The year began with the announcement of our new name, Yolo Food Bank, and the unveiling of our new logo on our completely redesigned website. This is our acknowledgment to the rich agricultural region in which we live and to our admiration and respect of the farmers and ranchers in Yolo County who have shared their harvests with us for decades.

With generous support from the agricultural community and our volunteers, we were able to:

- provide more fresh local produce to our distribution programs, both direct and indirect;
- educate the children of our community about the value of fresh foods in their diet, and;
- glean more food from the fields and orchards of our county to better feed those in need.

The success of our programs is due, in large part, to the collaborative relationships we have with our public and private sector partners. These relationships help foster a sense of community and demonstrates the ability of the Food Bank to unite diverse organizations for the purpose of offering benevolence, compassion and sustenance to those individuals and families in need.

The dedication to service that our 60+ partner agencies provide to more than 10,000 people on a monthly basis is to be admired and applauded. The entire staff of the Food Bank appreciates their hard work and commitment to helping us carry out our mission.

As we enter 2014, we offer our deepest gratitude for your donations that help us multiply the power of giving by distributing $5.50 worth of groceries for every dollar donated. And, with our strategic partnerships with the growers and producers in the county we are able to further leverage those donated dollars by buying locally, which reduces miles traveled while supporting the local economy at the same time. With your gifts of time, food, and funds you have allowed us to provide a basic necessity to thousands of our neighbors.
PROGRAMS

In addition to our ongoing programs, this past year saw the creation of Second Bloom, a program offering fresh flowers and plants to local convalescent homes. These facilities come to the food bank each week and take dozens of bouquets of flowers back to share with their residents and put a smile on their day. One such residence teaches flower arranging to residents and then distributes the finished floral arrangements to others at the facilities.

Our Senior Grocery Program is being piloted at two locations. The food bank delivers non-perishable foods each week to a senior’s apartment complex where the residents then choose among the various items to supplement their needs. Many residents have to choose between paying their utility bill or eating, this small program begins to address this inequity that many of our senior residents face each month.

KIDS FARMERS MARKET

KFM, a weekly afterschool program serving over 900 children and operating at five schools, incorporates nutrition education, physical activity and a market specifically for elementary students. Kids take home more than 10 pounds of fresh produce which continues to be a major emphasis in our distributions and is reflected in our star program, the Kids Farmers Market.

TUESDAY’S & FRIDAY’S TABLE

What started as a tailgate distribution in Woodland, now serves healthy foods to nearly 300 community members in need of food assistance weekly in Woodland, Davis, and West Sacramento.

CHILDREN’S HARVEST

Through collaboration with First 5 Yolo, the Food Bank provides 10 pound distributions of fresh fruits and vegetables bi-monthly to more than 600 families with children five years old and younger.
EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EFAP)

EFAP is a USDA commodity food distribution program where Yolo Food Bank provides monthly emergency food to approximately 7,000 low-income households at 36 locations across Yolo County.

RURAL FOOD DELIVERY (RFD)

RFD provides ongoing access of food to an average of 700 families in remote areas of Yolo County, through the monthly distribution of non-perishable foods to 9 rural sites and 2 seasonal migrant camps.

HOLIDAY FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Last year, the Food Bank distributed a total of 4,649 holiday meals in November, December and April to assist 19,127 people in need during the holiday season.

VOLUNTEERS

The Food Bank relies on volunteers to operate daily. From our warehouse, to distributions, to administrative support, volunteers help us feed an average of 23,000 people per month.

This year, our volunteers worked more than 12,000 hours, which is equal to 6 full time employees!

Your contribution is essential to our fight against hunger.
Those who give to the Food Bank are Angels

My name is Maria. My husband, my three teenage daughters and I are so grateful to be getting this food because it helps us in so many ways. We come to the Woodland Food Closet because my husband and I both have temporary jobs. I work at the cannery, but when the tomatoes are gone, there’s no more work. My husband works in the field, planting and harvesting tomatoes, but when they’re gone, so is the work.

That’s why the Food Bank is so helpful. What they give us is such a huge help. It takes away some of the worry when things are hard.

But there have still been times when we’ve been short on food. That’s when I feel sad for the kids. I think, “What am I going to do? What am I going to feed them today?” Even if we at least have milk and cereal, then that’s something. If they can eat that, then they really don’t know how bad it is. If we could find year-round work, that would make such a difference for us.

I just want to say thank you to the people who support the Food Bank. It is so important that the Food Bank exists so that families like us, who have low incomes and don’t have enough, can live. You are angels that come from heaven for us. I don’t know what else to say, but thank you.