



Celebrate Christmas in August: Donate to the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano

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US Navy sailors from the Ohio-class fleet ballistic-missile submarine USS Nevada (SSBN 733) and Navy Recruiting Command Portland fill food boxes at the Food Bank.
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They seem like integral aspects of Christmas -- those food donation bins that you see frequently at stores and companies during the holidays. They are very visual reminders that there are many hungry mouths that need feeding during the holiday season.

When the holidays fade into the new year, many of those bins are removed. And often, with their removal, so goes the attention to the fact that many people go hungry throughout the year.

Summer months create special challenges, says the [Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano's development director](#), Marilu Boucher. "Not only do people normally associate donating with the Christmas season, they are taking vacations from work places, areas that usually are the sites for food donation bins."

There are many ways to contribute to the [Food Bank of Contra Costa](#). Their website does a great job of [illustrating nine ways](#) you can help out. You can also donate your time, says Sharon Zepegno, the Food Bank's manager of volunteer services. At the Food Bank's Concord-based warehouse you may be asked to move food products, box produce, or sort and box donated food. The Food Bank also welcomes folks to organize informal food drives as well as donate food from their own home gardens.

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You can find out lots more information about the Food Bank by visiting its [website](#). For more information about volunteering, call Sharon Zepegno at (925) 676-7543 extension 209 or email [Volunteer Help Desk](#). Include your name, phone number with area code, email, city, availability, as well as the type of opportunity you are looking for.

*If you have ever been in the position to recruit and retain volunteers for an event or cause, you know that it is a valuable skill worth honing. Recently the [Vallejo Community Issues Examiner](#) attended a [Solano Community Foundation](#) workshop where key contacts in the nonprofit sector shared tips about managing volunteers. You will want to stay tuned for a future posting where we share these tips with you. And if you haven't already done so, hit that **Subscribe** button above and get an email alert each and every time we publish.*

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