



2022 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT SHARE THE ABUNDANCE

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CEO and Board Chairperson Message

Having been fortunate enough to have Food Forward included at the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health in fall 2022, it's inspiring to report the event galvanized people from all demographics, sectors, and geographies to elevate actions and innovations around food insecurity. Where the terms "produce prescriptions," "scaling," and "food is medicine" echoed from every corner of the conference center, it was gratifying to know that for our entire fourteen years we at Food Forward have been ahead of the curve.



We have always seen our food as medicine. Through the last three years of historic worldwide health and supply chain challenges, as the nation's largest independent urban and plant-based recovery nonprofit, Food Forward has already been scaling. Having recovered and distributed over 72 million pounds of A+ grade fresh produce last year alone, we can confidently say we are an efficient, proven solution to the dual problems of hunger and food waste.

Food Forward on an average day is now responsible for moving enough produce to satisfy the daily nutritional needs of over 220,000 people (up from 150,000 the year before). In 2022, these were people in Los Angeles, plus seven other urban and rural California counties, and six adjoining states and tribal lands. Our deepened impact has been the result of weaving a top-notch staff of veterans with folks totally new to the sector—all fiercely devoted to our mission. The collective result has been a brain trust and organizational muscle we've never had before.

As last year closed out and we moved on from the triage mode that led us to nearly triple our impact from pre-pandemic levels, we took the time and expense to make several deep dives into our mountain of historic data; solo and together with some outside assessments, including pro bono modeling done by McKinsey & Company, Inc. Looking under the hood, we learned things like:

- 1. For 2022's budget of \$5.2M—we produced nearly \$140M in social impact through our free produce.
- 2. Food Forward is not just "net zero," but our operations organization-wide are 215x carbon negative.
- 3. Even with the tens of millions of pounds of fresh produce we distribute to underserved areas across Los Angeles County, we have gaps in our service area, which we are committed to addressing as our supply of fresh produce grows.

Taking this and more into account, we ended 2022 with a newly minted three-year strategic plan we set out to grow deeper roots in 2023, while setting us up to support wider branches of expansion in 2024 and 2025.

Food Forward has emerged from the pandemic years more potent, nimble, and impactful, serving incredibly diverse communities experiencing food insecurity. We are also grateful for the thousands of supporters and volunteers who helped us hold nearly 2,000 gleaning events in 2022, such as the one who wrote us personally this summer:

"Last year I lost several family members...I cried so many mornings out in orchards with tangerines in my hands. I might be saving the fruit, but really, I think the fruit has saved me."

Food Forward. Moving produce from a place of abundance to a place of need. It is indeed a virtuous circle...

Rick Nahmias
Founder/CEO

Rob Valencia Board Chairperson





EQUITY AND INCLUSION

"This is the only place I have worked that makes an effort to include everyone despite their language. I've never had interpretation in any of my other jobs; they've just expected you to speak whatever everyone else speaks."

Vivian Poonsopin, Food Forward staff

Coming out of the emergency expansion in 2019, it was our responsibility to step into this new reality by looking inwards. With our team growing by 54% in 2022, we refreshed our core values to reflect this new phase for the organization, while investing in the staff and overall systems to support our team's tremendous work. This included facing the inflation crisis head on; implementing a cost of living increase for all staff in 2022 and supporting their diverse needs with professional development partnerships, bilingual services, and accessibility tools. We look forward to building on this effort on both the staff and board level. Some of our 2022 partners included the Center for Nonprofit Management, Jamii, HBCUConnect, and Trabajamos.

Our Core Values

Community Engagement

Working together, we inspire and are inspired by the people in the communities we serve.

Equity and Inclusion

We cultivate a diverse workforce that nurtures equity and inclusion.

Food Justice

We share the abundance of fresh produce and prevent food waste because everyone deserves access to fresh and nutritious food.

Integrity

We are honest, accountable, and authentic in our words and actions.

Joyfulness

We embrace a creative, spirited, and fulfilling environment.



THIS IS HOW WE DO IT

Food Forward recovers enough produce to feed 224,000 individuals their five daily servings of fruits and vegetables daily.







