FROM THE FOUNDER

Rolling Up Our Sleeves

Who could have foreseen? 28 years ago, what started as a school project with the delivery of just over 2000 holiday gifts would expand into over 1.2 million joyful moments. Or that a first-time donation of 25 backpacks in 1995 has since provided over 325,000 backpacks filled with school supplies to support the futures of deserving students.

I certainly did not.

Overwhelmed by the generous outpouring of support by our partners, drive leaders, donors and volunteers, and the tireless efforts of Family Giving Tree staff year after year, I am truly humbled. But for all the great numbers and annual success, I am equally humbled by the ever-growing need of so many hundreds of thousands of families who live with us here in the Bay Area.

Always wanting to help the most we can, in 2017 Family Giving Tree decided to stretch—really reach—to achieve our largest goals ever and I’m happy to share that we had a record breaking year - reaching more than 80,000 children, adults and seniors from low-income families with a holiday gift and more than 40,000 students with a STEAM-inspired, school supply-filled backpack.

Making this good news even more rewarding is that we did so while significantly reversing the loss that we experienced the year prior and returned to a nearly balanced budget. Through prudent fiscal management, FGT has maintained a substantial cash reserve and in our financial determination to make do with what we have, we
chose not to dip into reserves moving forward but rather adjust our future plans. For the 2018-2019 year FGT will continue to reduce our spending (potentially reducing gift and backpack distribution) while continuing to pursue improvements by further honing our community engagement and outreach and refining our distribution system to better target our recipients and reach more deeply into those schools and agencies where the need is greatest. Our goal is to bring joy and learning to those whose chances of attaining it on their own are the lowest.

As the need grows, so too does our commitment to be more efficient, technologically savvy and nimble to maximize our overall impact and reach deeper into our communities; to further leverage the support we are so generously given by drive leaders, partners, donors and volunteers; to roll up our sleeves and do the work that needs to be done; to help those who can’t help themselves. To all this we ask...

Won’t you join us?

Jennifer
CEO
At Family Giving Tree, the start of school represents another opportunity to help students around the Bay Area. Through its annual Back-to-School Drive, FGT has been on the front lines these past 23 years working to address the effect of poverty on the educational preparedness of students from low-income families. Those in need faced even greater challenges this year as the cost to live here rose dramatically, but the community again showed its giving heart by responding even more generously and together we were able to spread the joy of learning.

With the help of nearly 500 drive leaders, multiple sponsors and partners, over 1,000 volunteers and a small, but dedicated staff, we were again able to exceed our goal and reach another giving milestone — in 2017, 40,000 backpacks were distributed through 325 Bay Area schools. Targeting those schools with high percentages of students who qualified for the Federal free and reduced lunch program, we were able to assure that these thousands of backpacks—filled with the supplies that teachers and educators advised us were the most useful — would make it into the hands of children who needed them the most. Because of the generosity of so many we were able to alleviate the clutches of poverty in some small, yet personal way in the life of a child. We were able to deliver hope for the future, show them that kindness exists in their community and that one backpack has the potential for infinite possibilities.

Back-To-School Drive
Blessed to have been ‘loaned’ the same Sunnyvale warehouse occupied last year, the 2017 Holiday Wish Drive got off to a quick start. Over the course of the 4 weeks that Family Giving Tree was in residence, the once huge, silent and vacant spaces were filled with decorated holiday trees and lights, classic holiday music and good cheer. They rang with the joyful chatter and conversations of over 8000 volunteers and Angel Elves who helped transform the monochrome warehouse into a rainbow of color as over 80,000 gifts of all shapes and sizes were sorted, wrapped, rowed and bagged.

Even days of rain could not dampen the festive vibe as over 1,100 Drive Leaders arrived happily bearing gifts and 400-plus agencies carried them away to gleefully share them with their expectant recipients. There’s no getting around it, the spirit of the holidays rings loud and clear at any Holiday Wish Drive warehouse and with a new record number of gifts so generously given by Bay Area companies and individuals, 2017 rang out even louder. It was truly a joyful season for those who could not afford to give the gift of joy on their own.
### Financial Snapshot

#### 2017–18 Activities

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>4,841,961</td>
<td>6,367,561</td>
<td>5,985,531</td>
<td>5,655,440</td>
<td>6,332,437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expense</td>
<td>4,803,650</td>
<td>6,227,559</td>
<td>5,782,492</td>
<td>5,880,550</td>
<td>6,350,466</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants Expense</td>
<td>2,803,047</td>
<td>4,056,821</td>
<td>3,337,963</td>
<td>3,532,358</td>
<td>3,878,796</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants Exp % to Total Exp</td>
<td>58.4%</td>
<td>65.1%</td>
<td>57.7%</td>
<td>60.1%</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purchased</td>
<td>408,842</td>
<td>569,361</td>
<td>659,163</td>
<td>667,350</td>
<td>635,962</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purchased percentage</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Granted Units</td>
<td>95,084</td>
<td>104,866</td>
<td>109,461</td>
<td>115,536</td>
<td>120,869</td>
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<tr>
<td>Growth Rate - Granted Units</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
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#### Revenue

Cash Contributions
- Individual: 1,354,270
- Corporate: 882,360
- Foundation Grants: 385,961
- Other: 16,556

Subtotal Cash: 2,639,147

Donated Gifts & Backpacks: 3,326,365

Donated Facilities: 366,925

Total Revenue: 6,332,437

#### Income

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<tr>
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<th>5.8%</th>
<th>21.4%</th>
<th>13.9%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donated Facilities &amp; Services</td>
<td></td>
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#### Expenses

Program Expenses: 5,457,863

Management & General: 599,121

Fundraising: 293,482

Total Expenses: 6,350,466
FAMILY GIVING TREE
BY THE NUMBERS

86% OF FGT DOLLARS GO TO PROGRAM EXPENSES

AVERAGE PERCENTAGE OF FREE/REDUCED LUNCHES IN SCHOOLS FGT SERVES
>80%

ESTIMATED VALUE OF ALL DONATED BACKPACKS AND GIFTS IN FY 2018
$3,879,000

LIFETIME BACKPACKS
281,546

LIFETIME HOLIDAY GIFTS
1,200,362

2017-18 WAREHOUSE VOLUNTEER HOURS
11,374

TOTAL WAREHOUSE SPACE FY2018 DRIVES
160,000+
SQUARE FEET
OUR MISSION

The Family Giving Tree fulfills the exact holiday wish and provides backpacks filled with school supplies to those children in the most need in our communities while inspiring the values of kindness, philanthropy and volunteerism.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Jennifer Cullenbine
CEO and Founder

Jeanne Clabaugh
Relationship Director

Al Galan
Operations Director

Jess Gutierrez
Chief Financial Officer

Charlotte Wood
Director of Marketing

Jake Manaloor
Director of Development

Design donated by Alexander Atkins Design, Inc.