



**FRESNO MADERA
FARM CREDIT**

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For Immediate Release

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Fresno Madera Farm Credit and CoBank Announce \$30,000 Donation to Central California Food Bank

Donation provides critical support for rural residents impacted by the rising cost of food.

Fresno, CA – Sept. 25, 2023 – Fresno Madera Farm Credit and CoBank have jointly announced a \$30,000 donation to Central California Food Bank’s Feeding Families Fund Drive. The donation will provide over 180,000 meals to rural residents of Central California, many of whom have limited access to full-service grocery stores and have been severely impacted by the rising cost of food.

“With the challenge of rising food costs, we greatly appreciate the support from businesses like Fresno Madera Farm Credit as we work to feed more than 300,000 people per month,” said Kym Dildine, co-CEO for Central California Food Bank. “Thanks to this generous contribution, we can continue addressing the growing demand for food access in Central California.”



Photo: Staff from Fresno Madera Farm Credit and CoBank deliver a \$30,000 check to the Central California Food Bank team.

The \$30,000 donation was made possible by a matched donation from CoBank, Fresno Madera Farm Credit’s funding bank, which matched its \$15,000 local contribution.

“Fresno Madera Farm Credit’s partnership with the Central California Food Bank reflects our shared commitment to making a positive impact in Central Valley communities,” said Claire Trudo, senior relationship manager in CoBank’s Farm Credit Banking Group. “We are proud to support Fresno Madera’s unwavering commitment to Central California Food Banks’ mission.

Fresno Madera Farm Credit timed its donation to coincide with the Feeding Families Fund Drive, which offered a 50% match from GAR Bennett for all contributions. The staff at Fresno Madera Farm Credit also volunteered Friday to help the food bank collect donations outside The Market grocery store on Herndon and West, resulting in a one-day total of over \$614,000 with the GAR Bennett match.

Fresno Madera Farm Credit, ACA, PCA, FLCA

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“There are many ways we can all support the communities in our area – we’ve always understood that addressing food insecurity is one of the best ways to fulfill this responsibility - so, we take great pride in our nine-year partnership with the Central California Food Bank,” said Fresno Madera Farm Credit CEO Keith Hesterberg. “Inflation and high interest rates have created challenges for everyone in our community and we appreciate the leadership role the food bank has played in creating visibility around food insecurity and how we can all have an impact.”

About Fresno Madera Farm Credit:

Founded in 1917, Fresno Madera Farm Credit is a farmer-owned cooperative and a proud member of the national Farm Credit System. Located in one of the most productive agricultural areas in the world, FMFC provides credit and financial services to farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses that grow, process, and market over 350 commodities that are shipped all over the United States, and the world. For more information about FMFC please visit fmfarmcredit.com, and for more information about the Farm Credit System, visit www.farmcredit.com.

About CoBank:

CoBank is a cooperative bank serving vital industries across rural America. The bank provides loans, leases, export financing and other financial services to agribusinesses and rural power, water and communications providers in all 50 states. The bank also provides wholesale loans and other financial services to affiliated Farm Credit associations serving more than 76,000 farmers, ranchers, and other rural borrowers in 23 states around the country. CoBank is a member of the Farm Credit System, a nationwide network of banks and retail lending associations chartered to support the borrowing needs of U.S. agriculture, rural infrastructure, and rural communities. Headquartered outside Denver, Colorado, CoBank serves customers from regional banking centers across the U.S., and also maintains an international representative office in Singapore.