

# SANTA BARBARA BUCKET BRIGADE'S



## GROWING AND SHARING TO FIGHT HUNGER

IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY EVERY YEAR 100,000 PEOPLE RELY ON FOOD DONATIONS TO FEED THEIR FAMILY. THE ECONOMIC CRISIS HAS ONLY MADE THINGS WORSE.



### A NATIONAL TRADITION

During World War II, American volunteer gardeners produced 40% of the nation's fresh produce to help fight hunger. This Victory Garden campaign did more than just feed hungry people, it helped boost morale and community spirit when local communities needed it most. **Food, morale, and community spirit — Santa Barbara needs these now more than ever.**

### A LOCAL SOLUTION

**The Bucket Brigade Growing Community Project** enables volunteer gardeners and farmers to grow and donate their harvests to the Foodbank and other humanitarian partners to improve the health of hungry families.

### LOCAL RESILIENCE AND FOOD SECURITY

When the shelves emptied at the grocery stores this spring, we all saw firsthand how close we were to a full-blown food crisis. We weren't ready. We still aren't.

It is time to do something about it.

**Local humanitarian farming is the answer.**

### FOOD IS MEDICINE

People on food aid are among the most vulnerable members of any community. Growing healthy, fresh, local produce and sharing it with people living in poverty does more than just fill stomachs, it improves health. With your help, we can connect the dots between food security, resilience and public health through this innovative community project.



**"IF YOU BUY A BOX OF PRODUCE, YOU COULD FEED A FAMILY TODAY. IF YOU INVEST IN HUMANITARIAN FARMING, YOU COULD HELP FEED A COMMUNITY FOR A LIFETIME."**

— ABE POWELL, CO-FOUNDER, SANTA BARBARA BUCKET BRIGADE

**"FOOD INSECURITY IS LIKELY TO MAKE YOU ILL,  
AND ONCE YOU GET ILL, YOU ARE MORE LIKELY TO  
BE FOOD INSECURE."**

— DR. HILARY SELIGMAN — PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE AND EPIDEMIOLOGY AND  
BIOSTATISTICS, UCSF SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



## **THE GROWING COMMUNITY PROJECT HAS FOUR MAIN OBJECTIVES**

- ♥ Organize and implement an inclusive, countywide food resilience program
- ♥ Engage pandemic-isolated volunteers in a cooperative humanitarian operation
- ♥ Improve community health and nutrition
- ♥ Build community cooperation and solidarity

## **THE GROWING COMMUNITY PROJECT ENGAGES THE COMMUNITY IN THREE WAYS**

- 🍷 **Resilience Garden Education and Support:** With free garden beds, soil, seeds, starts, educational material, training and webinars, we enable residents to grow resilience gardens and donate fresh produce to humanitarian feeding partners.
- 🍷 **Crowdsourcing Fresh Produce:** With volunteer drivers, inspectors and sorters we connect community-generated fresh produce to our region's humanitarian food-distribution network.
- 🍷 **Humanitarian Farming for the Future:** Through the creation of local teaching farms dedicated to intensive humanitarian agriculture and food-resilience education, we will build food security, train a generation of humanitarian farmers, and improve community health.



**THE SANTA BARBARA  
BUCKET BRIGADE CREATED  
THE GROWING COMMUNITY  
PROJECT TO ADDRESS  
COUNTYWIDE FOOD  
INSECURITY AND TO BUILD  
COMMUNITY RESILIENCE**



**OUR PARTNERS** Collaboration and shared goals are keys to success. Our Growing Community partners include: Santa Barbara County Food Action Network, UC Master Gardeners of Santa Barbara County, Veggie Rescue, White Buffalo Land Trust, Elings Park Foundation, The Terrace Foundation, Foodbank of Santa Barbara County, Catholic Charities of Santa Barbara County, Santa Barbara County Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division, Community Environmental Council, Trinity Gardens, and the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department.

[www.sbbucketbrigade.org](http://www.sbbucketbrigade.org)