Food Forward prevents 215X more greenhouse gasses from entering the atmosphere than its operations emits



Large Agency



Multi-Agency Distributions



Produce vendors and distributors
Large scale packing houses and food growers
Los Angeles Wholesale Produce Market

Food Forward distributed:

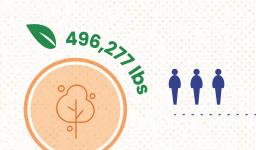
226 varieties of produce from wholesale donors





Small Agency









RECOVERY PROGRAM

14 local farmers markets

FARMERS MARKET

Produce from over

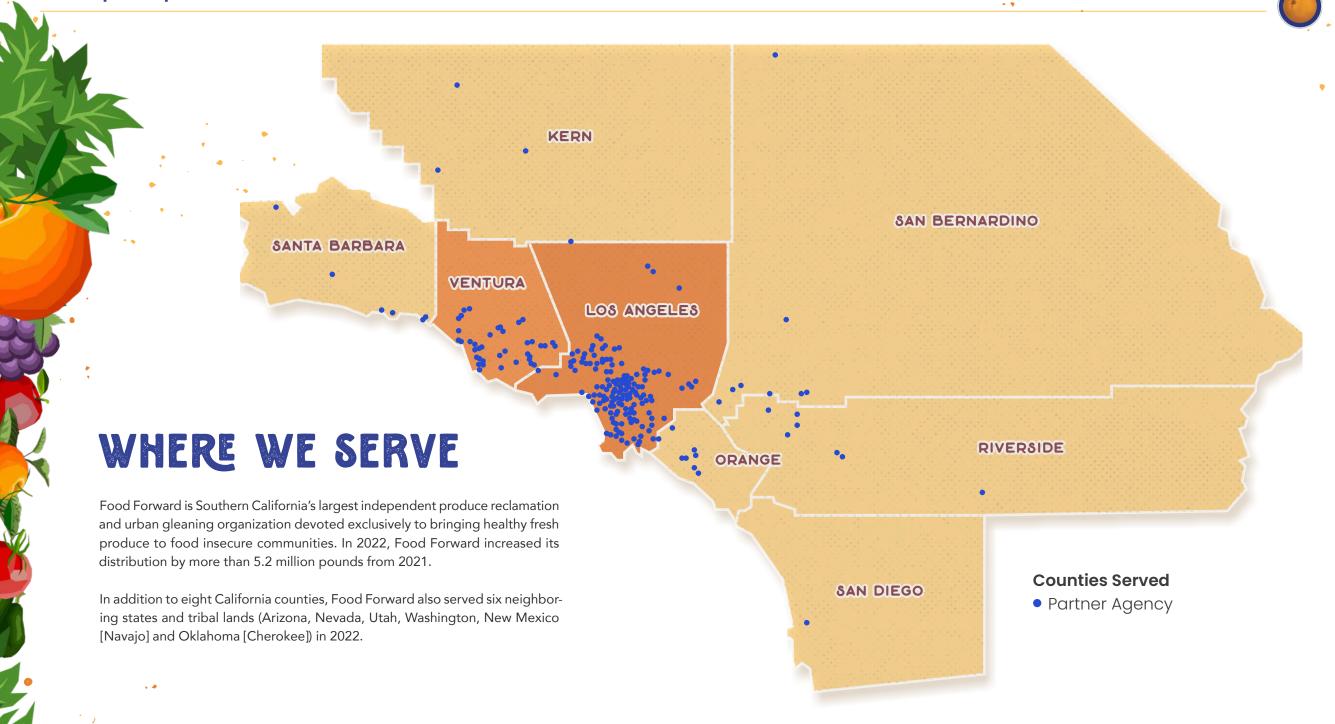
180 farmers market vendors

BACKYARD HARVEST PROGRAM

Orchards, farms, gardens, private properties in Los Angeles and Ventura counties

50 varieties of produce from backyards in Southern California







WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ...

