

Case Study:

Potter's House Church

Sacramento



2994 Del Paso Blvd., Sacramento,
CA 95834

Serves 5,000+ individuals served
monthly

Distribution Schedule: Thursdays
10:30am-12:30pm

Program Highlights

Over the course of the grant program Potter's House Church was able to use their funding to improve their operations, increasing the number of individuals served monthly from 3,111 to 5,000+. Through their funding they were able to recruit volunteers, purchase storage containers, shelving, a pallet jack, scale, ramps, and implemented security measures. Furthermore, Potter's House Church was able to provide adequate food handling certification to its volunteers to ensure food safety measures are always being followed.



Photo of shirts bought with grant funding to identify volunteers.

Overview

The food distribution at Potter's House Church is a long-standing staple for food access in the Del Paso Heights community. At the same site for over 20 years Potter's House Church has distributed groceries as an attempt to ensure no one in the community goes hungry. Potter's House Church provides nutritious food, fresh produce, and staple groceries to individuals and families. Volunteers work tirelessly to organize, pack, and distribute the food while creating a welcoming and supportive environment for all who attend.

Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: Neighbors were upset about cars blocking driveways during distribution hours

Solution: They now place cones around the driveways, though having more volunteers to direct traffic would help.

Challenge: Citation from city as someone complained that they are storing "junk" and "debris"

Solution: Stated case to City that food must be stored in pallets as it can not touch the ground and space limitations prevent them to put inside of the 20' container

Challenge: 7 passenger van has limited space, so they are wasting resources making multiple trips to pick up food

Solution: Looking into purchasing and/or accessing a box truck

Needs & Recommendations

In the future Potter's House Church will be applying for other community grants to sustain and expand their programs. Additionally, Potter's House Church will also be looking into other opportunities such as repurposing food and gardening. They have also increased communication with the community and now provide resource information to clients on other wraparound services in the community.



Photo of Thursday morning distribution

Food Recovered and Data Tracking

	POUNDS RECOVERED	DONORS ADDED	POUNDS MEALS DISTRIBUTED	FOOD WASTE
MONTH 1	46,974	3,111	46,790	184
MONTH 2	50,830	5,421	50,214	616
MONTH 3	53,767	5,127	53,459	308
MONTH 4	50,723	4,747	50,491	232
MONTH 5	39,120	5,385	38,986	134
MONTH 6	42,015	5,892	41,956	59
TOTALS	283,419		281,896	1,533

The above numbers represent the amount of food Potter's House was able to recover and distribute over the course of the grant period. It has been noted that the fluctuation in numbers is attributed to turnover and inadequate training of grocery store volunteers.

