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With this new decade the West Sacramento Chamber of Commerce celebrates its seventy third year. The business leaders that became the West Sacramento Chamber of Commerce have been championing business, and the region now known as West Sacramento, since the first visionary began to fill in the lowlands and develop a community here at the confluence of the American and Sacramento rivers.

More than seven decades later the Chamber continues to champion business. Our advocacy efforts create a platform for members to interact with elected officials and City staff in order to vet proposed local and state policies, ordinances, and fees that impact businesses. The West Sacramento Chamber also smooths the path through City processes for new, expanding, and existing businesses in West Sacramento.

And of course, the Chamber creates a variety of comfortable opportunities for our members to engage with... and learn from... other business leaders. Our 420 members belong to this Chamber in part because of the collaborative nature of the organization. The members of the Chamber invest in West Sacramento and in each other. We bring businesses together, educate and support businesses, and advocate for a business-friendly environment in order to create a competitive advantage for our members.

After seventy-three years, long term business success still leads to community success. **Join us!**
“Why We Live Here”

Lend a helping hand.

We take this concept very seriously in West Sacramento. So often folks move here and find their forever-home, and a desire to reach out into the community and make it better by lifting up and helping those who need it most. It's so easy to do in West Sac. Read on to meet a few people who came here to looking for a place to put down roots, but found so much more.
“Community is hugely important to me,” said Leah Miller, an 11-year West Sacramento resident. “When my husband and I were looking for a place to put down roots and raise children, we weren’t just looking for a house. We wanted a place where kids play together and go to the same school – a place filled with people you can depend on. We found that in West Sac.”

Leah and her husband Ryan have two children, Mackenna and Mason, and two dogs. “When the kids were toddlers, all they were able to do at the neighborhood park was slither down a pole on the play structure; it wasn’t really much fun,” she said. Leah joined with other parents to create Bridgeway Play, which partnered with the City’s Parks Department to build a play structure at Bridgeway Lakes Park. After reaching their goal, the group morphed into West Sacramento Play. “It brings people together from all over West Sacramento to improve playgrounds in the parks citywide,” she said. “The more we get out and build relationships and friendships, the stronger a community becomes.”

Leah’s strong belief in community extends to her job as President and CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento. “I have the privilege of going to work every day with the community. Everything we do—every house we build, every house we repair—is done with thousands of people and businesses that live and work in our region.”

Sacramento’s Habitat has built more than 150 homes in Sacramento and Yolo Counties. Habitat homes are available to low-income families that can qualify for a zero-interest equivalent...
mortgage. The families must invest 500 hours of sweat equity in construction and upon completion, they purchase the home and make an affordable monthly mortgage payment that includes principle, property taxes, and insurance. “The process to qualify is more in-depth than getting a traditional mortgage,” she said. “The homeowners become partners with Habitat in breaking the cycle of poverty for themselves and others.”

Habitat also repairs existing homes. “We need additional affordable housing, but we must preserve the affordable housing we already have,” she said. “Habitat has repaired several Broderick area homes to address maintenance issues and code violations. We don’t need one more person becoming homeless because they couldn’t afford repairs. And this is particularly important for our seniors and veterans.”

Habitat for Humanity relies on volunteer labor to build houses and perform repairs. “Most our homes are built with 90% volunteer labor; some people are skilled in building trades and other people learn to swing a hammer and work a drill,” she stated. “It’s amazing to see people from every walk of life come together to create a home for a person whom they don’t know. Volunteers have the common experience of helping someone never worry about where they are going to live next.”

“How Habitat builds hope, homes, and community for the Habitat partners, but I see how it builds relationships among the volunteers,” she said. “As we come together and get to know each other, we build trust and understanding. Community extends farther than the street you live on. It’s a diversity of people who invest their time, talents and resources to build a better place to live.”

**How to Get Involved**

Visit [HabitatGreaterSac.org](http://HabitatGreaterSac.org) to volunteer, donate, or apply for home ownership or repairs. Shop at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore “where Goodwill meets Home Depot” and donate your gently used building supplies.
Kat Gallagher, partner at Gallagher Jones LLP, an estate planning and business firm in Southport, works to protect her clients’ hard-earned assets. In her spare time, she gives even more to foster youth in our community. Noticing a gap in the system, Kat and a close friend, Amy Busch, set out to help adolescents who enter the foster care system with nothing except the clothes on their backs and a few possessions. Kat established the non-profit Caring For Yolo’s Youth, or C4YY as she calls it, in 2018.

“We want to shed light on what can be the darkest and most confusing time for those thrown into the system,” she said. “C4YY’s mission is to inspire the at-risk and foster youth of Yolo County to imagine a bright future, and connect them with that future.”

