

Volunteer Spotlight - August 2009

Pat McManus

Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services (SFBFS) is fortunate to have many long term volunteers, helping the organization grow and develop. Their dedication and commitment to the mission of SFBFS is a true inspiration to fellow volunteers. Patricia McManus is one of these volunteers. Pat's relationship with SFBFS began in 1988. She and her husband George joined Immaculate Conception Catholic Church just around the time SFBFS founder Father Dan Madigan was expanding program delivery at SFBFS. Pat and George assisted in the Sunday Lunch program for several years. In the early years of SFBFS, Father Dan relied entirely on volunteers to support the mission of helping those in need in the Sacramento area, and volunteers like Pat and George stepped up to make it happen.



In 1994, George fell ill, and Pat's involvement with SFBFS lessened for some time. After his death, Pat slowly regained her involvement with her many charitable endeavors, including the Trad Jazz Society. Because of her good experiences with SFBFS, Pat started volunteering again in 2006. Since then, Pat has helped in whatever way she can. She has worked in the Mother-Baby program, done administrative work including data entry, letter-writing, phone calls and filing, as well as attends outreach fairs to represent SFBFS.

An accomplished typist, Pat is an immense help to Volunteer Services Manager Robin Simpson. "Pat is always asking what else she can do to help me out. She makes a tremendous impact in the amount of administrative tasks related to the volunteers. I love that I can hand her an assignment and she knows exactly what to do," says Robin. Most recently, Pat attended a volunteer recruitment event at CalPERS in downtown Sacramento and brought back a trunk load of donations with her. "Her love for SFBFS is obvious. She is a great representative of our organization at community events," adds Robin.

For Pat, service to her community is just a regular part of life. "It is important to me to give back something as a thank you for the blessings in my life. I return to Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services because the organization views the client as important and I know the client will receive all the help that they need," she says. When she's not volunteering at SFBFS, the Sacramento

Jazz Festival, Special Olympics or Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Pat plays pinochle, is an avid reader, traveler, and above all, Chicago Cubs fan