The Hidden Franklin Canyon Orange Grove Moves Food Forward

LA Weekly

This Group Has Rerouted 250 Million Pounds of Food From Landfills to Feed People in Need

Civil Eats

Share the Abundance: One Organization's Solution to our Nation's Food Equity Problem

Edible LA

Food Forward: An Organization Where Every Voice Matters

The Paths Forward Podcast

"Food Forward" ofrece alimentos a comunidades de bajos recursos en el sur de California

Food Forward provides food to low-income communities in Southern California

NBC 4 - Telemundo 52

Awards and Brand Partners

Food Forward collaborates with a variety of like-minded brands to create partner-ships that raise awareness about our vital and sustainable work in the community. Some exciting projects to note include our longstanding and fruitful partnership with **Smog City Brewing Co.** on the release of their Kumquat Saison benefitting Food Forward. We're also a community partner of the newly formed National Women's Soccer League team, **Angel City Football Club**, and vitamin brand, **Ritual**. Many LA and Ventura-based companies continue to support Food Forward through beneficiary promotions including **Eataly LA**, **The Garland Hotel**, **Topa Topa Brewery**, **Angel City Brewery**, and more!





Legacy Program Champion

Project Innovation Program





Humanitarian Action & Services
(Silver)
Sustainability, Climate & Environment
(Gold)

Proud 1% for the Planet Environmental Partner since 2017



BACKYARD HARVEST PROGRAM

What began as a small group of volunteers in 2009 has now blossomed into a dedicated community of hundreds of volunteers.

Volunteer Leader who led 124 harvests in 2022

"I love seeing the whole process, from fruit pick to dropoff. It's such a great feeling picking the fruit, dropping it off at the hunger relief agency, and seeing how excited they are with every delivery and how fast they can give it away. It's backyard to table!"

Ceci Mak, Volunteer Pick Leader

676 fruit tree donors

"Food Forward is doing great work. The harvests at my parents' grapefruit tree grove are highlights in their year. Their grove was planted somewhere between 98 and 100 years ago, so to see how it continues to bear fruit to fight food insecurity a hundred years later has been inspirational."

Steve Ramseyer, Fruit tree donor

A record 1,217 volunteer events

"Our volunteers, fruit donors, and agency partners generously donate time and resources to make our Backyard Harvest program so fruitful. Each of these dedicated community members brings a piece of the puzzle to rescue fruit and share abundance with our neighbors."

Ally Gialketsis, Food Forward staff

Core Value:

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

FARMERS MARKET PROGRAM

Ten years since the program launched in 2012, a record 57 new Glean Team Leaders signed on in 2022 to lead 687 gleans of unsold fresh fruits and vegetables from Los Angeles and Ventura County markets.

2 million servings of fruits and vegetables recovered through gleaning

"Mar Vista Farmers Market is bursting with pride to have partnered with Food Forward since 2013. Ten years of awe inspiring results and profound impact in food recovery felt at the community level is a beautiful feat! This is connection and good work at its best."

Diana Rodgers, Executive Director, Mar Vista Certified Farmers Market

"I share abundance by sharing time. But it's a circular event in that the time spent planting, harvesting, and gleaning at Food Forward returns to me as an abundance of joy!"

Kathy Helms, Farmers Market Glean Team Leader

We are grateful for all of the Farmers Market vendors who donate produce. If you are at one of our markets look for our extraordinary volunteers gleaning.

Los Angeles County Markets:

Culver City Tuesday Farmers Market
Encino Sunday Farmers Market
Hollywood Sunday Farmers Market
Mar Vista Sunday Farmers Market
Melrose Place Sunday Farmers Market
Santa Monica Wednesday Farmers Market
Studio City Sunday Farmers Market
Thousand Oaks Thursday Farmers Market
Torrance Saturday Farmers Market
Torrance Tuesday Farmers Market

Ventura County Markets:

Channel Islands Harbor Sunday Farmers Market Downtown Oxnard Thursday Farmers Market Ventura Saturday Farmers Market (Downtown) Westlake Village Sunday Farmers Market







WHOLESALE RECOVERY PROGRAM

Food Forward launched its Wholesale Recovery Program in 2014 and the volume of recovered pallets and truckloads of produce surged with the opening of its Produce Pit Stop refrigerated warehouse in 2019. Food Forward now recovers from growers and distributors across the region.