Her inspiration came from watching the news. “I heard about kids who are being put into the child protective services and being given trash bags for their belongings,” she explained. “I can empathize; it’s the worst moment of your life and you’re associating it with trash.” Kat further explained that addiction and mental health can stem from childhood trauma.

“I don’t have kids of my own, and so that was one of the big things for me… I feel responsibility for all kids… as many as we can reach,” she said with tears gathering in her eyes.

Kat used her talent for persuasion, contagious smile, and strong passion to build a board of directors of five Yolo County professionals. Gallagher Jones executive assistant Priscilla Castro is the Secretary on the Board.

“C4YY partnered with CPS to be notified when Yolo County’s Child Protective Services is going to remove a child from a home. We provide CPS with new duffel bags and bins so that the youth can pack their belongings in new containers to take it with them,” Priscilla explained.

The bins give the youth something that is theirs; a safe place for all their belongings that helps with the transition between CPS and foster care, which often involves multiple location changes. “It can be very traumatizing and confusing for them,” Priscilla said.

C4YY’s board also puts together care packages that contain flip flops, a t-shirt, and a pair of athletic shorts to sleep in. “Donors often provide diapers and toys for younger ones,” Kat said, “so we mostly provide for adolescents and older youth.” She noted that many of the young women are transitioned from their homes to foster care without feminine hygiene products and other basic items.

The non-profit is still in its beginning stages and C4YY works with other local organizations like, Yolo County Children’s Alliance and Hope’s Anchor, to provide a broad reach of services to those living in Yolo County. Kat stated, “We’re helping those who can’t help themselves…planting a seed of positivity.”

For more information and how to get involved, visit their Facebook page or website: Facebook.com/Caring4YY CaringForYolosYouth.org

By providing some simple comforts of home, local attorney Kat Gallagher is working hard to help a group that is often overlooked – kids, especially teens, who are suddenly thrown into the foster care system.
“Everything is a team effort and collaboration,” says Steve Ramirez-Palmer. Steve is the St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) furniture coordinator between West Sacramento’s Holy Cross (north side of town) and Our Lady of Grace (on Jefferson and Park Boulevard). It’s his job to align needs with resources throughout West Sacramento. After a personal visit, the team identifies what the family or individual requires and then works to fill the needs — everything from dressers, beds, and dishes, to help with electric bills.

Holy Cross has a relatively large SVDP Center within it, which provides food to about 400 families a month (on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday), as well as their “Clothes Closet” event on Wednesdays. Our Lady of Grace Church has a small food locker, as well as four “home visit” on-call teams, who do assessments and find solutions to a wide range of needs.

Steve is also a West Sacramento resident. Although he lives in Southport now, he quickly points out that he’s lived in the north part of town as well. Steve came to West Sacramento as a Pastoral Associate at Holy Cross Church, and now does Youth and Young Adult Ministry, as well as doing the coordinator work.

The two West Sacramento churches belong to the Mercy Coalition, a regional base of community support. Steve says the success of their efforts are based on collaboration with local law enforcement, first responders, agencies, and additional non-profits from around the region.

The International Society of St. Vincent de Paul was founded in 1833, when Frederic Ozanam (a young Paris law student) and a group of fellow students brought firewood and companionship to the poor, after being challenged to “practice what they preached.” From that simple act of kindness, grew a global organization.

The first U.S. conference was founded in St. Louis, Missouri (1845), and the Sacramento Diocese was incorporated in 1955. 2019-2020 marks the 65th anniversary in Sacramento, and 175 years in the United States! On average, the Sacramento Diocesan Council helps more than 225,000 people annually, with the goal to help meet basic needs, build self-sufficiency, and ultimately break the cycle of poverty.

Keeping in the spirit that inspired young Frederic and his friends to provide firewood centuries ago, SVDP offers home-visits. SVDP believes that supporting people, while they’re on their own turf, can foster relationships, trust, and companionship.

Their Exodus Project offers spiritually-based mentoring for men and women of all faiths during the tenuous transition from incarceration back into the community. Beginning in the last months of incarceration, mentoring continues for six months post-release. The project aims to be a bridge of support and compassion.

If you are interested in St. Vincent de Paul’s services, or would like to help support their work, please call:

Holy Cross: (916) 373-3318
Our Lady of Grace: (916) 371-4814
YOLO FOOD BANK is focused on elevating quality of life by reducing poverty and food insecurity for residents of West Sacramento, and throughout Yolo County. We join with the business community to ensure availability of both the food and funds needed to meet the critical needs of working families, students, seniors, veterans, and the homeless.

Read about Yolo Food Bank’s partnership with West Sacramento campus of Sacramento City College on page 17.

