



BREAD & BROTH

NEWSLETTER

A Note from our Director....

Dear Fellow Volunteers,

It's been an amazing five plus years for me as the Director of the Bread & Broth organization. My parents instilled in me that a person needs a purpose in life that is fulfilling, of service to others, and brings you together with others. My time in my role as Director has brought me all of these important life experiences.

It has been my honor to represent an organization that is so highly esteemed in the South Lake Tahoe community and has done so much to ease hunger for our food insecure neighbors. I consider myself very fortunate to have volunteered alongside so many dedicated people who are committed to selflessly helping others and in many cases going above and beyond in their efforts to see that Bread & Broth is the best all-volunteer organization that it can be.

Throughout my tenure as Director, I have volunteered and visited many Bread & Broth activities (meals, meetings, food packings, etc.) and I was always in awe of and humbled by the dedication and happy, tireless efforts of the B&B volunteers. Thank you for being a B&B volunteer and being a part of an organization that has supported me in my efforts to lead the organization over these last five years.

I am experiencing mixed emotions about my retirement; however, new ideas and new directions are important for the vitality of any organization. Therefore, I am pleased to welcome Sabine Hardin as the new Director, effective October 28th, and hope that you will extend to her the same kindness and cooperation that I have received during my directorship service.

Thank you for your generosity of spirit and commitment to Bread & Broth.

Sincerely,
Carol Gerard
Director, Bread & Broth

COVID-19/Caldor Fire Emergency Food Program Status

It's been a roller coaster of a ride for the last 19 months, but Bread & Broth has been very successful in its mission of easing hunger for the food insecure folks of our community. What started with the COVID-19 pandemic, followed up by the coronavirus Delta variant surge, and then the Caldor Fire smoke and evacuation, Bread & Broth still managed to give out bags of food on a weekly basis to local children, individuals and families. With the exception of canceling three Monday/Friday food giveaways events during the mandated evacuation period, Bread & Broth Emergency Programs have been operating consistently three days a week, every week since March 2020.

Bread & Broth's outstanding emergency food service has been made possible by our many dedicated volunteers who have been serving the organization over the last year and a half. Although over 200 folks have volunteered either at a Monday/Friday food giveaway or the Kids program, special kudos need to be given to Roberta Strachan, Cheryl Breitwieser, Paula Peterson, Beth Wallace, Myee Costanzo, Carol Gerard, Sabine Hardin, Brandi Bannister, Cary Brown, Susanne Bull, and Janet Jarvis for their leadership roles in our emergency programs.

Another immensely important factor in our Emergency Programs success are the individuals, organizations, businesses and foundations who have financially been donating to our emergency causes. Our extremely generous donors have contributed \$447,957 to our COVID-19 Emergency Fund and \$49,270 to the Caldor Fire Emergency Fund. As of September 24th, B&B has purchased \$444,638 of healthy, nutritious food items (meat, milk, eggs, butter, fresh fruit and vegetables, etc.) for the M/F food giveaways and the B&B 4 Kids program for an average of \$5,558 per week. On average, Bread & Broth food giveaway programs are impacting the lives of 1,030 men, women and children weekly. Their thankfulness has been overwhelming.

Bread & Broth Advisory Board Treasurer Position Opening



After bringing her excellent financial skills while serving for 2 years in the role of Bread & Broth's treasurer, Emily Shaub will be stepping down from her position effective on January 26th, after the January Advisory Board meeting.

The position of Treasurer is primarily responsible for generating and presenting a quarterly fiscal report at B&B Advisory Board meetings and reviewing, approving and submitting expense reimbursements and invoices to the St. Theresa bookkeeper. An Associates degree in business administrative/accounting or 5+ years of bookkeeping/accounting experience is preferable.

If you are interested, or know of anyone who is interested in the position, please contact Carol Gerard at 530-542-2876 or carolsgerard@aol.com for additional information regarding the position.



