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Opinion

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By Louis Medina

Cheers & Jeers

They came through for the Food Bank

Community Action Partnership of Kern's Food Bank is always grateful for funding partners who recognize the importance of transportation in getting food to the hungry. The CAPK Food Bank would not be able to fulfill its mission — to help alleviate hunger and meet the nutritional needs of economically disadvantaged residents of Kern County — if the food in its warehouse couldn't get to where it's needed.

Walmart's donation of \$25,000, along with those of United Way of Kern County and Wells Fargo (\$10,000 each), and Target Corporation and Bank of America Charitable Foundation (\$5,000 each), helped the Food Bank purchase a refrigerated truck this year to replace one that could no longer meet California's Diesel emission standards.

This generous funding is especially important in light of greater demands placed on the Food Bank's small vehicle fleet due to the increased need for emergency food distribution caused by California's ongoing drought. Between 2012 and 2014, the CAPK Food Bank's volume of distributed food doubled from 6.1 million to 12.2 million lbs., with 2.6 million lbs. last year going to families impacted by drought-related job loss or reduced income. Total food distribution for 2015 is expected to be at or above 14 million lbs. So Cheers! to our funders for helping the CAPK Food Bank fight hunger in Kern County in these particularly trying times. For information on getting involved with CAPK's Food Bank, please visit www.capk.org.

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