200+ food donors

90,000 to 150,000
Average pounds per month Yolo Food Bank projects will be collected just from the four newest West Sacramento food donors

516,732
Average pounds per month Yolo Food Bank currently receives from ALL food donors

$868,985
Monthly dollar value of all food recovered by Yolo Food Bank

$160,000-$300,000
Monthly projected dollar value of the food collected from the four newest West Sacramento food donors

72
nonprofits working with Yolo Food Bank to distribute food county-wide

6M lbs
amount of food recovered and distributed

Projected # of people who will be served by the food collected from the four newest West Sacramento food donors: 1,000, as well as increased food access for the 23,000 individuals per month currently served

233 Harter Avenue, Woodland, CA 95776
(530) 668-0690 | YoloFoodBank.org
West Sacramento businesses give back to the community. From donating to fundraisers to volunteering time, many of our businesses improve the community. The following pages tell just a few stories about companies and volunteers that make lifting people up part of their core philosophy.

Read on and be inspired!

“Why We Work Here”
“This was supposed to be my in-between job,” said David Bourassa. “I planned to work as IKEA’s living room manager—we called them shopkeepers—after leaving my job at a local furniture gallery and before my goal of becoming a manufacturer’s rep.”

On his first day on the job, David learned about founder Ingvar Kamprad’s vision: To Create A Better Everyday Life For The Many People. “Within days, I saw that it wasn’t a mission statement, it was a culture and a set of genuine values that extends outside the big blue box and into the neighborhoods where our customers and co-workers live. That changed everything for me. I’ve been here for 12 years now and I plan to spend my entire career with IKEA.”

One example of how IKEA practices these values is by helping local shelters. “We donated furniture to Saint John’s Program for Real Change for their community library. We also worked with our local police departments to furnish apartments for families that are moving from the street to permanent housing.” IKEA donated beds to West Sacramento’s Bridge to Housing pilot program and to more than 500 local refugee families starting new lives in America during a national campaign called 5,000 Dreams.

In addition to helping local organizations, IKEA participates in the global INGKA Stichting and IKEA Foundation’s goals to address children’s education and climate change in developing countries. “West Sacramento IKEA contributed to the $150 million the IKEA Foundation received in 2018 to support its partners worldwide,” he said.

At times the local and global efforts come together. David explained, “We love to get our customers involved in these efforts. We encourage them to buy a toy during our Let’s Play soft toy event that benefits UNICEF and Save the Children. The customer can take the toy home or drop it in a donation bin that supports local needs in the community, like children at UC Davis Medical Center.”

Another way IKEA shows local support was to host a Teacher Appreciation Day event. “We had activities to show teachers how much we appreciate them throughout the day that included

For David Bourassa, the best perk of working at IKEA isn’t the employee discount. It’s knowing that he works for a company whose core values are based on helping the community, providing for those in need, and giving on a global scale.
give-a-ways and raffles. A teacher who was sharing one of her student’s small desks won the desk. She was beyond excited and it was a very special day for all of us involved.” “Giving back to the community in big and small ways helps our store be a great place to work and be a good neighbor by giving back to the community that has supported us for so many years.” David says.

In his position as Loyalty Manager, David has two tasks he’s passionate about. “One part of my job is to communicate our vision of ‘many people’ to all employees and help them find ways to make that mission their own.” He pointed to the many volunteer opportunities he has planned for the IKEA team, from food distribution to adopting families. “Families ask for bedding and furniture, and for simple things like socks and beef jerky. It really humbles you.”

The second task is to have IKEA co-workers, customers and community members love and be inspired by IKEA as much as he is. “It’s really impactful to work for a company that thinks their own thoughts, does the right thing and is driven by helping people in all parts of the world. It gives me a lot of pride to work here. As Ingvar would say ‘Most things remain undone. A glorious future!’”
“Who doesn’t love slime?” Lynnae Landberg asked. “It’s really fun and you can make it with basic household ingredients. I also like Alka-Seltzer rockets, which makes a canister pop. The kids love anticipating the surprise of the chemical reaction.”

Lynnae volunteers for Bayer Crop Science’s Making Science Make Sense program. “It’s a company-wide initiative to bring hands-on STEM education to students and teachers to advance science literacy,” she explained. “Each office implements the program at a local level and I’m part of the core team in West Sacramento.”

STEM—science, technology, engineering, and math—is the foundation of Bayer Crop Science. “At the West Sacramento site, we research and develop biological crop protection products,” Lynnae said. “We have chemists, plant pathologists, entomologists, microbiologists, formulation scientists, fermentation scientists, and data scientists…to name a few.”

Lynnae falls into the last group. “I’m a business analyst on the data engineering team,” she said. “I started working with field trial data and now I work in the Computational Life Sciences department. We collaborate with other scientists and work closely with the data to advance R&D projects – projects that hopefully become products a farmer can use.”