Growing Capacity: Expansion at the Produce Pit Stop

226 different varieties of produce recovered in 2022

In 2022, the Wholesale Recovery Program invested in critical infrastructure and increased distributions to partner agencies by 7.62%. We added a second refrigerator at the Produce Pit Stop—this one 1,750 square feet, more than doubling our refrigeration capacity—as well as reconfiguring office space, adding safety improvements, and reforming workflows. While partners in Los Angeles County received the majority of the recovered produce, Food Forward was able to expand distributions for farmworker communities in Kern, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties. We also launched a partnership with Brighter Bites as their exclusive produce supplier of fresh fruits and vegetables for their nutrition education programs for students and families in 12 Los Angeles County schools.

"With limited government assistance many farmworker families have found themselves lacking nutritious food and other basic necessities. Food Forward has played a critical role in filling such gaps in keeping our communities whole and healthy. Working with Food Forward has been an honor and a pleasure."

Mily Treviño-Sauceda, Alianza Nacional de Campesinas

Core Value:

FOOD JUSTICE





MEETING PARTNER NEEDS

Agency Relations

Served 264 hunger relief partners across 313 sites

Food Forward's agency relations team ensures that distributions reach our valued network of hundreds of hunger relief organizations by maintaining collaborative relationships. In 2022, the team returned to in-person visits and more frequent outreach to learn more about our partners' programs and ensure Food Forward's produce donations meet the needs in their communities.

Produce Ambassadorship

In 2022, we expanded our outreach to position Food Forward as a sustainable solution in the produce industry to further our impact of feeding food insecure communities and mitigating food waste. With the assistance of our new produce ambassador, we joined the International Fresh Produce Association (IFPA) and began building more industry trade relationships at their annual conference in Orlando, Florida.

"We view Food Forward as so much more than simply a produce supplier; they are our strategic partners that help us move excess produce in our facility to food insecure families. They operate with integrity, intelligence, and compassion. We are proud to be aligned with them."

David Lake, President, 4Earth Farms

Core Value:

INTEGRITY

FINANCIALS

Every contribution to Food Forward results in multiple servings of fresh, healthy food distributed to people experiencing food insecurity. Food Forward's operation is extremely efficient: in 2022, it cost just \$.07 in operational costs to recover and distribute a pound of fruits and vegetables. With expenses of just \$5.2 million, Food Forward returned a social impact value of \$138,917,167 (in-kind produce) to communities across the region.

The following illustrates the sources of Food Forward's funding and expenses in 2022 by category, including in-kind (produce and services value) and cash donations. Food Forward is grateful to the thousands of people who supported our work in 2022.

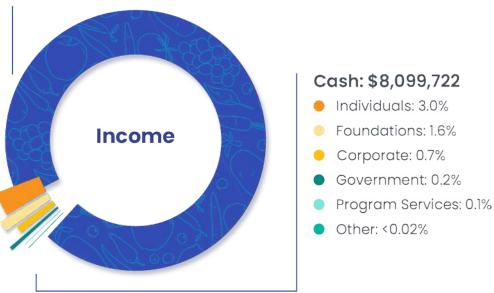
For more information, contact: **Jen Cox,** Chief Development Officer

jen@foodforward.org

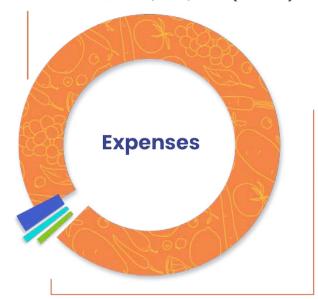
818-764-1022 ext. 110

To support Food Forward's mission with a financial contribution, visit: foodforward.org/give





• In-kind: \$138,988,662 (96.4%)



Cash: \$5,179,481

- Programs: 2.2%
- Management & Administration: 0.08%
- Fundraising: 0.06%

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Thank you for helping us move Food Forward.

Food Forward is grateful to all of the incredible people helping achieve our mission every day, including our volunteers, hunger relief partners, and produce donors. A special thanks to our financial supporters who power our operation.

