

OPEN heart KITCHEN

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



A LETTER FROM THE **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

BUILDING A WORLD WITHOUT FOOD INSECURITY AND HOMELESSNESS ONE MEAL, ONE BED AT A TIME

Dear Friends,

I am writing this message to you from a quiet conference room at the new Vineyard Resource Center in Livermore, a facility that combines 23 permanent-supportive apartments under the same roof as laundry services, showers, mailboxes, office space, case management, the Open Heart Refuge overnight shelter, and Open Heart Kitchen's first-ever permanent kitchen. While the room I'm writing from is quiet, there is nothing quiet about the steady flow of traffic from folks just outside my door who visit Vineyard to access the services they and their children need to thrive. I always knew Vineyard would be special, but even I have been amazed at just how important a beacon of hope it has already become for the community.

Every annual report is a mix of looking back and looking ahead. Although I have only been the Executive Director at Open Heart Kitchen for a little over a year, I have already come to expect that our organization is always preoccupied with two questions: 1) How do we strengthen the work we're already doing in the Tri-Valley?; and 2) What's next? There is not a day that goes by where I am not asking these questions and challenging my staff to do the same.

Open Heart Kitchen was built upon a foundation of love and care for those in our community suffering under the weight of food insecurity. As an organization we have gone through all the growing pains you'd expect from a non-profit started by volunteers that has now grown to a staff of 23 to meet the growing need in our community for basic human rights like food, clothing, and shelter. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the leadership of those who came before me, Open Heart Kitchen is growing and thriving. The launch of the Vineyard Resource Center has been a dream in the making for seven years and it's finally here. With that dream came a professional kitchen capable of producing high-quality meals for decades to come and the birth of Open Heart Refuge, an overnight 20-bed shelter for the unhoused of our community and folks in crisis. And in a few months of the writing of this letter, we will once again welcome home a dream - the birth of the first-ever large scale food redistribution effort in east Alameda County - the Open Heart Food Bank - a 19,000 sq. ft. facility capable of redistributing millions of pounds of food.

We now stand on the eve of our 30th anniversary in 2025. I remember being a kid watching science fiction movies with life pitched way into the future - perhaps all the way in 2025 - imagining how different life would be. As I look back I wonder if I ever dreamed, as the Nobel Peace Prize winner, Muhammed Yunus dreamed, of a museum of poverty; a building where the children of the future would go and marvel at the phenomenon of poverty, where the children would ask questions that couldn't be answered, like - "There was great wealth and prosperity and everyone was splurging, so why were others poor and dying?"

This question keeps me awake at night. I am tempted to believe that the only answer available requires me to close my eyes but I prefer dreaming with my eyes wide open. Our staff and



volunteers, too, dream with their eyes wide open every time they serve a free nutritious meal at Vineyard or at one of our senior meal sites or at one of our pop-up pantry locations. They dream with eyes wide open when they take the time to really see an unhoused individual not as a community liability but as a person who feels and thinks and also dreams for their future.

Dreaming doesn't require us to close our eyes but it does demand that we never give up on doing the seemingly impossible - to imagine a future where everyone is fed, clothed, housed, healthy, and a valued community member.

Impossible? Maybe, but then again, Open Heart Kitchen prides itself on doing the impossible. Our community demands nothing less from us, and with the continued love and support from our volunteers and donors more people will thrive and live in a world where parents aren't forced to ration their food so their kids can eat or be confined to an existence of chronic homelessness and social invisibility.

Together, we can and will amplify client voices, and one day achieve our vision where we meet the most basic human needs of vulnerable people in our community by empowering them to build better futures. And perhaps the day will come when our children will visit the museum of poverty and no longer need to ask - "Why were people poor and dying in a time of such great wealth and prosperity?"

With gratitude,

John P. Bost

John Bost, Executive Director

 Volunteer



 Our Programs

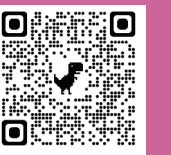
Open Heart is for all. Our Community Meal Program offers hot meals to anyone in need, free of charge, on weekdays from 12PM-5PM at the Vineyard Resource Center in Livermore. Busy families can take meals to-go for later, or pick up meals to share.