Making Science Make Sense is an opportunity for Lynnae to merge her love of science and interest in teaching. “My dad was an instructor, and is now a college dean. I was always interested in science but didn’t have much opportunity for hands-on as I was a kid. I joined MSMS almost as soon as I learned about this program.”
Lynnae loves being in the classroom. “Last month we went to a Stonegate Elementary School first-grade class and they were so excited about the experiments. Little ones are good listeners, too, and they remember what they learned. And I love getting thank-you cards that say they had fun and want to be a scientist when they grow up.”

In all, about 45 people in West Sacramento volunteer for MSMS. Some, like Lynnae, love the classroom and others focus on the annual teacher workshop. “We bring in as many teachers as we can handle on a Saturday in the summer. They can learn about a set of experiments they can do in the classroom. They leave with supplies for 30 students to do at least one experiment. The other experiments use affordable, common items or supplies the teachers often have.”

At the most-recent workshop, Powerhouse Science Center partnered with Bayer by hosting one of the main experiments. “We got very positive feedback from the teachers and volunteers,” Lynnae said. “We are definitely open to more collaborations like this in the future!”

MSMS volunteers also participate in “a handful of Science Nights, the Sacramento Regional STEM Fair, and the Expanding Your Horizons conference at Sac State that is targeted at middle-school girls.”

For Lynnae, it’s all about the little ones. “I love the interaction with kids and seeing their faces light up when they learn about a new science concept for the first time. I’m for everything that sparks an interest in STEM!”

Contact the West Sacramento Making Science Make Sense program at MSMSWestSac@Bayer.com to learn how your classroom or teacher can participate.
The Yolo County Conflict Resolution Center is an affordable community-based center that works to deliver mediation, facilitation, education, and restorative justice services to help people resolve conflicts. We spoke to Executive Director Kara Hunter to learn more.

**What is Restorative Justice?**

Generally our country’s judicial system is based on punishment; we sentence offenders to lengths of incarceration as a means of making amends. Restorative Justice is premised on the belief that simply locking offenders away removes them from having to take further responsibility for their actions, and reduces support for behavioral change. The national restorative justice movement is focused on tools and processes that hold offenders accountable, demonstrating accountability through action.

Additionally, it is estimated that over 50% of all crimes are not reported, and the pain felt by the survivors of those crimes remains unhealed. The restorative justice concept is holistic, and seeks not only to focus on offenders, but to provide a supportive process for victims to find healing as well.

**The Yolo County Conflict Resolution Center**

Kara Hunter, Executive Director of the Yolo Conflict Resolution Center (YCRC) explains that the YCRC works to build peace in our communities by providing free or low-cost mediation, conflict resolution training and restorative justice services. “It’s our goal” she says, “to create places where people discover that conflict and harm can become opportunities for growth and healing.”

The YCRC envisions, and works to promote, a future in which communities and individuals view conflict as an opportunity for growth and transformation, can access and develop their inherent capacity for constructive dialogue, and effectively resolve conflicts using creative and respectful means.

Working with local partners, including the community police departments, Yolo County Children’s Alliance, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), and more, the YCRC helps individuals and communities resolve conflicts and restore relationships. This process yields outcomes that are mutually agreed upon rather than imposed, and celebrates our ability to make a difference in our community through inclusiveness, accessibility, and diversity.

**YCRC Mediation**

Mediation is a process in which trained, impartial volunteer mediators help participants communicate their concerns to each other, clarify options for resolution, and develop mutually acceptable solutions. Often a mediation can be the best path for resolving roommate disagreements, landlord/tenant issues, ongoing neighborhood conflicts, merchants customers disputes, and family conflicts. Community mediation is less time-consuming and expensive than litigation and arbitration, and reduces the potential for legal action.

YCRC offers voluntary, confidential, neutral, community-based mediation and facilitation for community conversations. They also host conflict resolution, training, and workshops.

**YCRC Contact**

Woodland Office: (530) 564-2324  
Davis Office: (916) 692-9316  
Email: Programs@YoloCRC.org, or visit YoloCRC.org
At the Sacramento City College West Sacramento Campus, the staff is teaming up with the Yolo Food Bank to end hunger in the community. “The first distribution was in early September and we distributed almost 2,000 pounds of food, which served almost 400 people,” Ashu Mishra, the Interim Dean of the West Sacramento Center, stated. “To date, we have distributed food to over 1,500 people in the community.”

“Distributions can be non-perishable and perishable goods, and the West Sacramento Center is the food donor,” Ashu said. “Yolo Food Bank picks up the food from Wal-Mart and delivers it to the West Sacramento Center, where staff sort, organize, and distribute the goods.” On the first and third Wednesday of every month, the food is distributed to any member of the community. “We would love to have a weekly distribution once we have a solid team of volunteers,” Ashu stated.

According to Feeding America, food insecurity is particularly devastating to families. Not having enough healthy food can have serious implications for a child’s physical and mental health, academic achievement and future economic prosperity. Research shows an association between food insecurity and delayed development in young children; risk of chronic illnesses like asthma and anemia; and behavioral problems like hyperactivity, anxiety and aggression in school-age children.

