



Loaves and Fishes
OF CONTRA COSTA
Nourishing Lives Campaign



Our Community
Our Kitchen
Our Future

Quarterly Newsletter

TOTAL RAISED: **\$3M**



GOAL: **\$4.5M**

Leadership Update from Janette and Joleen

We're thrilled to announce that thanks to our generous community, we recently hit the \$3M mark! We are filled with gratitude for the generosity the community has shown so far. We appreciate every gift that got us to this campaign milestone including recent donations from: **Kiwanis Club of Martinez, Mark Gundacker and Suzy Pak, and Eran and Rupert** (see their story below). We have about \$1 Million to go before we open up the campaign to the public. Until then, we are still continuing to focus on major and leadership gifts.



Janette Kennedy, Co-ED
Development & External Relations



Joleen Lafayette, Co-ED
Operations

Our New Central Kitchen Is Taking Shape!

We're excited to share that the Nourishing Lives Campaign continues to move forward as we await final plan approval from the City of Antioch. The project remains on schedule, and we've recently secured signed contracts with PG&E for the necessary electrical and gas line upgrades.

Once the plans are released, the next phase will include foundation and under-slab plumbing inspections. After approvals, we'll pour the foundation and begin structural framing. Watching the building begin to take shape will be a major milestone and an exciting step closer to bringing this vision to life.



Upcoming Events - Join Us!

January 27, 2027 at 9:00am

Save the date: Wednesday, January 27 from 9:00-9:30am, we're hosting **"What's Cooking at LFCC,"** our inaugural bi-annual state of the agency conversation, held live over Zoom. Join us for a brief look at the impact you've helped make possible over the past six months, an update on our Nourishing Lives Campaign to build LFCC's new central kitchen, and a story about someone whose life has been changed by our culinary workforce development program. We'll leave time for your questions too.

STATE OF AGENCY MEETING
WHAT'S COOKING AT LFCC
Wednesday, January 27, 2027

SAVE THE DATE



Donor Spotlight

LFCC holds a special place in the hearts of Eran and Rupert. Eran is one of our dedicated weekly volunteers at the Martinez Dining Room. Whether she is chopping vegetables, serving meals, or stocking the pantry, she approaches every task with enthusiasm and a strong commitment to helping others.

The family's connection to LFCC actually began decades ago with Rupert, one of our earliest volunteers, long before a central kitchen existed to support five dining rooms. After his mother passed away in 1989, Rupert chose to honor her memory by continuing the work she cared deeply about:

preparing meals for people in need. Despite a demanding and stressful career, he took Wednesdays off for years (using vacation time) so he could volunteer at Loaves and Fishes. Giving back provided a sense of purpose and balance that stayed with him throughout his life.

Eran and Rupert have generously supported the Nourishing Lives Campaign because they understand how vital this project is to the people we serve.

"We appreciate that Loaves and Fishes is a local organization that operates efficiently and delivers meaningful results. We know our gift will make a lasting impact in our community."

Stay Connected

For those who have already contributed, thank you for your leadership and partnership. Stay connected by reaching out to [Janette Kennedy](#) or [Joleen Lafayette](#) to:



**Tour the new central kitchen
site to witness the progress
firsthand**



**Volunteer in one of our five
dining rooms**



Make a gift/additional gift



**Connect with peers who share
an interest in long-term,
scalable solutions for food
insecurity**



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