Open Heart is for older adults. Our Senior Meal Program is for those over the age of 60, serving fresh meals tailored to our diners' dietary needs and preferences. Lunch is served on weekdays at the Dublin Senior Center, the Robert Livermore Community Center, and the Pleasanton Senior Center. These free meals are served communally, to promote vital socialization.

Open Heart is for groceries. Our Pop-Up Pantry Program distributes grocery boxes from the Alameda County Community Food Bank comprised of produce, proteins, dairy products, and pantry items. We also help with the CalFresh (food stamps) application process. Later this year we will be opening the Open Heart Food Bank, go to page 5 to read more!

Open Heart is for our neighbors facing homelessness. Our Street Outreach Program delivers food to encampments, providing a lifeline of care to our most isolated and vulnerable unhoused clients. The newly opened Open Heart Refuge adult shelter provides safe rest and hot breakfast to 20 guests each night. Our unhoused community members can access free meals, shelter, showers, laundry, case management, housing navigation, and more at the Vineyard Resource Center.

 Donate





THE TRI-VALLEY NEEDS HOMELESS SERVICES - THE VINEYARD RESOURCE CENTER IS THE SOLUTION

Since opening on January 22, 2024, the Vineyard Resource Center has been a safe and welcoming space for all community members in need of free, supportive services and resources. Home to our main production kitchen, our weekday Community Meal Program, and our nightly Open Heart Refuge shelter, this center also offers clients access to free showers, laundry, case management, housing navigation, and more.

The Vineyard Resource Center is the only facility of its kind in our area with the capability of providing this level of wrap-around, humanizing services. Recently, a woman made it to the Center wearing nothing more than her undergarments with mud caked in her hair. She needed community support and to have her basic human needs met. Our Program Coordinator greeted her, learned her name, and helped her to a hot shower. She was given a fresh change of clothes from our clothing closet, her items were laundered, and she sat

In order to make ends meet in our area a 4-person household needs an annual income of \$123,615. However, 14.3% of those families make less than \$50,000, according to the Tri-Valley Non-Profit Alliance report, "Just Getting By in the Tri-Valley."

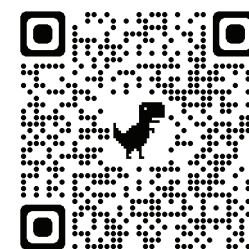
"... staying at the Refuge feels like home; I can't remember the last time I slept on a bed in a place that was safe and warm, and where I felt welcomed ... That would have been more than enough, but then I also got a hot breakfast in the morning. I can't think of the last time I had such a delicious breakfast."

- AN OPEN HEART REFUGE GUEST

down to a hot meal. We were left to wonder, what might have happened to her if she were facing this crisis just weeks prior, before the center had opened? Now that she has found the Vineyard Resource Center she visits us regularly to access meals, showers, and clothing. Vineyard is a stable place where she is able to be herself. **If you know of someone in crisis, call 9-1-1, or the national suicide and crisis lifeline at 9-8-8. Contact Open Heart Kitchen to discuss options for non-emergency, local services.**

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK!

The life-saving and life-enhancing work that's already being accomplished at the Vineyard Resource Center is only possible thanks to a strong, connected web of dedicated community partners.



The Housing Consortium of the East Bay has been the driving force behind the Vineyard Resource Center project since day one, working with Open Heart Kitchen, the Tri-Valley Cities, and other service providers.

They manage the 23 permanent-supportive apartments, as well as other service coordination within the center. They were recently featured in a segment of TV30. Scan the QR Code to watch!

Weekly outreach is conducted at the Center by local nonprofit providers. Our friends from Axis Community Health, Bay Area Community Health, CityServe, Partners for Change, and Tri-Valley Haven impress and inspire us with their compassionate care as they meet with clients to help them explore resources and gain stability. The Center offers comfortable meeting spaces, including private offices, a lounge-style community room, or the dining room!