Bread & Broth Receives Barton Foundation Community Grant

This summer, Bread & Broth was the recipient of a \$10,000 Barton Foundation 2021-2022 Community Health Grant. Monies received from this grant will support two of our ongoing programs: our "Green Goal Project" supported through our Monday and Friday Food giveaway programs (the purchase of fresh fruit, vegetables and dairy products) and the "Push for Protein" initiative supported through our B&B 4 Kids weekend food backpack program allowing us to eliminate many foods low in nutritional value and replacing them with nuts, healthy trail mix, shelf stable food, high protein soups, etc.

Bread & Broth is honored to be a recipient of the generosity that the Barton Community Foundation brings to our organization and their continued efforts to support us in feeding the food insecure individuals in the Lake Tahoe South Shore area.

Parasol Tahoe Community Fund Grant Supports COVID-19 Emergency Response Project

With the continued expense of providing food bags each Monday and Friday for our South Shore food insecure community members, Bread & Broth was awarded a Parasol Community Fund Grant in late July. The Community Fund Grant Program is designed to provide financial resources in response to community needs to create positive impact.

This \$10,000 donation will be used to support our COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund which will allow us to purchase fresh produce and dairy products as well as securing food items for the B&B 4 Kids weekend backpacks. In addition, the funding from Parasol will assist us in our efforts to transition back to our traditional hot meal services scheduled for January and February of 2022.

Being a first-time recipient of the Community Fund grant, Bread & Broth is grateful to the Parasol Tahoe Community Foundation for supporting Bread & Broth and our efforts to ensure that no individual in the Lake Tahoe South Shore community goes hungry.

Reinstating Bread & Broth Pre-COVID Programs

After almost 20 months of altering our programs to handle the COVID-19 pandemic and the Caldor Fire event, Bread & Broth is continuing to assess the possibilities of re-instating our pre-COVID programs. Due to the surge in the Delta variant coronavirus cases, the Monday Meal service has once again been postponed with the hopes of re-starting in January, 2022. However, due to the limited exposure of the B&B 4 Kids packing teams to the coronavirus, the B&B 4 Kids weekly teams (Team #1, Team #2, etc.) will begin in October which is in conjunction with the start of the 2021/2022 school year.

Currently, the tentative plans are to provide food bags twice a week (Monday and Friday) through the month of October. Depending upon the need, we will either continue to give out food bags twice a week or reduce the giveaway events to once a week in November and December. Hopefully, we can begin our Monday Meal hot dinner service in January with the Second Serving meal, served at the Lake Tahoe Community Presbyterian Church, re-instated in February.

As with everything else in regards to the coronavirus crisis, all plans are subject to change. If you have been a Monday Meal, Second Serving, or B&B 4 Kids volunteer, keep an eye out for an e-mail or a call from your team lead to see if you are interested in returning to our regular volunteer service. If you have any questions, please contact our new Volunteer Coordinator Chairperson, Sue Fry, at bbvolunteers2021@gmail.com.

 A colorful graphic of the words "Thank You!" in a playful, bubbly font. The letters are in various colors: 'T' is purple, 'h' is green, 'a' is orange, 'n' is red, 'k' is yellow, 'Y' is blue, 'o' is pink, and 'u!' is green.

As we begin to consider the transition back to our traditional services, the B&B Advisory Board would like to thank all volunteers for your relentless efforts to serve those in our community dealing with hunger- those on fixed incomes, food insecure children, struggling families, low-income wage earners, individuals with mental and physical disabilities, homeless and transient individuals, and those experiencing temporary hardships.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have doubled the number of community members who have volunteered with the organization. Many of you volunteered when we had no vaccinations, when the COVID numbers were rising, and when the Caldor fires were threatening your homes.

We cannot begin to thank you for your service during these challenging times. Thank you for your continued and ongoing support. Your help and willingness to serve during such difficult times is truly appreciated.

Knowing More About Bread & Broth

Pieces of the Puzzle- B&B's Director



Bread & Broth is so fortunate to have many volunteers who serve the organization selflessly, especially during the challenging times over the past 19 months. Whether it is behind the scenes or in front of the community, probably the busiest individual in our organization is the Bread & Broth Director. The director is responsible not only for facilitating and overseeing ALL of B&B's activities, but he/she also is responsible for maintaining a vision and course for our organization, planning operational strategies, problem solving and ensuring fiscal responsibility for all programs. The director represents Bread & Broth at community events and interfaces on a regular basis with community groups, organizations, and foundations.

