



DONOR RESOURCE GUIDE 2016

SINCE 1957
Our Promise
CALIFORNIA STATE EMPLOYEES
GIVING AT WORK



**CARING FOR
CALIFORNIA**
THIS IS OUR PROMISE.



MESSAGE FROM YOUR CAMPAIGN CHAIR

Dear Golden State Employees:

Together, we have made an important promise:
We will care for California by giving to nonprofits that
are making this state a better place to live, work and play.

This is **Our Promise: California State Employees
Giving at Work.**

From health and animal welfare organizations to
human services and environmental groups, and partners
that support our state's children and schools through
education, everyone can find a cause they are passionate
about supporting. Thanks to your generosity, last year,
37,000 state employees donated to Our Promise, raising
\$6.2 million for nonprofits across California. Your donation
means nonprofits are making a greater impact in your
neighborhood and our communities, which means
healthier, happier homes and residents all across the state.

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude to the hundreds
of volunteers leading the campaign. You are proof that
together we can accomplish so much more than we
could ever do alone. I often quote an African Proverb,
"If you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go far, go
together." I am proud to be the 2016 Our Promise Chair
and to be doing this together with such a wonderful
group of committed California state employees.

Thank you for joining Our Promise and creating
a bright future for the Golden State.

Let's get started!

Tom Torlakson

Tom Torlakson

State Superintendent of Public Instruction
California Department of Education
2016 Our Promise Chair



A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, WORK & PLAY

Since 1957, state employees have joined together annually for a special statewide fundraising drive that raises millions of dollars for nonprofits throughout California and the nation. As a state employee, you are given the opportunity to sign a pledge form stating how much you want to contribute to the nonprofit(s) of your choice, deducted from each monthly paycheck from January – December. Last year, more than 37,000 state employees participated and raised \$6.2 million!

NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER:

Each donor is encouraged to independently review information about the nonprofits they select. The VCGCB has found these nonprofits eligible to receive designated deductions based on certifications that the nonprofits comply with statutory requirements. The Board does not independently investigate the nonprofits other than to verify their Federal Tax Exempt status and review their self-certifications of compliance with applicable California Department of Fair Employment and Housing Regulations. The Board's determination is not an endorsement of any particular nonprofit.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please reference the name of your PCFD when you call or write the Our Promise governing entity, The Department of General Services (DGS). DGS provides general oversight of the Our Promise campaign. For questions, please email ourpromise@dgs.ca.gov or call (916) 376-5317.

HOW IT WORKS

- 1** To get started, visit OurPromiseCA.org/nonprofits to review a list of more than 2,900 certified nonprofit partners. All have been screened by the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board (VCGCB) to make sure they are eligible (this is not an endorsement). You may also give to your local United Way leading the campaign in your area or any 501(c)(3) nonprofit not listed online.
- 2** **Fill out a pledge form** indicating which nonprofit(s) you wish to support and how much you wish to contribute monthly. Your gift is tax-deductible and easy – just sign the pledge form once and your donation(s) will automatically be deducted from your paycheck each month starting in January 2017, and will continue monthly until you make a change or choose to no longer contribute.
- 3** **Congratulations!** You are now making California a better place to live, work and play!

GET STARTED **TODAY!**

OurPromiseCA.org/nonprofits

OUR PROMISE KEY TERMS

PRINCIPAL COMBINED FUND DRIVE (PCFD)

A Principal Combined Fund Drive (PCFD) is the entity responsible for managing the Our Promise initiative for a specific geographic region in the state of California. Since the campaign's inception in 1957, local United Ways have served as the PCFD. Your local PCFD coordinates the annual workplace giving campaign for your region. Our Promise donors must select a PCFD to manage their donations. The PCFD you select receives your donation from the State Controller's Office and distributes your gift to your designated nonprofit(s). Your selected PCFD will also receive any undesignated portion of your gift to be invested in their local programs and services.

FEDERATION

A federation is a group of like-minded nonprofits who certify to partner with a main "umbrella" organization. Most federations and their member organizations have a common focus, such as: the environment, children's issues, medical research, and health and human services.

INDEPENDENT ORGANIZATIONS

These are nonprofits who are independent. They applied for certification with Our Promise, but are not part of a specific federation.

BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE CAMPAIGN

Our Promise is so successful because we have local leaders running the campaign in each area.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- The Department of General Services (DGS) selects the organizations best qualified to manage Our Promise throughout the 28 regions in our state. These organizations are called Principal Combined Fund Drives (PCFD).
- PCFDs are chosen because they keep fundraising costs low, are located in all agency/department regional office locations to assist with the campaign, have a wide variety of nonprofit partners and will quickly and effectively deliver your donation to your nonprofit(s) of choice.
- The DGS authorizes each PCFD to deduct a small fee that covers administrative and fundraising costs incurred while running the campaign. The fee is deducted from each donation. Our Promise has a low statewide overhead of 14%, as well as a .39 cent fee per transaction, charged by the State Controller's Office for processing contributions.

