

Pacific Pantry restocked, but they are still fundraising

November 30, 2019



With its cupboards bare just before Thanksgiving, the financially-strapped Pacific Pantry in Crescent City issued a call for help on Nov. 12.

In just over a week, the Pacific Pantry shelves were fully stocked after several individuals and community organizations donated \$20,000 to purchase food to last through the holidays and winter months.

The Pacific Pantry had entered into a funding gap on Nov. 1.

Community members Dwight and Janis Winslow delivered 250 pounds of food, filling the pantry's shelves even before funds arrived. Others brought apples and food donations directly to the Family Resource Center.

The pantry said it has received \$1,275 in donations from residents that will be matched by the Caldwell Clan Fund.

“The pantry would not be open right now without these donations. All of the hungry people in this community would not be able to come here to get food for Thanksgiving, for their daily needs, for their kids,” said Amanda Hixson, director of the Community Food Council.

The council launched a multifaceted fundraising campaign Nov. 12, with a goal of \$25,000 by the end of the year. The Caldwell Clan was the first to respond, offering to match any donations up to \$10,000 through Dec. 3.

Gina Zottola, executive director of Wild Rivers Community Foundation, shared the pantry’s need with several regional community partners - St. Joseph Health System, Humboldt Area Foundation, and the Patricia D. & William B. Smullin Foundation - which donated an additional \$10,000.

The Philanthropic Fund of the Caldwell Family contributed another \$1,000.

The money will help sustain the pantry for a few months as it pursues grants to fill the funding gap, but supporters the pantry will still need community support until long-term funding is secured.

The pantry will also be holding an Empty Bowls Fundraising Dinner on Dec. 14 from 4-7 p.m. at the Crescent City Cultural Center. The event will feature a variety of soups, bread and desserts, with all proceeds going to buy food for the Pacific Pantry.

Those who would like to help out with the event can donate ceramic bowl, soup, bread, dessert and silent-auction items. They can also donate at <https://givingtuesday.mightycause.com/story/Pacific-Pantry>.