Our director for the past five years, Carol Gerard, will officially retire from her position later this month. Carol has spent countless hours writing our by-laws, volunteer handbook/orientation manual, and website information; refining volunteer position descriptions; overseeing the implementation of calendar activities and events; supporting our committee chairpersons to assess needs and receive funding for approved projects; and working tirelessly to secure funding for the increased needs of the organization. Most importantly, Carol has diligently led our organization through the challenges of the past 19 months, continually problem solving to ensure that our community members were fed during the COVID pandemic and the Caldor Fire evacuation.

Bread & Broth gratefully thanks Carol for her years of service, her dedication and her commitment to our organization. At the same time, we welcome Sabine Hardin to the position effective October 28th.

Carol Gerard



After being raised in a small Illinois town just east of St. Louis and attending St. Louis University where she earned her BS and MS degrees in Biology and Education, Carol moved to the Los Angeles area and began her ten-year teaching career. When the opportunity to work in the aerospace industry arose, Carol became an administrative assistant in Hughes Aircraft Company's satellite division and rose through the ranks to become a manager in Administrative Services.

Upon her retirement and having raised her two sons, Carol and her husband, John, moved to South Lake Tahoe in 2008 to enjoy the four seasons, the outdoor activities and the beauty and serenity of the area.

Carol's first experience volunteering for Bread & Broth began back in January 2009 when she and her husband served on Monday Meal's team #2 setup and serving team. In 2012, Carol joined B&B's Advisory Board as the Assistant Fundraising Chairperson and assumed the Fundraising Chairperson position about 6 months later. When the Director position became available in July of 2016, Carol became interim-director and was formally appointed to the directorship position in January of 2017.

With Carol's retirement on October 27th from the Director position after 5 years in the position, she will remain on the board as the Past Director and continue in her position as the Fundraising Chairperson. Carol has always enjoyed hiking, skiing, working in her yard/garden, traveling and spending time with friends and family. She is looking forward to having more time to devote to her favorite activities and doing more volunteering, especially going back to her love of animals and nature, at the Tahoe Wildlife Care center.

Sabine was raised in a small town in Germany and moved to Columbus, Georgia where she finished her junior and senior years in high school. After high school, she attended Columbus State University where she earned her BS in Mathematics with a concentration in Computer Science and her Masters in Public Administration with a concentration in Justice Administration.

After she received her BS, Sabine started working as a programmer for Total System Services, one of the largest payment processing companies in the United States. Shortly after, she married her husband John and moved to Fremont, CA to be contract programmers and they fell in love with Tahoe. Her oldest daughter was born in Fremont in 2002. After 2.5 years they moved back to Columbus to work for Total System Services again. This time Sabine rose through the ranks from a programmer to a Technical Analyst and to Assistant Director. Her second daughter was born while living in Columbus.

In 2018, when her oldest daughter was a junior in high school, she moved back to Tahoe as her daughter wanted to go to college and play soccer in California. At that time, she gave up her Assistant Director position and became a Business Analyst, working remotely until her early retirement in December 2020.

Sabine began volunteering for Bread & Broth in August 2018 when her older daughter wanted to volunteer. While filling out the application, Sabine was asked if she wanted to be the Monday Meal's team #3 coordinator. In March 2020, when the Monday Meal was suspended due to COVID-19, Sabine took over one of the Monday food packing team lead positions and has since led her team in packing bags of food every other Monday. In May 2021, she also got involved in packing bags for the B&B 4 Kids Backpack Program and has packed and distributed bags to kids in need during the Summer Program. In July 2021, Sabine joined the B&B's Advisory Board as the Director-Elect and will take over the Director position in October 2021 upon Carol's retirement.

Sabine enjoys walking her dogs, hiking, biking, kayaking, skiing and watching her daughters play soccer. She loves Tahoe for its peacefulness and beauty.

Sabine Hardin