Learn more at OurPromise.org



WE'VE HEARD YOUR FEEDBACK

We decreased the amount of paper used to produce the Our Promise Donor Resource Guide.

A complete database of all certified nonprofits represented in the Our Promise campaign can be found at OurPromiseCA.org.

GET INVOLVED WITH OUR PROMISE

FIND & SUPPORT YOUR FAVORITE NONPROFITS

Visit OurPromiseCA.org/nonprofits for a complete list of our 2016 Our Promise certified nonprofit partners. You can search by your selected PCFD (your local United Way), Federations and Member Organizations, Independent Nonprofit Organizations or by nonprofit name, zip code, keyword or service description.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

CaliforniaVolunteers.org features the largest and most dynamic online statewide volunteer matching network in the nation. You can sign up by following three easy steps!

Visit CaliforniaVolunteers.org

- 1 Select your area of interest
- 2 Enter your zip code
- 3 Pick the right opportunity for you!

RETIREES CARING FOR CALIFORNIA

As a retiree you can continue donating to nonprofits through Our Promise! On the pledge form, simply fill out section 7 to authorize a monthly donation to be taken from your CalPERS retirement check. It's an easy way to continue your monthly donations to nonprofits that rely on your support.

To learn more visit OurPromiseCA.org/retireegiving

SNAP
SHARE
SOCIALIZE



HOW WILL YOU JOIN OUR PROMISE?

Share your stories and photos on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Use hashtag #OurPromiseCA • Tag @OurPromiseCA

[f](#) [t](#) [i](#) /OurPromiseCA



SEARCHABLE CERTIFIED NONPROFITS
ARE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!

OurPromiseCA.org/nonprofits

CARING FOR CALIFORNIA.

CARING FOR **YOUR COMMUNITY.**

CARING FOR THE **NONPROFITS**
THAT MAKE OUR COMMUNITIES STRONGER.

\$150 a month provides 30 lunches to children of low-income families during the summer.

United Way of Nevada County

\$48 a month feeds four students each weekend, sending them to school on Monday ready to learn.

Inland Empire United Way,
Desert Communities Region

\$42 a month provides two months' worth of medical supplies for breast and cervical cancer screenings for 80 women.

America's Charities

\$15 provides transportation for a dialysis patient to get to and from the dialysis center, or for one day in the hospital.

Community Health Charities

\$50 a month provides a dental assessment and fluoride varnish for 250 children.

United Way of Ventura County

FOR HEALTH

\$100 a month can remove 750 pounds of trash from the Bay and its tributaries.

Conservation and Preservation Charities of America

\$20 a month provides a presentation and ongoing assistance to a school district for the development of a recycling program which saves the average school site almost \$130,000 per year in avoided disposal costs.

EarthShare California

FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

\$150 a month feeds five puppies in training to be physiatrist service dogs for veterans.

Animal Charities of America

\$5 a month buys one meal a day for a harbor seal.

Wild Animals Worldwide

FOR ANIMALS

SEE HOW YOUR DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

\$20 a month facilitates a tour of a S.T.E.M. business for 50 middle-school girls inspiring them to explore and pursue a S.T.E.M. career.

United Way of the Inland Valleys

\$25 a month ensures that parents and children are building a solid foundation for learning and literacy.

United Way of San Diego County

\$20 a month sponsors a field trip for children affected by domestic violence living in emergency shelter, many that have never left the community in which they live.

Local Independent Charities of America

\$10 a month provides a book for a child in our Literacy Project.

United Way of Tulare County

\$10 provides a backpack with school supplies for a needy student or emergency food and shelter to a family in crisis.

United Way Fresno and Madera Counties

\$25 a month will help seed a college savings account for a kindergartener.

United Way California Capital Region

\$20 a month provides 12 under-served children with supplies needed to be successful in school.

Arrowhead United Way

FOR CHILDREN & EDUCATION

\$10 a month provides one homeless family showers, laundry and childcare while they seek employment and housing.

Yuba-Sutter United Way

\$100 a month allows us to represent 16 Black led organizations who provide counseling, leadership, and education to five Black communities throughout the Bay Area.

Bay Area Black United Fund Federation

\$75 a month will enable United Way's Earn It! Keep It! Save It! free tax preparation service to deliver almost \$12,000 in tax refunds for reinvestment in our local community.

United Way of the Wine Country

\$20 a month provides healthy cooking classes and 36 pounds of healthy fresh food to families in need.

United Way of Stanislaus County

FOR SENIORS & INDIVIDUALS IN NEED

\$50 a month will adopt twenty seniors into the Brown Bag Program.

United Way of Merced County

\$20 a month connects students to mentors, supports financial literacy, and fights poverty for youth and families.

United Way of Northern California

\$10 a month can purchase 40 pounds of food for hungry families in Kings County.

Kings United Way

These statements have been provided by participating federations.



SINCE 1957

Our Promise

CALIFORNIA STATE EMPLOYEES
GIVING AT WORK

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DONOR HOTLINE (888) 863-6466

   /OurPromiseCA #OurPromiseCA

OurPromiseCA.org