



BREAD & BROTH

Volunteer Newsletter

A Note from our Director.....

Dear fellow Bread & Broth volunteers,

During these difficult times, it is very easy for me to reflect on the generosity of heart of all of the members of our community. As I would often tell my children, "People give what they can." Whether it is prayers, good wishes, monetary gifts, time, or leadership, everyone has something important to give. I have received notes from B&B volunteers wishing that they could do more. By taking care of yourself and your loved ones, "sheltering in place", and following the guidelines of the CDC, everyone is doing their part in combating and defeating this viral pandemic: thereby, helping us all.

The outpouring of support for B&B's COVID-19 Emergency Plans to provide food to food insecure members of our community has been overwhelming and heartwarming. In order for B&B to continue providing food, there were three essentials: funding, volunteers, and food availability. Thanks to all of the wonderful folks working together and pitching in, we have all three right now. B&B is committed to continuing our mission of easing hunger, and we will do so as long as possible, or until the threat of COVID-19 no longer exists.

Prayers and wishes for safekeeping for all of us.

Sincerely,

Carol Gerard, Director

Updated Bread & Broth Website

Please visit our updated website at breadandbroth.org. Many thanks to our new webmaster, Sheri Batten, who has done a wonderful job of giving you up-to-date information on all aspects of the Bread & Broth programs, upcoming events, calendars, and Board information. In addition, a new "DONATE" button has been added to the website to allow individuals to donate online to B&B's COVID-19 Emergency Fund. Thank you to Sheri for helping with this!



COVID-19 Bread & Broth's Response to the Virus Outbreak

After thirty years of providing hot, nutritious meals for those facing food insecurity in South Lake Tahoe, Bread & Broth made the very difficult decision in mid-March to modify services due to the outbreak of COVID-19. At the recommendation of the Sacramento Diocese and public health organizations, B&B began packing and distributing food bags to guests and clients at the regular Monday and Friday dinner times instead of cooked meals.

The B&B 4 Kids weekend backpack program has continued. Bags of food are being packed and then distributed each Friday morning at several school sites and at various bus stops in collaboration with the LTUSD breakfast/lunch distribution program.

Bread & Broth has made great efforts to ensure that both volunteers and our clients remain safe during this process. All volunteers are asked to follow safety procedures suggested by the health department and the CDC- hand washing, wearing gloves and masks, social distancing, and implementing the 14 day volunteering intervals.

As you might imagine, the number of clients has dramatically increased; at some packings, numbers have almost doubled. Bread & Broth is very grateful for the very generous donations from both individuals and organizations and the dedication of many volunteers that have allowed B&B food services to continue in the South Lake Tahoe community.

For those interested in volunteering, please contact Beth Wallace at bethwall53@gmail.com. Donations can be made online (breadandbroth.org) or by mailing a check to Bread & Broth, % St. Theresa Church, 1041 Lyons Ave., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150.



Bread & Broth Welcomes Two New Board Members

It is our pleasure to welcome two new members to the Bread & Broth Advisory Board.

Erica Bradley was selected to serve as B&B's secretary. Erica is originally from Reno, but now lives in South Lake Tahoe and works as an IT professional at Sierra at Tahoe Ski Resort. Erica has worked on the Team #3 serving crew for Monday Meals but has expanded her role to serve as our secretary.

Emily Shaub is now serving as B & B's treasurer. Emily and her husband moved from Virginia to Tahoe in 2014. Emily works full time in Corporate Finance at Capital One. Emily has worked with both our Monday Meals and the B&B 4 Kids programs.

Thank you Erica and Emily for your involvement with the Board and its many activities!

Chamber's "Connect for a Cause" Is a Smashing Success

On January 23rd, the Tahoe Chamber sponsored its annual "Connect for a Cause" benefit fundraiser at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. Part of the proceeds from the ticket sales and all raffle proceeds benefitted the Bread & Broth 4 Kids program. Over 200 Chamber members and Bread & Broth volunteers attended the benefit which included delicious appetizers prepared by the many restaurants at the Hard Rock as well as wine and beer.

Bread & Broth received a check from the Chamber for \$2,000 from ticket proceeds and over \$1,600 from raffle sales. In addition, attendees donated food for the B&B 4 Kids shelves totaling over \$1,800 in value.

Many thanks to the Chamber for their support of the Kids' program. This annual event is a great boost to replenishing the Kids' shelves after the holidays.



Our Quarterly Grant Focus.....

Vail EpicPromise Grant and Impact Award Awarded to Bread & Broth

In February, Bread & Broth was awarded over \$14,000 in financial donations and in-kind support from Vail Resorts to support various programs within the organization. This year, through the annual EpicPromise grant cycle, donations were made to support the Adopt-A-Day of Nourishment program, the annual Thanksgiving/Holiday meal, and the B&B 4 Kids program. In-kind support includes the donation of banners, advertisements, and auction items for future fundraisers.

Vail Resorts EpicPromise has been a strong supporter of Bread & Broth over the past ten years. Not only have they provided financial support, but many of the Heavenly and Kirkwood employees have been active volunteers in our different programs.

In addition, Rob Katz, Vail Resorts CEO, and his wife Elana Amsterdam, gave us a very generous donation that has allowed us to operate the B&B 4 Kids Summer Program for the last three years.

This year, Bread & Broth was also awarded the EpicPromise Impact Award. Employees at both Heavenly and Kirkwood were given the chance to boost a local organization's grant through an employee vote. Bread & Broth was this year's recipient with an award of \$5,000.

Many thanks to Vail Resorts, the EpicPromise grant program, and the Heavenly and Kirkwood employees who have supported the efforts of Bread & Broth to address the issue of food insecurity in the Lake Tahoe South Shore community.