People who are food insecure often turn to dollar-stretching tactics like eating inexpensive fast food, watering down canned soup and milk, or skipping medication to pay for food. As a result, many are affected by diet-sensitive chronic diseases.

To combat food insecurity, WSC also has a food pantry open to its students. To date, the pantry has served more than 700 students and their families. Under the federal Emergency Food Assistance Program, WSC receives a monthly delivery of non-perishable items. “We also have $2,000 grant that we can use to purchase items from Yolo Food Bank at 19 cents a pound. We use these funds mostly to purchase hygiene and dairy products,” Ashu said.

“Most of our student population is low-income. Providing food accessibility greatly benefits our students,” she explained. “You can’t teach a hungry student. Not getting enough to eat can have a dramatic effect on academics. By providing food security to students, we help reduce hunger and promote well-being, which enables them to do better academically.”

Take a look at our infographic on page 10 to find out more about Yolo Food Bank and how it is working to help the food-insecure in West Sacramento and throughout Yolo County.
Miyamoto to the Rescue

Miyamoto Relief, a technical engineering nonprofit, was the implementing partner in a challenging reconstruction project to repair and strengthen the Gaddi Baithak, an UNESCO World Heritage-site palace heavily damaged in Nepal’s 2015 earthquake. Even though the magnitude 7.8 earthquake left columns cracked, ceilings collapsed and some walls in ruins, engineers at Miyamoto assessing the historic structure determined it could be economically saved – and strengthened.

The U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation stepped forward to provide funding. International collaboration between experts in architecture, archaeology, engineering and diplomacy from three countries drew praise from judges for the Engineering News Record’s “Global Best Project” Awards.

While most of its work is in developing countries, Miyamoto Relief focused its attention on local needs this past September when it organized Night of 1000 Drawings Sacramento. The event inspired more than 1,500 people to doodle and draw for a one-night art exhibition that raised money for the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Sacramento and collected 1,800 pieces of art. They plan to hold it again next year; every year will feature a new beneficiary.

The nonprofit is also presently gathering donations to help indigenous tribes in Ethiopia’s Omo Valley build a critically needed, economical irrigation system. The annual flooding of the Omo River provided the tribes with water for eons, but a new, $1.6 billion dam built upstream in 2016 cut off their supply and is devastating their way of life. Donations totaling $100,000 would solve this crisis.

“While the dam is a great engineering feat, their lives, culture and traditions are in danger of being lost forever,” said Miyamoto Relief President Dr. Kit Miyamoto, who stumbled upon the tribes’ plight while on vacation in Ethiopia. “One solar-powered irrigation system can water 25 acres of land and provide crops to feed 200 people. When we see a need, we try to help.”

For more information about Miyamoto relief and to find out how you can help, contact:

Diana Erwin: DErwin@MiyamotoInternational.com

We spoke with Rachel Davidson, the Sacramento area director for Downtown Streets Team, to find out how this program helps people move past the trauma of homelessness and find a sense of purpose in their lives.

Downtown Streets Team is a work-first program for people who are experiencing homelessness. Team members beautify streets and restore natural areas. They receive a non-cash stipend, job training, case management, and referrals to housing. Well-trained DST graduates move into jobs.

Rachel Davidson is the Sacramento area director. “Homelessness is traumatizing for the person and the community that feels the effects,” she said. “Just a few weeks into the job I could see that DST was changing people’s lives and reducing the stigma of homelessness.”

DST is a voluntary program and participants, whom DST calls “Team Members,” receive gifts cards to help with basic needs. “We have team members that have suits hanging in their tent and some that talk to streetlights,” Rachel said. “We don’t turn away anyone who wants to be there.”

New Team Members receive bright-yellow shirts when they join a work crew. As they demonstrate responsibility, communication, leadership, and self-control, Team Members are promoted into supervisory roles, given a blue shirt, and enter a leadership training program. Program graduates trade in blue for purple shirts and move into a job with an employer.

“Team Members are required to show up every day at 8:00, just like they would with employment,” Rachel said. “We demonstrate each person’s work ethic to a prospective employer and show results from leadership training. Some graduates are hired immediately into supervisory roles.”

“DST gives them a good framework for job responsibility,” said Mike Beltrano, owner of Beltrano Property Services that provides day porter services to 64 area shopping centers. Mike has hired five DST graduates so far. “The DST graduates have ownership of their job. They take pride in what they do; no task is beneath them. It’s not just a job for them, it’s an accomplishment.”

“When a Team Member moves on, DST continues with case management to ensure the Member’s success—and that goes for landlords, too,” Rachel said. Mike agreed. “It has been seamless.”

