIT Cares Month to enable employees across the country to give back to communities where they live and work. Nearly 1,700 employees (40 percent of their U.S. employee population) took part in 160 projects nationwide. In Pasadena, employees volunteered at Friends in Deed and restocked the pantry with more than 4,000 pounds of food that was distributed to approximately 60 families. In Irvine, bank employees hosted a beach clean-up with the Surfrider Foundation, and collected 27 bags of trash.

Pacific Premier Bank was awarded an affordable housing project grant by the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco to build Potter's Lane, a 16-unit affordable housing development to serve chronically homeless veterans in Midway City. It is the first of its kind in California to use recycled shipping containers to create permanent housing for our veterans. Potter's Lane was designed to complement the surrounding environment by creating a beautiful, energy efficient and cost effective housing solution in Orange County.



Supporting... Communities Across the Central Valley

Central Valley Community Bank works to make the place they live and call home a better place by supporting SCORE, a non-profit organization that provides free business mentoring, educational workshops and seminars at little to no cost.

Now in its sixth year, **Bank of Stockton** hosts an annual "Empowering Young Women" event, the proceeds of which go toward scholarships for young women. The event helps them build confidence and avoid peer pressure.



Suncrest Bank raised several thousand dollars for the Judy Sarber Memorial Golf Tournament, which benefited the Habitat for Humanity's efforts to build and remodel homes for low-income families throughout Tulare County.

Last year, **F&M Bank** donated more than \$80,000 to the United Way of San Joaquin County and its employees collectively volunteered more than 300 hours of their time.

Murphy Bank is one of two founding sponsors of the Fresno Community Concert Band. In 24 years, the band has grown to more than 80 and boasts a full concert schedule throughout the school year.



At Central Valley Community Bank, we understand the importance of supporting small business in order to make the place we live and call home a better place."

Central Valley Community Bank team member