VINEYARD'S FIRST 30 DAYS

426 unduplicated clients served, of which 181 are seniors and 174 are experiencing homelessness, including 37 unhoused seniors

93 clients used hygiene services, including 346 showers and 133 loads of laundry

37 clients sought shelter at the Open Heart Refuge, for a combined total of **447 restful nights of sleep**

365 clients participated in our Community Meal Program

29 clients received **free 24-hour bus passes**

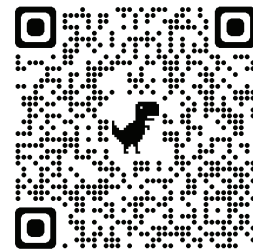
11,824 meals were produced in our Vineyard Resource Center production kitchen to support all Open Heart Kitchen meal programs

6,940 meals were served onsite at the Vineyard Resource Center



DOUBLE YOUR DONATION!

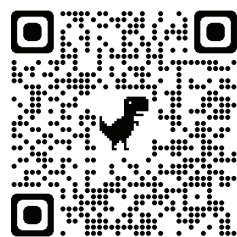
Vineyard's doors may have just opened, but we're already turning a new dream into a reality with construction of the Open Heart Food Bank in Livermore. Right now, small Tri-Valley pantries in schools, churches, and other meeting spaces are struggling to secure donated grocery items, or using personal vehicles to drive back and forth to the Alameda County Community Food Bank in Oakland to pick up a single truckload of supplies. The Open Heart Food Bank will support our community by providing local pantries with reliable access to culturally-appropriate grocery items for their clients. We are building out a 19,000-square-foot warehouse in Livermore that will have the capacity to grow from our current annual distribution of 875,000 pounds of food to over 3 million pounds of food annually within the first 5 years of operation. Please help us reach our goal and build the Tri-Valley's first ever food bank this year!



There's never been a better time to show your support, because a generous anonymous donor has stepped up to match every donation to the Open Heart Food Bank construction project this spring, dollar for dollar, up to an amazing **\$250,000!** Scan the QR code to donate.

MORE WAYS TO SUPPORT OHK

Join 'Open Hearts 365' to give monthly and help sustain OHK's daily work in the community. Conveniently manage your donation amount and frequency online. Start now by scanning the QR code.



Secure OHK's future through planned gifts. Including OHK in your will or bequest provides gifts for future generations of Tri-Valley community members. Planned gift donors become part of our Legacy Society, so if you have already arranged a planned gift, please let us know so we can honor your support.

Sponsor or Attend our Gala Fundraiser. Save the date for our Heart of the Tri-Valley Gala at the Palm Event Center on the evening of Friday, September 6, 2024! Tickets go on sale on May 1st, with early bird pricing on tables of 10 until July 31st.

OUR MISSION

Our Mission is to provide equitable access to nutritious food today, while building a food secure tomorrow. We work toward our mission by enacting **our Vision** of working with Community Partners to meet the most basic needs of vulnerable people in our community by empowering them to build better futures. **Our Guiding Principles** shape every decision we make and are at the heart of each interaction.

Dignity - Every person deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

Innovation - Ending hunger requires innovative solutions.

Advocacy - Ending hunger requires action to create systemic change.

Collaboration - Hunger is linked to numerous issues and the only way to solve hunger is to work with partners to address issues of health, housing, and employment.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Mike Haase, Board Chair
- Janette Pace, Vice Chair
- Bethany Horton, Secretary
- Nancy Allen
- Chuck Deckert
- Jewel Hunt
- Erick Lovdahl
- Carla Moore
- Kristina Vannoni

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

- John Bost, Executive Director
- Heather Greaux, Chief Financial Officer
- Shawnda Bost, Operations Director
- Denise Boulter, Development Director
- Taylor Hoover-Hart, Development Officer
- Hannah Arionus, Program Coordinator
- Marcy Braidman, Program Coordinator
- Christi Williams, Program Coordinator

PRODUCTION KITCHEN TEAM

- Jorge Morales, Chef
- Gerardo Lopez, Assistant Chef
- Rosa Castaneda, Cook
- Tanaka Dorsey, Cook
- Martin Valderama Capula, Cook