The DST attitude affected Mike as an employer, too. “DST is a very positive place,” he said. “and that’s infectious.” Mike tries to emulate the weekly DST meetings that celebrate successes and share support. “Our 30 employees are spread over 100 square miles. I have breakfasts and business meetings so we can get to know each other and they can understand the company’s big picture.”

“DST is changing people’s lives,” Mike said. “As an employer, we’re just continuing the journey that DST started.”

Visit StreetsTeam.org/WestSacramento to donate, volunteer, or become a DST partner.
At 11:30 every morning, Lynn Phelps, the lead lunch coordinator for Mercy Coalition, and other volunteers pull into their designated parking spot at the county services building. “It was a big deal when we got the assigned spot,” she said with a chuckle.

Lynn leads this brigade of faith-based organizations that formed when the Broderick Christian Center’s Day Shelter burned down in 2010. “The hungry and homeless in West Sacramento had no place to receive their daily lunch,” Lynn said. “They lost their only place of community.”

Today, more than a dozen organizations contribute to the lunch effort. Every morning, volunteers assemble lunches from donated items, like Raley’s baked goods. “Donations reduce waste and fill empty bellies,” she said. Lynn supplements the donations with items from the Yolo Food Bank. “I try to have animal food and a special treat for the kids who come to lunch service, too,” she added.

When people arrive for lunch, “they see the same, friendly and faithful faces every day,” Lynn said. “It helps build trust among the homeless community.” Nicole Ring-Collins, a volunteer since 2010, is one of those friendly faces. “I have a full-time job with Shores of Hope,” Nicole said, “and help connect people to services. I’m an unofficial social worker who provides tough love.”

Nicole is the Program Director of the Winter Warming Centers; 14 local faith-based organizations take turns opening their doors for overnight guests starting December 1 to provide overnight shelter during the cold, rainy months. “In 2018-19, we served 57 individuals,” said Don Bosley, Board Member of the Coalition. “When surveyed, ninety percent said without the Center, they would have slept on the street or in a car during one of the wettest winters in recent memory.”

Shores of Hope’s buses pick up people at designated pick-up locations. “When people arrive at the center, they see the same people who give them food greet them for the evening,” Nicole said. “For a community that often has serious trust issues, this aspect is huge.”

Congregants volunteer on the nights their church or temple hosts the Warming Center. “The volunteers always serve a meal and have some activity,” Nicole said. “They might have movie night, offer optional bible study, or hold a Narcotics Anonymous meeting.” In the morning, the volunteers serve breakfast before the guests board buses that return them to the drop-off points.

“It’s a lot of work,” Don stated, “The overwhelming support from the community makes it achievable.” Nicole added, “It’s a cool thing seeing so many non-profits, county, and city programs connecting services to help individuals experiencing homelessness.”
Mercy Coalition also has an Emergency Hotel Voucher Program to help families with young children. Local law enforcement, schools and counselors alert Nicole when a family needs help. “We bridge the gap until other, more-permanent arrangements are made,” she said.

Between Shores of Hope, lunches, and the warming centers, Nicole works long days and weeks without very many thank-yous. When pointed out, she smiled and said, “I’ve been called to love on the people in this community.”

Please visit WSMercyCoalition.org to volunteer, donate, or learn how you can help Mercy Coalition help people in our community.
Kelley Jacobsen is Woodland born and raised. “I love Yolo County,” she said, “and after college I knew I wanted to work here. I was lucky to start as a marketing coordinator with Yolo Federal Credit Union.”

Now the VP of marketing and operations, Kelley is excited to help people reach their goals and dreams. “When someone says they’re interested in buying a home,” she said, “we’re really helping them achieve the dream of home ownership.

Understanding how to save, build credit, and invest wisely are keys to reaching financial goals. Many people, however, don’t receive a financial education. Only one-third of Californians correctly answered at least half the questions on Investor Education Foundation’s six-question financial quiz.

“Yolo FCU’s mission is to help Yolo County achieve financial success, and one of the ways we help is by teaching financial literacy,” Kelley said. Financial literacy creates a solid understanding of personal financial behaviors and the tools used to enforce them. Most of Yolo FCU’s financial literacy focus has been on elementary students. “It helps them understand good savings habits early in life,” she said.

“When a week, on school savings day, we go out to participating elementary schools so students can set up a free savings account and deposit money in their account,” Kelley explained, “Students make a deposit, pick out a prize and record the transaction in their register. It’s fun to watch their faces light up when they see how their money grew!”

For middle and high-school students, Yolo FCU teaches about savings habits, the difference between credit and debit cards, and about loans at a two-day financial boot camp. “It’s important to talk to young people who are about to make big life decisions,” she said. “When the students start boot camp, they know nothing about finances. After two days of lessons and activities, they are equipped for buying a first car, going to college, or planning for a first apartment.”

