



WOODLAND  
**FOOD CLOSET**

WoodlandFoodCloset.org

*We are a volunteer community organization providing temporary immediate nutritional and hygienic support for individuals and families in need.*



**2022-2023 Newsletter**

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# WOODLAND FOOD CLOSET

## 55 Years Old, a New Face Lift



photo of our "closet" 2019 with volunteer Talia Cadena

The Woodland Volunteer Food Closet was established in 1968 to fill the 3 day gap from the time people applied for and received food stamps. A 3 day supply of food for individuals and families was distributed from a basement closet at the Woodland Christian Church for the next 54 years.

Food for the "closet" was obtained by donations and monetary gifts. The food was stored at the Food Closet, in the church basement, a garage at American Lutheran Church, and other occasional donated warehouse spaces.

In 2020, due to computerization, the 3 day gap was eliminated for those who qualified for assistance, but that didn't mean that food insufficiency was eliminated in our community. Adding to this of course was the Covid pandemic.

Faced with this change, the Food Closet Board of Directors whole-heartedly agreed that shutting down would not be our response but rather we would expand our services and mission to anyone in need of food. This increased the demand on our distribution from approximately 200 people/month to nearly 600 people/month. It also meant that we needed to increase our food supply. Food donations and food drives did increase and we also partnered with Yolo County and the City of Woodland in the implementation of SB1383 (the food recovery act). Our storage space was also stretched beyond capacity.





The extra service also meant an increased demand on our volunteer packers; and, increased climbing up and down stairs in the closet.

In 2021 the Board of directors decided to actively look for a new facility and storage space.

With the commitment, diligence, and expertise of our board members, within 6 months we had our new home—420 Grand Avenue in Woodland.

From a 100 square foot closet to a 1500 square foot building with a 1400 square foot storage garage!



Our new facility allows us to have everything at ground level(no stairs!), increased shelving for ease of packing, all storage on site, 3 bathrooms, an office for Executive Director and staff, and a conference area for meetings.



To honor those who have supported and volunteered countless hours in order to establish and keep us a vital part of our community, we have kept the name "Closet" as part of our name.

Our mission is to keep the Woodland Volunteer Food Closet a viable entity for the people in our community who are food insufficient and need our services.

If you would like to visit us or volunteer, please contact us 530-662-7020 or [coordinator@woodlandfoodcloset.org](mailto:coordinator@woodlandfoodcloset.org)

Romie Holland  
Board of Directors President







# SB1383 - Partnering with our City

**In March, Woodland Food Closet  
began participating in the  
*CA Edible Food Recovery Program (SB1383).***

SB 1383 requires cities, in coordination with the county, to recycle organic waste and participate in food recovery programs to divert organic waste from landfills into recycling activities and food recovery organizations.



CITY OF  
**WOODLAND**  
CALIFORNIA



This means that the Woodland Food Closet collects food products that are edible from local vendors to be given to local clients who are in need of food.

These "edible food" items could be discontinued items or maybe the box is dented or any other reason that would make the item not "sellable" but still "edible". These recovered food items are then given to those in need.





**GROCERY  
OUTLET**  
*bargain market*

**Woodland Food Closet  
partners with our local  
Grocery Outlet  
to recover edible foods.**

This partnership with Grocery Outlet has allowed us to expand our variety of food options and continue to serve the increased need in our community.



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# Our Volunteers



"Volunteering at the Woodland Food Closet with the Thursday morning crew is something I look forward to each week. Stocking the shelves is an important part of the process.

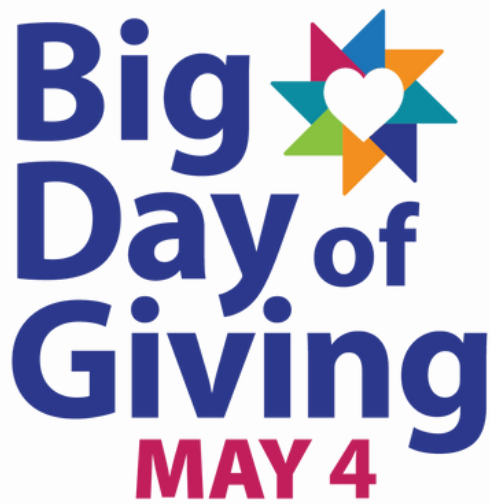
When I return each week to empty shelves, I know that those in our community who needed food were fed. It gives me a sense of pride that volunteering for this amazing organization is helping our most vulnerable in Woodland."