PROGRAMS TEAM

- Heather Cuellar, Registered Dietician
- Todd Cunningham, Shelter Coordinator
- Gary Gomes, Street Outreach Team Member
- Sharon Irizarry, Site Supervisor
- Jasmine Libman, Shelter Coordinator
- Evelyn Mattioli, Site Supervisor
- Anita Miranda, Delivery Driver
- Linda Roe, Site Supervisor
- Smruti Thakur, Food Service Assistant
- Marla Ullom, Site Supervisor

IMPACT STATS

(CALENDAR YEAR 2023)

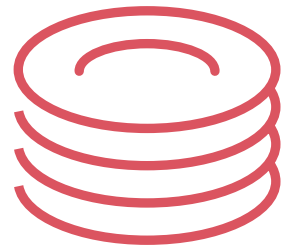


418,292
total meals served

3,720 total
unduplicated clients
served, estimated

1,491

Senior Meal
clients served,
267 of which
are new



68,962
senior meals
served

53,754

COMMUNITY MEALS SERVED

25,458

Street Outreach
meals & breakfast
bags served

243,656

POUNDS OF FOOD
DISTRIBUTED THROUGH
GROCERY DISTRIBUTION



1,830

CLIENTS SERVED
THROUGH GROCERY
DISTRIBUTION, 230 OF
WHICH ARE NEW



270,117 meal equivalents
served through grocery distribution

68

Street Outreach
clients served at
28 locations

674

UNIQUE HOUSEHOLDS
SERVED THROUGH
GROCERY DISTRIBUTION



23

STAFF
MEMBERS

3,453

flyers distributed on
community resources



9,635 hours of volunteer service by **480 VOLUNTEERS**
- this averages out to 20 hours per volunteer, although some
volunteers, like Rod Smith (pictured), give well over **200 HOURS!**

IMPACT: 2023 TIMELINE

JANUARY

Welcomed our new Executive
Director, John Bost



FEBRUARY ▲

Hosted an open house for 20
Community Partners at the
future Open Heart Food Bank

Beneficiary of the 2023 Taste
Tri-Valley Restaurant Week

MARCH

Joined the Eastern Alameda
Needs Assessment focus group
as a stakeholder

JULY ►

Started hard hat tours at the
Vineyard Resource Center
construction site

Returned to fully congregate
dining at all Senior Meal
program locations



AUGUST ▲

Served lunch and provided
resources during the Salud y
Sol event hosted by Livermore
Connects

OHK team members and
Board members volunteered
at the Alameda County
Community Food Bank

SEPTEMBER ►

Heart of the Tri-Valley Gala,
with a special dedication
to OHK team member Gary
Gomes for 20 years and
counting!



SEPTEMBER

OHK team members
participated in a team retreat

OCTOBER

Beneficiary of the 2023
Livermore Valley Winegrowers
Foundation fundraiser

NOVEMBER

OHK Operations Director,
Shawnda Bost, voted TVNPA's
Unsung Hero. OHK was
nominated for Excellence in
Impact for organizations with a
\$1M+ budget



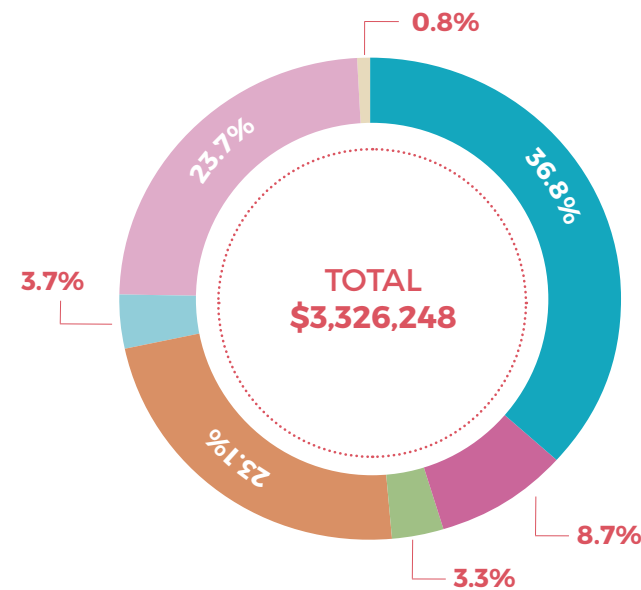
DECEMBER

Kicked off construction at the
Open Heart Food Bank

Photos throughout this report provided
by Chuck Deckert Photography.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS OF JUNE 30, 2023

