Feeding the Hungry:
Honoring Congregations
Religious Based Agencies
and the
San Francisco Food Bank

Sponsored by the San Francisco Interfaith Council
CONGREGATIONS
THAT FEED THE HUNGRY

DAY LABORERS BREAKFAST AND LUNCH
Every day in The Mission, three-hundred day laborers line up in the earliest hours of the morning to receive breakfast from the Sisters of the Presentation and associates. Over the years the numbers of men have consistently increased as they know this is a unique place of hospitality and welcome. Once a month they receive bag lunches, clothing, blankets, and other personal items. This program is led by Sister Maire Sullivan who saw this tremendous need and over the years established a simple dedicated organization of volunteers to serve.

GRACE FOOD PANTRY
Grace Lutheran Church operates this food pantry, in conjunction with the San Francisco Food Bank and the San Francisco Lutheran Nehemiah Project, at the Grace campus on Woolsey St. Every Saturday morning they assist nearly 200 San Francisco families by meeting their basic food needs. Volunteers from the neighborhood are also recipients of the food pantry. The food pantry gives participants the opportunity to witness every Saturday morning: With God All Things Are Possible.
www.bethelgrace.com

GROCERIES FOR SENIORS
Groceries for Seniors at Old St. Mary’s is a community based non-profit organization that provides free food to poor, elderly people in San Francisco. The pantry program distributes nutritious fresh food to approximately 1,188 seniors every week. Without this help, many seniors would go to bed hungry. Groceries for Seniors’ Mission: To provide their elderly clients with the food they need to stay healthy and remain living independently in the community. They rely on volunteers to serve hungry seniors. There are numerous volunteer opportunities at their pantry program and also have opportunities for those who prefer to work at home www.groceriesforseniors.org

HAMOTZI
HaMotzi, is Congregation Sherith Israel’s response to hunger and homelessness in San Francisco. Every Sunday throughout the year volunteers prepare 125 nutritious home-style meals that they deliver and serve to residents of two shelters. The program’s name comes from the traditional Jewish blessing that praises God as the source of food from the earth. Over 200 hundred volunteers shop, cook, pickup donations and deliver and serve the food each year since the program began in 1993. HaMotzi’s mission frames the large stained glass window on the east wall of Sherith Israel’s sanctuary proclaiming the words of Isaiah 58:7- “to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless…”
www.sherithisrael.org

HOSPITALITY HOUR
For eight years, every Sunday morning, without fail from 8:00-9:00am, a group of members and friends of St. Francis Lutheran Church at Church and Market Sts. have consistently provided a warm nourishing meal to sixty homeless, and other guests. The workers do this without compensation and treat those they serve as guests, not clients. All funding comes from the members and friends of the church.
www.st-francis-lutheran.org

HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY
Martin’s, as Martin De Porres House of Hospitality is affectionately known, is a free restaurant, serving breakfast and lunch during the week and brunch on Sundays. Martin’s is named for St. Martin de Porres (1579-1639) of Lima, Peru, the patron saint of social justice, the sick, the poor, and all the animals who with his gentle spirit he fed or nursed anyone, or anything, in need, with prayerfulness, extreme penitence, and profound humility. The mission of House of Hospitality is to serve in the spirit of compassion, understanding and love.
www.martindepordes.org

JONES UNITED METHODIST FOOD PROGRAM
Every third and fourth Wednesday of the month Jones UMC congregants prepare and serve a meal for the whole community- whomever is hungry and in need. This delicious food consisting of meat, vegetables and salads is cooked from scratch and paid for by the congregation. Approximately 4,000 people come to the dinners each year and are served at the facility located at 1975 Post St.

PE’AH GARDEN
By growing food for those in need at their cemetery in Colma, Congregation Emanu-El members perform the mitzvah of feeding the hungry. The garden name, Pe’ah (corners), derives from Leviticus 19, which commands us to not harvest the corners of the field but to leave them for the poor and the stranger. The harvest is donated to the San Francisco Food Bank. The Garden’s motto is “Take a day on, not a day off.” Everyone who comes to help is welcomed, and each person’s contribution makes a difference.
http://www.emanuelsf.org/events_gi_peah.htm
**RAPHAEL HOUSE**

Established in 1971, Raphael House was the first shelter in San Francisco for homeless families. Now one of four full-service family shelters, their mission is to help at-risk families achieve stable housing and financial independence, while strengthening family bonds. Open for the families 24 hours per day, Raphael House has comfortable dining rooms, after-school tutoring facility, children's play rooms, a library, community rooms, a laundry facility, a resource center with computers and other office equipment, and a rooftop garden and play area. Supported solely by private sources, Raphael House neither seeks nor accepts government funding of any kind.

[www.raphaelhouse.org](http://www.raphaelhouse.org)

**THE WELCOME MINISTRY**

The Welcome Ministry is a ministry supported by a coalition of several congregations housed at Old First Presbyterian Church on VanNess and Sacramento Sts. The Center also provides a food pantry and toiletry closet. Chaplains serve a light lunch, offer referrals to social services, and provide a welcoming and hospitable environment for our guests. In addition, a community dinner is served on the second Saturday of each month, alternating between Old First Presbyterian and St. Luke Episcopal churches. They serve approximately 100 people each month, and celebrate the month's birthdays in a festive atmosphere, feeding the hearts, minds, spirits and souls of their homeless and hungry friends.