Adults usually need more specialized advice. “Yolo FCU has a series of blogs with topics like Credit 101 and Money Challenge and the financial service reps at every branch help members with financial plans. We also hold workshops about specific topics. Our newest one is called ‘Let’s Wine About It’ is a discussion—over wine and cheese—about saving for college tuition.”

“We truly are rooted in Yolo County,” Kelley stated. “Everything we do is for the prosperity of our community. We want to see our friends, our families, our neighbors live fruitful lives and be financially successful.”
Take the Financial Literacy Quiz!

According to Kelly, only one-third of Californians can correctly answer at least half of the Investor Education Foundation’s financial literacy quiz. How will you do?

1. Suppose you have $100 in a savings account earning 2 percent interest a year. After five years, how much would you have?
   a. More than $102
   b. Exactly $102
   c. Less than $102
   d. Don’t Know

2. Imagine that the interest rate on your savings account is 1 percent a year and inflation is 2% a year. After one year, would the money in the account buy more than it does today, exactly the same or less than today?
   a. More
   b. Same
   c. Less
   d. Don’t know

3. If interest rates rise, what will typically happen to bond prices? Rise, fall, stay the same, or is there no relationship?
   a. Rise
   b. Fall
   c. Stay the same
   d. No relationship
   e. Don’t know

4. A 15-year mortgage typically requires higher monthly payments than a 30-year mortgage but the total interest over the life of the loan will be less.
   a. True
   b. False
   c. Don’t know

5. Buying a single company’s stock usually provides a safer return than a stock mutual fund.
   a. True
   b. False
   c. Don’t know

6. BONUS QUESTION: Suppose you owe $1,000 on a loan and the interest rate you are charged is 20% per year compounded annually. If you didn’t pay anything off, at this interest rate, how many years would it take for the amount you owe to double?
   a. Less than 2 years
   b. 2-4 years
   c. 5-9 years
   d. 10 years or more
   e. Don’t know

See the answers on the bottom of the Yolo Federal Credit Union ad on the back cover.
As the cold of the winter months set in, our natural inclination is to turn inward and reflect on the passing year. However, this is also the time of abundant celebrations with family and friends, and a time when we look outward to our community and ask “how can I help?” In the following pages you will find some local organizations that work to support those in need, uplift the spirit, expand the mind, and bring us together. Let this directory be your year-round guide to giving and celebrating.
California-Nevada Conference, The United Methodist Church
1350 Halyard Drive
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 374-1500
cnumc.org

Center for Land-Based Learning
400 Garden Street, #108
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(530) 795-1520
landbasedlearning.org

Collings Teen Center
1541 Merkley Avenue
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 375-0681
collingsteencenter.org

Crocker Art Museum
216 O Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 808-7000
crockerart.org
Fourth & Hope
207 Fourth Street
Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 661-1218
fourthandhope.org

Goodwill Sacramento Valley & Northern Nevada
3689 Industrial Boulevard
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 395-9000
goodwillsacto.org

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento
819 North 10th Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 440-1215
habitatgreatersac.org

Holy Virgin Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church (Acts 11:26)
3060 Jefferson Boulevard
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 533-3848
holyvirginmary-orthodox.org
Loyal Order of Moose West Sacramento
Lodge #1762 & Women of the Moose Chapter #1431
3240 Jefferson Boulevard
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 371-9684
lodge1762.moosepages.org

Meals on Wheels Yolo County
40 North East Street, Suite C
Woodland, CA 95776
(530) 662-7035
mowyolo.org

Mercy Coalition of West Sacramento
Caring for the City’s Homeless and Vulnerable
(916) 509-3566
wsmercycoalition.org

Meristem Inc.
9200 Fair Oaks Blvd.
Fair Oaks, CA 95628
(916) 963-1000
meristem.pro
River City Rowing Club  
Summer middle school, high school and adult learn to row classes  
Port of West Sacramento  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
rivercityrowing.org

Sacramento Zoo  
3930 West Land Park Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95822  
(916) 808-5888  
saczoo.org

Shores of Hope  
110 6th Street  
West Sacramento, CA 95605  
(916) 372-0200  
shoresofhope.org

Special Olympics Northern California  
1401 Halyard Drive, Suite 100  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
(916) 375-1930  
sonc.org
Join us for a site tour and find out about this exciting new cohousing community!

www.Washington-Commons.org          WashingtonCommonsCohousing           916.450.0371

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www.Washington-Commons.org WashingtonCommonsCohousing 916.450.0371

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The Center for Spiritual Awareness
1275 Starboard Drive
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 374-9177
csasacramento.org

Washington Commons Cohousing
(916) 995-6629
washington-commons.org

West Sacramento Cyclocross (WSCXGP)/NORCALCX
norcalcx.org

West Sacramento Foundation
P.O. Box 621
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 417-5623
westsaccommunityfoundation.org
West Sacramento Historical Society
P.O. Box 1202
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 374-1849
westsachistoricalsociety.org

