

Donor Spotlight

THE SACRAMENTO BEE

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Established in 1857, The Sacramento Bee has a history of providing accurate and trusted information to the Sacramento region. Community continues to guide their principals, contributing to valuable and relevant news stories, dedicated readership and a passion for corporate philanthropy. Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services (SFBFS) is proud to partner with a corporation that embodies integrity and understands the importance of bringing people together through awareness and opportunity. Over the last 10 years, The Sacramento Bee has provided valuable outreach for our programs while contributing over \$100,000 through their foundation and giving programs to help sustain our community services.

There is something special and inspiring about bringing the community to our front door for people to share in the experience, which The Sacramento Bee does time and time again. The annual Sacramento Bee Book of Dreams program provides both an enriching and humbling opportunity for the community to pull together and make a difference in peoples' lives. Thanks to the many devoted and generous readers, this year's program was another amazing success. In total, \$203,989.72 was raised to fulfill 14 dreams, and provided grants of support to 30 non-profits and the people they serve.

"Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services provides a safe, and compassionate environment that treats people with dignity and respect. Through the programs and services they offer, not only are basic needs met, but people learn skills that will guide them to self-sufficiency. The Bee proudly supports the efforts of this organization, and we are thrilled that the stories told in The Sacramento Bee Book of Dreams connected so strongly with our readers. It's through their generosity that we were able to make dreams come true," Cathy Rodriguez, Public Affairs Manager at The Sacramento Bee.

As a partner organization, SFBFS is grateful for the overwhelming response our stories received. We are honored that you, the community, continue to believe in our organization and support our efforts to meet an increasing and ever-changing need. Overall, this year's program provided over \$12,500 to support SFBFS. More specifically, with the \$4,500 raised for our Mother-Baby program, we will be implementing a cloth diaper distribution and education component for our families, starting in March. Additionally, the \$3,000 raised for our Adult Education program has allowed us to start offering more specialized textbooks and tutoring for adults with learning disabilities and reading below a 4th grade level. Lastly, the \$5,000 raised to support our Food Assistance program will continue to provide healthy food staples for families needing a hand up during hard times.

Our organization would like to give a special thanks to The Sacramento Bee and our community for an incredible and outstanding effort, which made many dreams a heartfelt reality!



Photo: Autumn Cruz / acruz@sacbee.com

Alexis Perez, 16 months old, holds a teddy bear with a cloth diaper after a class at the Mother-Baby program. The program needs help making cloth diapers for families.



Photo: Autumn Cruz / acruz@sacbee.com

Melosha Fields practices her reading at SFBFS's Adult Education program. Fields, 18, came into the free tutoring program reading at a 9 year-old level. Fields says troubles at home kept her from learning at school, but now she wants to get her GED and one day own her own business.