



Food for People, Inc.
The Food Bank for Humboldt County
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Press Release – for Immediate Release

Contact: Anne Holcomb, Food for People (707) 445-3166 ext. 302

Re: Humboldt Food Bank sending staff, van, and food to Santa Rosa Food Bank to help with Fire Relief.

EUREKA—Food for People, the food bank for Humboldt County, is sending staff and a cargo van to assist its partner food bank in Santa Rosa, Redwood Empire Food Bank (REFB). The REFB staff has been working around the clock to respond to food needs in Santa Rosa, including providing critical food to shelters throughout Sonoma County for evacuees displaced by the fires. They also want to ensure that those who needed food assistance before the fires are still able to access their help.

As Food for People executive director Anne Holcomb stated, “This is about partnership. Many of our colleagues are impacted right now, and we want to do everything we can to support them, because we know they would do the same for us.” Several of the REFB’s staff and their families have either already evacuated or are in the process of evacuating their homes due to the active nature of this extreme fire event. Food for People’s Mobile Produce Pantry Coordinator Mike Seeber is headed south to Santa Rosa to offer relief to the REFB’s warehouse staff, driving a Food for People cargo van full of food donated by Eureka Grocery Outlet. The REFB is in dire need of financial donations, volunteers and ready-to-eat, non-perishable foods that can be provided to evacuation centers immediately, many of which do not have kitchens for preparing meals. Up to date information about current needs can be found on their website at www.refb.org. Food for People is grateful to the Eureka Grocery Outlet for helping to fill the van with chicken noodle soup for our neighbors to the south.

In addition to helping out a fellow Food Bank in need Seeber will bring back important knowledge and experience to help Food for People further develop its own Emergency Food & Disaster Response Plan for Humboldt County. Should a major disaster strike and resources become scarce, Food for People will play a major role as part of the first line of community food relief before outside relief organizations will be able to reach our rural area. In some scenarios this could take weeks. Food for People would work with its network of 17 food pantries and partner organizations to distribute food throughout the county to those experiencing hardship.

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Food for People is the official food bank for Humboldt County and last year distributed more than 2 million pounds of food to our county’s most vulnerable members. Food for People’s network of 18 programs includes emergency food pantries across the county, food distribution programs for children and seniors, nutrition education and outreach activities, food drives, local store recovery, and gleaning efforts, as well as many partnerships throughout the community. For more information, visit www.foodforpeople.org.



Food for People staff member Mike Seeber prepares to drive off for Redwood Empire Food Bank in Santa Rosa, to help relieve warehouse staff during disaster response.



Food for People staff member Mike, and Eureka Grocery Outlet staff member Chris, load items donated by Eureka Grocery Outlet for those affected by the fires in the Sonoma area. Eureka Grocery Outlet donated enough chicken noodle soup to help fill the van headed south.