Assets	2023	2022
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,887,693	\$ 4,455,578
Grants receivable	54,518	315,744
Contributions receivable, net	8,139	29,589
Prepays and other current assets	126,939	106,502
Inventory	26,895	9,213
Property and equipment, net	1,311,118	645,178
Right-of-use lease assets - operating	32,591	-
Total Assets	\$5,447,893	\$ 5,561,804
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 62,089	\$ 75,814
Accrued salaries and wages	106,835	110,204
Operating lease liabilities	16,118 -	-
Total Liabilities	185,042	186,018
Net Assets		
Without donor restrictions		
Undesignated	860,377	745,067
Board designated	2,426,500	3,129,560
Total Without Donor Restrictions	3,286,877	3,874,627
With Donor Restrictions		
Total Net Assets	5,262,851	5,375,786
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 5,447,893	\$ 5,561,804



Contributions by Source

Individuals and Families	1,223,112	36.8%
In-Kind	787,300	23.7%
Government Grants	769,850	23.1%
Businesses and Organizations	288,610	8.7%
Fundraising Events	122,016	3.7%
Non-Government Grants	109,263	3.3%
Other	26,097	0.8%

Copies of our audited financial statements are available upon request. Every effort has been made to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the information contained in this report. For comments or questions, please contact Denise Boulter, Development Director at (925) 580-1616 ext. 502.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Revenues, gains (losses) and other support	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	2023 TOTAL	2022 TOTAL
Grants and Contributions	\$781,794	\$ 839,191	\$ 1,620,985	\$ 2,250,532
In-kind contributions, net	787,300	-	787,300	1,445,281
Federal grant income and contract income	214,012	523,714	737,726	1,447,181
State and local grant income	-	32,124	32,124	80,198
Fundraising and special events	122,016	-	122,016	39,655
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	(199)	-	(199)	22,411
Interest income	23,263	-	23,263	5,383
Other income	3,033	-	3,033	1,758
Net assets released from restrictions	920,214	(920,214)	-	-
Total revenues, gains (losses) and other support	2,851,433	474,815	3,326,248	5,292,399
Functional Expenses			2022 TOTAL	2021 TOTAL
Program services				
Hot meals	325,856	-	325,856	377,038
Open Heart Food Bank	898,284	-	898,284	1,933,297
Street outreach	345,596	-	345,596	440,668
Senior meals	1,142,641	-	1,142,641	1,028,150
Kitchen project	92,489	-	92,489	25,507
Total Program Services	2,804,866	-	2,804,866	3,804,660
Support Services				
Management and general	339,762	-	339,762	293,734
Fundraising	294,555	-	294,555	264,386
Total Support Services	634,317	-	634,317	558,120
Total functional expenses	3,439,183	-	3,439,183	4,362,780
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(587,750)	474,815	(112,935)	929,619
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	3,874,627	1,501,159	5,375,786	4,446,167
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$3,286,877	\$ 1,975,974	\$ 5,262,851	\$ 5,375,786

Scan to find a hot meal & more in the Tri-Valley

OpenHeartKitchen.Org/Our-Services

Scan to find a hot meal & more in the Tri-Valley

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Mailing Address:
 1141 Catalina Dr. #137
 Livermore, CA 94550
 Main Office: (925) 580-1616
 Tax ID: 94-3396038
www.openheartkitchen.org



Open Heart Kitchen can help you access free meals, groceries, showers, laundry, case management, shelter, clothing, and more.
Everyone is welcome.

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