\$1,000,000+

Diane and Dorothy Brooks Foundation Anonymous

\$400,000+

Anonymous

\$100,000+

Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) through California Climate Investments Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Third District The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation The Rose Hills Foundation

Rosenthal Family Foundation

The Smidt Foundation

\$50,000+

Accelerate Resilience LA (ARLA), a sponsored project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors The Philip and Muriel Berman Foundation

Butterfly Equity Foundation

Cotyledon Fund

Joan Egrie

Kaiser Foundation Hospitals

RELION Battery

Telemundo 52 and NBC4

Anonymous (3)

\$25,000+

Bank of America

Elizabeth Bixby Janeway Foundation John and Katherine Gurash Foundation

The Henkin Family

Sarah Ketterer Family Foundation

The Kroger Co. Zero Hunger Zero Waste Foundation

Venice Family Clinic

Ware Disposal, Inc.

Anonymous (4)

\$10,000+

Howard and Nikki Applebaum

Kim and Keith Allen-Niesen

Antelope Valley College

Angel City FC

Adams-Mastrovich Family Foundation

Albert and Elaine Borchard Foundation

Andy Bogen

Flora and Andrew Birdzell

The Louis L. Borick Foundation

Roger Brossy and Rona Elliot

Brighter Bites

Califia Farms

Clif Family Foundation

Carrie Estelle Doheny Foundation

Esther and Steve Feder

David Geffen Foundation

Ernest G. Herman Foundation

George Hoag Family Foundation

The Audrey and Sydney Irmas Charitable Foundation

JEC Foundation

Ron D. Kline Foundation

Shari Leinwand

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors First District

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Second District

Laemmle Charitable Foundation Northstar Sustainability Fund

Charles R. Pollock Fund of the California Community

Foundation

Plum Foundation

Roger and Deborah Riske

Reissa Foundation

George H. and Estelle M. Sands Foundation

The TJX Foundation

Universal Waste Systems, Inc.

WHH Foundation

Anonymous (2)

\$5,000+

Edna R.S. Alvarez

Ameriprise Financial, Inc.

American Business Bank

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Reverie Content, Inc.

Alan Sieroty

Smog City Brewing Co.

Rob and Kim Valencia

Donella Wilson

Anonymous (3)

\$2,500+

4Earth Farms

Maurice Amado Foundation

Athens Services

David and Jennifer Broering

Diane and Kendall Bishop

Laurie Benson Blasko*

Margaret and Danilo Bach*

Patience Browne

Betty Belts

Butterfly Equity

The Charitable Foundation - Berkshire Hathaway

HomeServices California Properties

Jason and Denise Crayne

Child Care Resource Center

Daphne Dennis and John Given

David Dassey

Richard Dachman

Quinn and Dana Emmett*

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GHJ Foundation

Paul Gordon Hoffman and Sue Caren Hoffman

J. Kleinberg Gift Fund at Schwab Charitable

Brian and Haley Lazarus

Mar Vista Farmers Market

The Miner Barber Fund of the Bank of America

Charitable Gift Fund

Maura Pally

Tina and John Quinn

Reiter Family Foundation

Republic Services, Inc.

SPRCHRGR

Paul Tordella

Tetra Tech

Cari Wolk and Richard Dane

Westmount Asset Management

Wachter Family Foundation

The Wolfpack Partnership Anonymous (3)

\$1,000+

Kelsey Allen-Niesen

Leslie Abbott

Mary Archibald

Sharareh Abedi Avocado Green Mattress

Aversa Foundation

Anne and Paul Burmeister*

Affile and Faul Dufflester

Allison and Christophe Bragard*

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Bad Robot Productions

The Claremont Colleges

The Conways, Studio City

Chae Pyken Family

Coldwell Banker Realty Community Foundation

Susan Drews Danning, Gill, Daden Family

Danning, Gill, Israel and Krasnoff, LLP

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Alison Faith

2022 Impact Report

* ... A

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Karyn Franzen

Mindy Freedman

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Topa Topa Brewing Company

Julie and John Verive*

Visit.org

Andrea Weiss and Jerry Whitman

Joanne and Eric Weidman

Jillian and Jonathan Wetzel Fund at Schwab Charitable

Whitehill Family Foundation

Anonymous (9)

\$500+

52andChange

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The Wonderful Company

Kathryn Yulish

Steven Youra and Amy Nettleton Betty and Sandra Zamorano-Pedregon

Diane and Michael Ziering

Anonymous (8)

*Acknowledges a monthly donor.

