

John Muir Health Makes \$25,000 Donation to Local Food Bank

December 23, 2013

WALNUT CREEK, CALIF. — John Muir Health is delivering much needed assistance to families this holiday season with a \$25,000 donation to the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano. This year's donation has been designated to support the Food Bank's Community Produce Program.

The Community Produce Program distributes fresh produce twice a month at over 50 sites in Contra Costa and Solano counties. A grant in 2012 from the John Muir Mt. Diablo Community Health Fund, which is funded by John Muir Health, enabled the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano to purchase a beverage truck that was customized to serve as a mobile distribution vehicle for fresh produce. After a 6-month pilot program, a second vehicle was added through Feeding America, a national organization.

"We are extremely grateful for the generosity of John Muir Health," said Larry Sly, executive director of the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano. "The benefits that the Community Produce Program provides are incredible. People who visit the local distribution sites and meet income guidelines take home 20-30 pounds of fresh produce. People are getting healthy food for their families they might not be able to afford otherwise."

"We are proud to be able to support the efforts of the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano. Providing access to fresh fruits and vegetables is a critical component of improving the overall health of our community, which is in keeping with John Muir Health's mission," said Cal Knight, John Muir Health's president and CEO. "This donation also reflects the generosity of our doctors, staff and volunteers who are committed to helping members of our community, especially those in need, during the holiday season and throughout the year."

In addition to financial support, John Muir Health employees have been participating in a holiday food drive to support the Food Bank. Since making its first holiday donation in 2008 at the suggestion of an employee, John Muir Health has contributed more than \$200,000 to the Food Bank.

For more information on the Community Produce Program and a list of distribution sites, please visit <http://www.foodbankccs.org/get-help/community-produce-program.html>.

About John Muir Health

John Muir Health is a nationally recognized, not-for-profit health care organization east of San Francisco serving patients in Contra Costa, eastern Alameda, and southern Solano Counties. It includes a network of 950

primary care and specialty physicians, more than 6,000 employees, medical centers in Concord and Walnut Creek, including the county's only trauma center, and a Behavioral Health Center. The health system also offers a full-range of medical services, including primary care, outpatient and imaging services, and is widely recognized as a leader in many specialties – including neurosciences, orthopedic, cancer, cardiovascular, trauma, emergency and high-risk obstetrics care. For more information, visit johnmuirhealth.com.