



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FORMER UC DAVIS FUNDRAISER NAMED BY YOLO FOOD BANK  
AS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR**

WOODLAND – “End Hunger Yolo,” a campaign to expand the capacity of Yolo Food Bank to more effectively serve the common good of the community, now is being led toward completion by Kathy Sachs Barrientes, a Yolo County native and former UC Davis development professional.

“We are extremely fortunate to have Kathy join our team as Capital Campaign Director,” stated Michael Bisch, Yolo Food Bank Executive Director. “She has extensive experience raising significant gifts for world-class projects such as the LEED Platinum and Jackson Sustainable Winery Buildings at UC Davis. To have Kathy lending her experience and expertise to the “End Hunger Yolo capital campaign will go a long way toward successfully concluding this final phase of the campaign,” he added.

A 36,000 square foot warehouse facility a block away from the organization’s current location at 1244 Fortna Avenue in North Woodland has been purchased, with plans to raise funds for renovation and modernization to adequately meet the needs for food acquisition, storage, processing, distribution and the administration of Food Bank programs. \$3 million remains to be raised to complete the project by the scheduled early 2019 move-in date.

“Inadequate, cobbled-together sets of metal sheds with insufficient cold-storage capacity for fresh, nutritious produce are what currently serve as the center of Yolo Food Bank operations,” Bisch described. “Through relationships with more than five dozen partner agencies, we’re serving more than 52,000 men, women and children in our county each month who are in or near poverty. Meeting their needs adequately requires an appropriate facility,” he said.

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“Research shows that improving nutrition is a very effective means of combating poverty, improving health and educational outcomes, addressing mental health issues and homelessness and reducing barriers to social mobility, all of which improve the overall well-being of our community. It’s in the best interests of all Yolo County residents to support this project,” Bisch continued.

Barrientes grew up in a Yolo County farming family, graduated from Davis Senior High School and later UC Davis. Over the past 13 years, she has directed significant development campaigns at UC Davis on behalf of the Colleges of Biological Sciences and Agricultural and Environment Sciences, specifically working with the Department of Viticulture and Enology to raise funds to build and equip the two wineries and the Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science. She completed her time on campus with an initiative to raise capital funding for the Manetti Shrem Museum of Modern Art. Her community work includes volunteer positions with the Davis High School Blue and White Foundation, Yolo County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) and St. James Catholic Church in Davis.

UC Davis Viticulture and Enology Professor Andrew Waterhouse, recalls Barrientes’ importance to the projects in his department.

“Kathy was a valued colleague who ensured the success of the \$10 million campaign to build and equip our teaching and research facility,” Waterhouse remembered. “I am confident that she will succeed similarly with Yolo Food Bank’s capital project,” he added.

“I feel incredibly fortunate to join the staff and volunteers of Yolo Food Bank to complete the fundraising for the ‘End Hunger Yolo’ Capital Campaign,” Barrientes shared. “As a lifelong resident of Yolo County, I was aware that Yolo is one of the highest agricultural producing counties in the country. What I wasn’t aware of, however, is that Yolo County also has among the highest rates of food insecure residents. Yolo Food Bank has been working to address this critical need for more than 45 years, and I now share in their efforts to raise both awareness and gifts to complete a facility that enables their work to have increased impact,” she commented.

Together with nearly 70 partner agencies, Yolo Food Bank serves the needs of more than 19,000 households every month in pursuit of its mission to end hunger and malnutrition in Yolo County. Funds, food and time are needed to sustain these efforts. To donate, volunteer or learn more, please visit [www.yolofoodbank.org](http://www.yolofoodbank.org).