

## Volunteer Spotlight Becky Starr - May 2011

During the Christmas season of 2009 a strong desire came over Becky Starr to help a family in need. She knew she wanted to give back somehow and immediately went on-line in search of volunteer opportunities. Having worked in the food industry for 30 years, Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services (SFBFS) seemed like an obvious fit.

However, after attending SFBFS' volunteer orientation, Becky realized she might fit better into the services offered in the Mother-Baby program. "I have a four year old granddaughter and a two year old grandson that live in Champaign, IL and I don't get to see them much," confesses Becky. "I liked the idea of working with women and children, so when the Volunteer Manager mentioned that there was a need in the program that was it."



"I love what we do here," reflects Becky. "It's so different from my day to day work and I really enjoy the change of pace." Becky is the Western Region Sales Manager for a prominent food ingredient company and travels about six months out of the year. "I make sure to schedule all my trips on Tuesday", she informs us so that she can volunteer on Monday evenings at the Saca Community Learning Center, SFBFS' facility in North Sacramento.

"I'm so impressed with the services this organization can offer the parents and children," she says with a smile on her face. "I remember how scary it is having babies and not knowing where I was going to get the next gallon of milk," Becky says as her tone becomes rather somber. "I love what we what we're doing here. The classes are great and I feel good at the end of the night" says Becky as an even bigger smile returns to her face.

"I also love working with the other volunteers and would absolutely recommend it to another person looking to get involved in our community. We could definitely use more help...Spanish-speakers a plus."

When Becky is not on the road with her company she provides bookkeeping services for her daughter's young adults apparel shop Cuffs located in midtown on J Street. Her experience at Cuffs has helped make Becky the perfect candidate for organizing, displaying and pricing of Mother-Baby's Baby-Buck Boutique, an incentive driven store that allows parents to shop using the Mother-Baby Bucks they earn by attending multiple workshops in the program.

Whether she is traveling, crunching numbers or organizing baby supplies, it is certain that Becky does it from the heart with a grace and compassion that comes from a dedicated volunteer. Hats off to you Becky Starr, we appreciate all that you do.