[www.welcomeministry.org](http://www.welcomeministry.org)

**YOUTH WITH A MISSION FOOD PANTRY**

Every Thursday afternoon, The Food Pantry, sponsored by the San Francisco Food Bank and Youth With a Mission, is open from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm and offers free groceries to residents of the Tenderloin, including a number of choices of fresh produce, as well as canned goods and bread. Youth With a Mission proud to offer a helping hand to their neighbors who struggle to make ends meet each week and also restore hope to their community.

[www.ywamsanfrancisco.org](http://www.ywamsanfrancisco.org)

**RELIGIOUS BASED AGENCIES THAT FEED THE HUNGRY**

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES CYO – 1907**

Changing lives every day. Catholic Charities CYO is one of the largest non-profit providers of social services in the Bay Area. Our programs help people of all faiths; everyone is welcome. Though an agency of the San Francisco Archdiocese, we operate as an independent organization; and do not contribute funds to the church in any way. In fact, 86% of your donation goes directly into our programs. [www.cccyo.org](http://www.cccyo.org)

**EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES – 1894**

ECS has provided essential services to homeless San Franciscans since 1982. Serving more than 6,000 people last year, ECS, guided by its mission to "help homeless and very low-income people every day and every night obtain the housing, jobs, shelter, and essential services each person needs to prevent and end homelessness," utilizes a holistic approach that addresses the multiple causes leading to homelessness.

[www.ecs-sf.org](http://www.ecs-sf.org)

**GLIDE FOUNDATION – 1929**

In 1929, Methodist philanthropist Lizzie Glide purchased a parcel of land at the intersection of Ellis and Taylor Streets in San Francisco. Construction of Glide Memorial United Methodist Church was completed two years later. In 1963, a young African-American minister named Cecil Williams came to Glide. What began in 1969 as an all-volunteer Monday night potluck for 50 street people today serves over 750,000 meals a year, making Glide one of the largest providers in San Francisco. Glide is also the only program in town that provides three nutritious meals to the city’s poor, homeless and hungry every single day of the year.

[www.glide.org](http://www.glide.org)

**JEWISH FAMILY AND CHILDREN’S SERVICES – 1850**

Founded in 1850 by Gold Rush pioneers, JFCS is the oldest social service agency west of the Mississippi. Since its inception, JFCS has provided comprehensive, caring social services to Bay Area residents of all ages and faiths. With more than 40 programs serving more than 58,000 people annually in the Greater West Bay Area of Northern California, JFCS reaches out with comprehensive, integrated social services, helping people in the most effective, compassionate way possible. Jewish Family and Children’s Services’ "Food Pantry" was established in 2001 at its San Francisco site.

[www.jcfs.org](http://www.jcfs.org)
LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES – 1884

LSS responds when people are vulnerable because of homelessness, mental illness, drug addiction or disaster. Providing support services and compassionate guidance, we help individuals and families to stabilize their lives and become self-sufficient. Its programs include money management services, case management in transitional and permanent supportive housing sites, case management and housing services for emancipated former foster care youth, disaster preparedness training, and long-term disaster response services for Hurricane Katrina survivors.

www.lssnorcal.org

ST. ANTHONY FOUNDATION – 1950

On October 4, 1950, Franciscan Friar Alfred Boeddeker responded with the heart of St. Francis to give hope to his hungry and homeless neighbors, opening the doors of St. Anthony Dining Room and serving 400 free meals. Now, more than 58 years and 34 million meals later, we continue Fr. Alfred’s example of honoring the dignity of each person. People now come to St. Anthony Foundation not only to share in a meal, but also for clothing, housing, and healing of both body and spirit.

www.stanthonyfsf.org

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY – 1860

Founded in 1860, the St. Vincent de Paul Society of San Francisco provides human services to over 1,000 men, women and children every day through a spectrum of programs. Our mission is to offer hope and service to the poor and suffering on a direct person-to-person basis, working to break the cycles of homelessness, substance abuse and domestic violence. We are a Catholic lay organization that serves and employs all people without regard to religious affiliation. Our programs include a detox center for homeless and low-income people; a sobriety-oriented affordable single-room occupancy residence; a free clothing- and grocery-distribution program; the city’s largest continuum of shelters and services for battered women and their children; and the largest homeless shelter in northern California.

www.svdp-sf.org

SALVATION ARMY – 1883

Since 1883, The Salvation Army has been serving the San Francisco Bay Area, offering practical support, spiritual comfort and a critical safety net to people in need. The Army has 16 program facilities throughout San Francisco providing a myriad of services, including youth programs, meal delivery, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, transitional housing, and nutritional and housing support for seniors.

www.salvationarmy.org

SAN FRANCISCO FOOD BANK – 1987

SF Food Bank’s mission is to end hunger in San Francisco. They rely on food donations from a nationwide network of growers, manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers and grocery stores, as well as on contributions from community food drives. The Food Bank supplements donated food by purchasing large quantities at wholesale or discounted prices. They distribute food through more than 500 nonprofit programs, from senior centers and after-school programs, to food pantries and soup kitchens. This year they distributed more than 26 million pounds of food, providing approximately 55,000 meals every day of the year.

♥ They source food from over 500 growers, packers, manufacturers, grocers and the USDA.

♥ Food drives held year-round provide an important source of food variety.

♥ More than 12,000 volunteers come into our 55,000 sq. ft. warehouse throughout the year to sort and repack food, readying it for distribution.

♥ Over 600 community food programs receive food from the San Francisco Food Bank through deliveries and by “shopping” at our warehouse for selected items.

♥ They operate 191 neighborhood pantries, where our clients can select groceries at farmers’ market-style distributions.

♥ They maximize our resources and advocate against hunger nationally through our membership in Feeding America, a nationwide network of over 200 local food banks.

www.sffoodbank.org