

## Redwood Empire Food Bank's Lake Co. programs get \$200K Walmart Foundation grant

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Santa Rosa-based Redwood Empire Food Bank is receiving a \$200,000 Walmart Foundation grant to support its work fighting hunger in Lake County.

The funds, presented at the Walmart store in Clearlake on June 14, will be used to support food distribution to those in need in a county that ranks among the most impoverished in the U.S., according to the retailer.

The money is going toward the food bank's Lake County Hunger Initiative, which includes three critical hunger-relief programs. The Backpack and School Pantry

programs provide weekly nourishment directly to children and their families during the school year.

Produce Pantry offers year-round nutritional support to all low-income people in need through a weekly provision of fresh produce and healthy staple foods.

"As the nation's largest grocer, Walmart is uniquely positioned to lead on the issue of hunger in the communities it serves," Walmart said in the announcement. "The Redwood Empire Food Bank plays a leading role in Lake County in fighting hunger, and Walmart is delighted to support these efforts with this donation."

Food insecurity is an issue facing families in communities across the country, with 1 in 8 currently struggling with hunger, according to USDA figures Walmart cited.

<http://bit.ly/2rllXuW>