



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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YOLO FOOD BANK EXPANDS ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY WITH NEW GRANT FUNDING, ACCOUNTING PERSONNEL

Broadening Yolo Food Bank's ability to serve and enhance the common good of the community, the organization strengthened its team in recent weeks with the addition of three team members in roles new to the organization.

Grant Writers Cristina Larsen and Maggie Memmott, and Accountant Sheryl Sullivan, add depth to Yolo Food Bank's program funding and tracking efforts, each bringing to the nonprofit extensive experience.

Larsen has more than a decade of experience in grant writing, program evaluation, contract and project management and budgeting with the Institute for Social Research at CSU Sacramento. She has successfully written grants awarded by the National Institute of Health and the National Science Foundation and volunteered her services on behalf of many Sacramento-based charitable organizations.

"Cristina brings to her position high-level skills in social research, program evaluation, strategic planning and organizational psychology," stated Cindy Pasko, Yolo Food Bank Director of Programs. "These skills will greatly enhance our ability to accurately determine the real barriers to healthy food experienced by our Yolo County neighbors, identify county-wide food system and program effectiveness and the impact of our work upon those in need."

Seven years as a freelance grant writer immediately preceded Memmott's start with Yolo Food Bank, and her prior position with Children's Hospital Los Angeles as a

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Research Manager and Program Evaluator equipped her with a background in community health and nutrition. Notable grants awarded as a result of Memmott's skills include those offered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and Indian Health Services. She also is the immediate past president of Soroptimist International of Davis.

"In addition to a wealth of knowledge about nutrition and public health, Maggie has an in-depth understanding of how poverty and homelessness impact individuals' health, and the reverberating impact that has throughout our community," Pasko shared. "Yolo Food Bank's programs and partnerships will be stronger for incorporating Maggie's experience into our work."

For Sullivan, her new position as Accountant marks her return to Yolo Food Bank after several years away, having previously served the organization as its Bookkeeper. In total, Sullivan has more than two decades of experience in grant accounting, financial analysis, payroll and benefits and inventory control, including many years in various departments at UC Davis. Additionally, she has been the co-owner of an online teleprompter software retailer.

"The most exciting thing about Sheryl returning to Yolo Food Bank is that she already knows our systems and processes, and can hit the ground running," said Valerie Dennis, Yolo Food Bank Administration Manager. "She also has an almost instinctual level of expertise in transitioning to new database systems, which is among our upcoming projects."

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.

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