This list recognizes donors who gave \$500 or more from January 1 – December 31, 2022. Please contact our Development team at (818) 764-1022 ext. 111 or development@foodforward.org with any inaccuracies or omissions. We regret any errors.



WHO WE ARE

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Alejandro Calderon-Gamboa

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Caitlin English

Melina Finck

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Ally Gialketsis

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Mark Rhein, Secretary

Rob Valencia, Chair

Donella Wilson

Betty Zamorano-Pedregon

Pam Kaizer (honorary)

*Staff and Board of Directors list as of December 2022. Visit <u>foodforward.org/who-we-are</u> for the current team list.



Looking Ahead...

Food Forward's 2023-2025 Strategic Plan

We enter 2023 having reached an astounding level of impact: Food Forward has rescued more than 300 million pounds of fresh produce since its founding and distributed that abundance to hunger relief partners in Los Angeles and across the region. That's the equivalent of nearly 1.7 billion servings of fruits and vegetables—as well as the prevention of the emissions of 267,000 metric tons of CO2 equivalent that would contribute to climate change.

Our effective and efficient produce donation operation is helping people every day. At the same time, the growth of Food Forward's food recovery is illustrating how this intervention in the nation's food system can continue to be scaled to address health equity and nutrition, reduce climate impact, and rethink how we use good food that so often goes to waste.

The Food Forward Board of Directors approved a new Strategic Plan for 2023-2025 that sets an ambitious three-year goal: to recover and distribute 270 million pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables to hunger relief partners—nearly equal the volume accomplished in the first 14 years of the organization. This next phase will continue a trajectory of growth in impact as we increase the amount of food we recover, the communities we serve, and the efficiency of our operation.

Innovative and responsive action will address key objectives organized as pillars of the strategic plan: Fight Hunger, Prevent Food Waste, Inspire Others and Connect with Community, and Invest in the Future.

Join us in this mission to serve communities experiencing food insecurity and mitigating climate change and reduce food waste.

Make an impact:

Volunteer

foodforward.org/volunteer

Inspire Others

foodforward.org/inspire-others

Register Your Trees

foodforward.org/donate-food/fruit-tree-faq

Produce Industry

foodforward.org/produce-industry

Support food insecure communities and help meet our goal of 270 Million pounds

foodforward.org/give



ABOUT THE ART IN THIS REPORT

Food Forward was proud to partner with artist Brian Peterson whose humanitarian work captured the essence of Food Forward's fight for food justice through the installation of the 60 by 20 foot Share the Abundance™ mural at Food Forward's Produce Pit Stop, in Bell, California.

Behind the scenes: Meet the Artist Muralist at work

"As an artist, there are rare occasions when a project resonates deeply with both your passion and talent. This was precisely the case when I had the opportunity to collaborate with Food Forward. Throughout our initial meeting and the eventual installation of the mural, our discussions revolved around the significance of healthy food and its impact on the families they serve. During my time on-site painting, I was constantly surrounded by fresh produce and the dedicated staff and volunteers who were committed to both the success of the mural and the daily activities of Food Forward. As I added color and depth to the refrigerator mural wall, my connection to the organization's mission of improving the lives of families in the SoCal region grew stronger. On behalf of Brian Peterson Art, we are forever grateful to creatively visualize all that Food Forward has worked so hard to achieve."





How will you Share the Abundance™?

Volunteer

foodforward.org/volunteer

Inspire Others

foodforward.org/inspire-others

Register Your Trees

foodforward.org/donate-food/fruit-tree-faq

Produce Industry

foodforward.org/produce-industry

Support food insecure communities and reduce food waste

foodforward.org/give

For more information on financial contributions:

Jen Cox, Chief Development Officer jen@foodforward.org 818-764-1022 ext. 110

foodforward.org/give

For more information, visit







Proud 1% for the Planet Environmental Partner since 2017





U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Food Recovery Challenge Recipient 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020, 2021

Featured Artwork

Brian Peterson Art, Share the Abundance™ Mural, 2022
Spray paint on sheet metal 60′ by 20′
Installed by the artist on location at Food Forward's Produce Pit Stop in Bell, CA
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