



From Liz Ekenstedt, Board President

This November, HART is hosting its first holiday celebration at the Folsom Community Center to support our transitional housing program. We are actively including the Folsom community by asking many businesses to be participants in our holiday festival. The event vendors include local restaurants, artists, crafts people, and small business owners. Our goal is to support them as they help us support the unhoused.



Another wonderful part of this holiday venue is the involvement of volunteer community partners. So far, we have two local bands, the Rotary Club of Folsom manning the bar, donated artwork for the silent auction, and new volunteers on our planning committees.

HART's vision for this inaugural event is for it to become a cherished tradition in Folsom. Every Fall, we can link arms for our most worthwhile cause, celebrate the holiday season, support our local artists and businesses, and raise funds to house more vulnerable people. It's a perfect way to begin the season of caring and giving, and we hope everyone who is in town on November 16th will join us. Please mark your calendars, and if you have time to help beforehand, we have a place for you.



HART's Holiday
Festival Upcoming
Meeting

Saturday, June 29, 2024, 10am Oak Hills Church room B-1

If you enjoy working with vendors, restaurants, or reaching out to businesses for sponsorships, we need you!

If you enjoy procuring and creating baskets and gifts for silent auctions and raffles, we could use your expertise!

If you enjoy marketing, sound systems, or managing local entertainment, we would love for you to join us!

If you'd like the opportunity to get creative and think outside of the box please join our fundraising team and email HART's Event Manager, Vijay Jonnalagadda, jvbrao@gmail.com.

Hope to see you there! Thank you!

Monthly Volunteer Team Highlight

Welcome Team

As the hub of the HART winter shelter, the Welcome Team volunteers are passionate about making our guests feel at home. Each evening, the Welcome Team works in concert with all of the other winter shelter HART teams and host churches to provide a calm, pleasant, and caring environment for each guest.

Volunteers look forward to getting to know those who come to stay, and greatly assist to connect them with the support that is needed. Welcome Team shifts begin at 5 p.m. each evening. Guests are checked in, beds assigned, clean sleeping bags are provided, showers are available, and any questions or needs are addressed.

Team members Chin and Bianca shared what they look forward to the most:

"I look forward to seeing how guests become more relaxed and comfortable after a few days of coming to the shelter, the conversations and the laughter we share," said Chin.

“I look forward to welcoming our guests, see who’s coming that evening, and talking with them. If they are returning guests that I know, I enjoy catching up, and if they are new, I attempt to get to know them,” described Bianca.

Welcome Team volunteers are part and parcel of the whole HART team. Volunteers are welcomed and needed this coming winter. Signing up for a weekly shift is a wonderful way to get to know the whole HART community - a BIG team that is all heart!

- Submitted
by
Sheila
Serup



HART's Holiday Festival is on November 16, 2024 from Noon to 7 pm! If you are an Intel employee and would like to support our event, please consider the following opportunities at Intel. Thank you!

Intel employees did you know that your company helps you support the causes you care about through two programs?

Volunteer Matching Program

If you volunteer for an eligible non-profit organization, and record your time with Benevity, you can earn \$10.00 an hour per employee. Your volunteer time is combined with other Intel employees and retirees who volunteer for the same non-profit or school and paid out once per year. Non-profits can earn up to 10K per year per non-profit through the Volunteer Matching Grants Program.

Employee Matching Gifts Program

No time to volunteer, then you can support the causes you care about by making a personal cash donation through Benevity, and the Intel Foundation will match that dollar amount up to \$5,000.00 per year per U.S. based employee. Both programs are open to current Intel Blue Badge employees, and retirees.

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