



Donor Spotlight – May 2014

Bank of the West

Founded in 1874, Bank of the West opened its doors as Farmers National Gold Bank. As of one only 10 banks nationwide authorized to issue paper currency, the San Jose bank helped people build homes, finance farms and grow their businesses.

Through their Charitable Investments Program, Bank of the West provides grants to local non-profit organizations dedicated to improving quality of life, particularly for low and moderate-income individuals and communities. Bank of the West has committed to provide \$75 billion in loans, investments and charitable contributions by 2015 to promote homeownership, small business, farm development and other critical economical and social services. Bank of the West is proud to say it is already three quarters of the way there.



For ten years, Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services (SFBFS) has been the recipient of a series of Bank of the West grants totaling over \$70,000. Bank of the West recently awarded SFBFS a \$5,000 grant to aid SFBFS' Adult Education program. The Adult Education program provides classroom instruction as well as one-on-one tutoring. Services include GED preparation, math, reading and writing, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, assistance with job searches, resume building workshops and computer classes.

Over 1,000 clients have been served through the Adult Education program in just the first quarter of 2014. Accomplishments this year range from clients securing employment through Job Development assistance, a 100% graduation rate for both Spanish PC basics and Office 2007 and thirty six students advancing one or more levels in their GED preparation.

SFBFS' work would not be possible without support from the business community. As an organization, our staff, volunteers and clients are grateful and fortunate to receive the support of so many community-minded businesses, such as Bank of the West. Bank of the West's generosity is a great example that together we can change lives and brighten futures.