

Walmart grants \$30,000 to Coach2Career - Catholic Charities Santa Rosa

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Funds to support organization's Coach2Career employment readiness program for the homeless



Catholic Charities staffer assists two visitors at the Family Support Center in downtown Santa Rosa who are taking advantage of the services offered by the Coach2Career employment program.

The Walmart Foundation's California State Giving Program has awarded \$30,000 to [Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa](#) (CCSR) to support its Coach2Career program at the Family Support Center for homeless families in downtown Santa Rosa.

"Helping homeless and very low income individuals develop the skills they need to successfully find and maintain employment is critical to their gaining independence and self-esteem," said Jennielynn Holmes, director of shelter and housing for CCSR. "As a primarily grant-funded program, Walmart's support will help sustain this highly successful and vital program."

Coach2Career is a comprehensive employment-readiness program for people who are homeless, formerly homeless or in need of assistance in finding a job. It includes a seven-week certificate course on resume writing, job search skill building and interview skills. Clients also have access to a computer lab, telephone answering service and clothing they can borrow for job interviews.

"The resources **Catholic Charities of Santa Rosa** provide are vital to the success of those they support across the Santa Rosa region," said James Groh, Walmart market manager for Sonoma County. "We're honored to help celebrate the organization's employment readiness efforts as they align with our mission to help communities across Northern California live better."

Twice a year, the **Walmart Foundation's** California State Giving Program awards grants to local organizations that address the needs of the communities they serve and make a significant social impact. The grant to Catholic Charities of Santa Rosa is one of 18 grants awarded to Northern California non-profits totaling \$250,000 in giving during the program's first giving cycle. To be considered for support, prospective grantee organizations must submit applications through the Walmart Foundation State Giving Program's online grant application. Applicants must have a current 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status in order to meet the program's minimum eligibility criteria. Additional information about the program's funding guidelines and application process are available online at www.walmartfoundation.org/stategiving. The next application cycle opens on Sept. 7, 2014.

Globally, during the last fiscal year, Walmart and the [Walmart Foundation](#) gave more than \$1.3 billion of cash and in-kind contributions, including efforts to fight hunger, provide healthier foods and advance sustainability practices. This marks the largest level of giving in Walmart's history and the overall increase in giving surpasses the previous year's total by more than \$244 million. In California, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation's giving exceeded \$47 million during the last fiscal year, including 482 hours of volunteer service to local non-profits and more than \$21,000 to community organizations like the Education Foundation of Cotati and Rohnert Park, Rohnert Park Public Safety Officers Association, and Soroptimist of Santa Rosa.

About Philanthropy at Walmart

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are committed to helping people live better through philanthropic efforts. By operating globally and giving back locally, Walmart is uniquely positioned to address the needs of the communities it serves and make a significant social impact within its core areas of giving: Hunger Relief & Healthy Eating, Sustainability, Career Opportunity and Women's Economic Empowerment. Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are leading the fight against hunger in the United States with a \$2 billion commitment through 2015. Walmart has donated more than 1 billion meals to those in need across the country. To learn more about Walmart's giving, visit foundation.walmart.com.