

California Banks 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.

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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



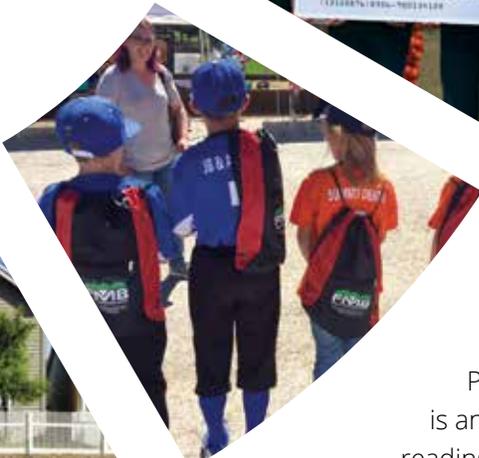
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For the past 24 years, the Volunteer Center of Sonoma County has named **Exchange Bank** the corporate fundraising champion for the Human Race. Exchange Bank provides employees paid time off to participate in several community and non-profit events: 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.