

MEET EACH NEED WITH DIGNITY



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bank of America donates \$20,000 to MEND's Emergency Foodbank

Pacoima charity receives boost to its food program

Pacoima, CA, February 3, 2015 — MEND – Meet Each Need with Dignity, the San Fernando Valley's largest poverty-relief agency, recently received a \$20,000 grant from The Bank of America Charitable Foundation for its Emergency Foodbank.

MEND's Emergency Foodbank is the largest of its kind in Los Angeles and provides direct distribution to clients in need. Emergency food boxes are distributed four days a week at the MEND Center and four times a month from satellite operations. The boxes provide a nutritiously balanced three-day supply of food to help families make ends meet. Each box contains over 20 pounds of fresh fruit and vegetables

"We are obviously delighted to receive this generous donation," says Marianne Haver Hill, MEND President and CEO. "The funds are vital to our operations and, of course, serve those in critical need in our community. A big thank you to Bank of America."

The Bank of America grant will go towards Foodbank operating costs and will also support MEND's Grow Together Project (Home Garden Program) which provides training and support to families in growing fresh produce in their homes; the "Seeds to Supper" program which seeks to help young people form a healthy connection to food; and "Project Life" which provides one-on-one nutrition counseling sessions.

"MEND continues to inspire us all as they help Angelinos with basic human services while giving them the support they need to get back on their feet," said Raul A. Anaya, Los Angeles market president Bank of America. "Through our partnership with MEND, we can continue to help the organization make a positive impact on the community and its ability to thrive."

ABOUT MEND

[MEND-- Meet Each Need with Dignity](#), serves an average of 38,000 and as many as 53,000 poverty-level clients each month, while remarkably keeping operating costs to less than 6%. MEND takes a holistic approach to relieve the effects of poverty by providing basic human needs while giving their clients the education and training, that fosters self-reliance. Named California Nonprofit of the Year in 2012 by the Governor's Office, MEND is one of the largest, most efficient and most comprehensive poverty-relief organizations in the Los Angeles region.

Born as a volunteer-powered organization four decades ago in a garage, today MEND benefits from the assistance of more than 5200 volunteers (and only 31 paid staffers) to implement its vast array of programs that provide food; clothing; job training; medical, dental and vision care; classes for adults in English as a Second Language, literacy, and computer training; an after school program for kids; showers and other services for the homeless; and a Holiday Basket Program for 1200 pre-screened families in need. In 2013, 172,609 volunteer hours were provided, equating to 95 full-time employees.