Lori Maloney



"I volunteer for the food closet because I don't like to see families in need of food."

Linda Schaupp



*Big Day of Giving (BDOG) was created by Sacramento Region Community Foundation. "Since 2013, hundreds of nonprofits in El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, and Yolo counties have raised millions of unrestricted dollars and advanced their impact in our community through their participation in BDOG."*

**This year on Big Day of Giving  
we received donations of**

**over \$4,000**

**from over 40  
community donors.**

# Thank you to our donors!

Julie Mast  
Oran Wilder  
Ed and Lisa Shelley  
Robert and Virginia Salley  
Kimberley Arthur  
Lon Springer  
Pamela Weaver  
Janice Labadie  
Kathy Aukes  
Sue Jones  
Stacey Waller  
Lonny Villalobos  
Tania Garcia-Cadea  
William P Sullivan  
Christopher Cabaldon  
Carly Fessler  
Deborah Gilbert  
Kimberly Richter  
Beth Coehlo  
Christina Blackman

Bridget Levich  
Judy Wall  
Linda Schaupp  
Brendan Kane  
Debra Heras  
Marjorie Scofield  
Richard and Vicki Watson  
Craig Jones  
Lowell Johnson  
Jane Murphy  
Romie and Jean Holland  
Tom and Meg Stallard  
Anne Saunders  
Ron and Leslie Churchill  
Patti (Patricia) Heath  
Vickie Gustafson  
Jenny and Nate Lillge  
Cheryl Howald  
David Wilkinson



# CommuniCare Partnership with Donations from Adams Grain

This holiday season, Adams Grain donated 17 turkeys to the Woodland Food Closet. In partnership with CommuniCare, we were able to distribute these turkeys to those in need.

Thank you to Adams Grain for their donation and to CommuniCare for assistance.





 **Adams**  
Grain Co, Inc

donated 17 turkeys  
that were distributed with  
help from CommuniCare







# **"Expired" vs "Best By Dates"**

## **Tania Garcia-Cadena**

While an estimated 33 million Americans suffer from food insecurity, it's important to draw attention to the fact that over a billion pounds of edible, perfectly safe, and healthy food is tossed into the trash annually. Currently, it is estimated the nearly 40% of all food produced and processed in the United States ends up in our landfills. "Best by" and "sell by" dates can be confusing, but it's important to note that neither are "expiration" dates and shouldn't be treated as such.

According to the USDA, "most shelf-stable foods are safe indefinitely. In fact, canned goods will last for years, as long as the can itself is in good condition (no rust, dents, or swelling). Packaged foods (cereal, pasta, cookies) will be safe past the 'best by' date, although they may eventually become stale or develop an off flavor."

The Woodland Food Closet is doing our part to keep edible, nutritious food out of the landfill and getting it to those who benefit from our services. We do this through food drives and by participating in SB 1383 (edible food recovery bill). All foods coming into the food closet are checked and nothing distributed is unsafe or "expired". Our clients can rest assured that the food they receive from the Woodland Food Closet is safe to consume.

To learn more about food safety and how to prevent food waste, visit the following websites:





# Woodland Food Closet Annual Meeting & Dinner



Aug 10, 6-8pm  
ALMS Clubhouse  
519 2nd Street



Thank you to  
our outgoing  
Board!



# Distribution Hours

**Food is currently distributed  
Monday – Friday  
3 p.m. to 4 p.m.**

**420 Grand Ave, Woodland**

**Woodland Food Closet clients are  
limited to visiting once per month  
for food allocation.**

**Contact us at:**

**P.O. Box 803**

**Woodland, CA 95776**

**(530) 662-7020**

**[director@woodlandfoodcloset.org](mailto:director@woodlandfoodcloset.org)**

# 2022-2023 Board of Directors

## Officers

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| President      | Romie Holland  |
| Vice-President | Kim Arthur     |
| Treasurer      | Debbie Gilbert |
| Secretary      | Vicki Watson   |



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## Directors

Kathy Aukes  
Lowell Johnson  
Craig Jones  
Sean Keyworth  
Kim Richter  
Anne Saunders

## Executive Director

Tania Garcia-Cadena

## Data Management Assistant

Monique Brammeier