West Sacramento Little League
P.O. Box 155
West Sacramento, CA 95691
westsacll@gmail.com
westsacll.org

Word to Russia
P.O. Box 1521
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 372-4610
wordtorussia.org

Yolo Basin Foundation
45211 County Road 32B (Chiles Road)
Davis, CA 95618
(530) 757-4842
yolobasin.org
Yolo County CASA
724 Main Street, Suite 101
Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 661-4200
yolocasa.org

Yolo County Children’s Alliance
600 A Street, Suite Y
Davis, CA 95616
(530) 757-5558
yolokids.org

Yolo Food Bank
233 Harter Avenue
Woodland, CA 95776
(530) 668-0690
yolofoodbank.org

Yolo Hospice
1909 Galileo Court, Suite A
Davis, CA 95616
(530) 758-5566
yolohospice.org
It takes a local business owner to protect one.

As a small business owner in our community, I understand what it takes to protect your small business. Let me help you get insurance for your business at a great value. Stop in or give me a call.

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Insurance Lic#: 0F99144
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West Sacramento, CA 95691
Bus: 916-572-0090
www.ryanmaguire.com
Mon - Fri 9-5, Sat 10-2
After hours by appointment
24/7 Customer Service

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State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, State Farm General Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL
State Farm Florida Insurance Company, Winter Haven, Florida
State Farm Lloyds, Richardson, TX
1706444

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www.RamosOil.com

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Tammy Linker Realtor
916-617-6252 | ThisHomesForYou@yahoo.com
DRE #01358650

“I know the area. I know the street. I probably know the house”

Tammy Linker Realtor
916-617-6252 | ThisHomesForYou@yahoo.com
DRE #01358650

State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, State Farm General Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL
State Farm Florida Insurance Company, Winter Haven, Florida
State Farm Lloyds, Richardson, TX
1706444

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Located within West Sacramento, just a few minutes from the State Capitol, Liberty is envisioned to be a walkable and bikeable master-planned community carefully designed and crafted to preserve and enhance the City’s hometown character and exceptional quality of life. Through distinctive and timeless architecture, innovations in community design, and the connection of people to places, Liberty will be a special place to call home for generations.

www.LibertyWestSacramento.com

The Liberty project is a proposed master-planned community which is seeking approval from the City of West Sacramento.

**LET'S BREAK IT DOWN**

Please make sure cardboard boxes are broken down and recycling is free of plastic film and foam packaging.

- PLACE PLASTIC FILM & WRAP IN TRASH
- PLACE FOAM PACKAGING IN TRASH
- BREAK DOWN CARDBOARD, PLACE IN RECYCLING

Recycle only empty plastic bottles/containers, glass jars/bottles, metal/aluminum cans and clean paper and cardboard.
Your Chamber Staff
Denice, Andrea, Austin, Carson the Chamber Dog, & Hamilton the Networking Pup

Wishing You the Happiest of Holidays, & a Prosperous New Year!

Morrow Surveying is proud to provide detailed Land Surveying services for the City of West Sacramento and surrounding Yolo County. Please give us a call to see how we can advance your next project.

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(916) 372-8124 MorrowSurveying.com

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2020 Calendar of Chamber Events
Dates, times, and locations subject to change. Please visit WestSacramentoChamber.com for updates and to register for events.
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- Mental Health
- Case Management
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- Substance Abuse
- Specialty Referrals
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- Screenings
- Transportation
- Translation
- Outreach
- Eligibility
- Comprehensive Dental Health
- Nutrition
- Podiatry

www.elicahealth.org

Locations

Elica Health Centers - Midtown
3701 J Street, Suite 201, Sacramento, CA 95816

Elica Health Centers - Arden Arcade
1750 Wright Street, Sacramento, CA 95825

Elica Health Centers - Franklin
5385 Franklin Blvd, Suite K, Sacramento, CA 95820

Elica Health Centers - North Avenue
1281 North Ave, Sacramento, CA 95838

Elica Health Centers - Revere
752 Revere Street, Unit B, Sacramento, CA 95818

Elica Health Centers - V Street
923 V Street, Sacramento, CA, 95818

Elica Health Centers - Watt Avenue
5708 Watt Ave, North Highlands, CA 95660

Elica Health Centers - Halyard
1276 Halyard Drive, West Sacramento, CA 95691

Elica Health Centers - West Sacramento
155 15th Street, Suite A, West Sacramento, CA 95691
The Community that grows together, thrives together. Kaiser Permanente is a proud supporter of the West Sacramento Chamber of Commerce.

At Kaiser Permanente, we don’t see health as an industry. We see it as a cause. That’s why we’re excited to care for West Sacramento. Our doors, hearts and minds are always open to help every last one of you thrive. Learn more at kp.org.
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