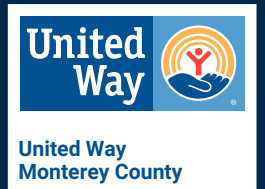




**HONORING OUTSTANDING  
COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS**

April 19–25, 2021



# 2021 LIVE UNITED AWARDS NOMINEES

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## EARLY CARE & EDUCATION



Prior to drawing the sketch of the mural, SAC members met the students and encouraged them to come up with the concept for their mural. They created a platform in which students used the teachings of Dr. King, Jr. to express their thoughts and ideas for this artistic piece. They reflected their learnings of diversity, education, inclusiveness, and the power of working together as a community. SAC member created a sketch of the mural inspired by the student's ideas and on the day of the event, they guided the students and community volunteers in painting the mural. Afterwards, the group went back to the school to put the final touches on the masterpiece.

SAC not only enabled students to come up with the messaging and the content of the mural, but they also allowed students to express themselves through the key messages and principles of Dr. King, Jr.

### **Secret Artist Community (SAC)**

Savannah Starr Au Chioino; Julie Chon; Daniel Hendricks;  
Stephanie Ornelas; Perla Sanchez; Juanita Vasquez; Gerardo Zambrano

Secret Artist Community (SAC) was the creative force behind the beautiful Martin Luther King Jr. mural dedicated to the Marina Vista Elementary Arts Academy. It is because of SAC's leadership and inspiration, the students were motivated to work together, create an art piece, and leave their legacy. With the help of SAC, this mural became a wonderful touch point for all of us to think about the meaning of equity, inclusiveness, and bringing everybody together to solve the problems of the community.



## EARLY CARE & EDUCATION



### George Lange

During 2020, the effects of COVID-19 resulted in schools closing, stunting the education and development of children. George Lange, a former teacher, and a school administrator recognized the need to keep children interested and active in learning. George developed a program to provide books to school age children throughout Monterey County. He actively raised financial contributions to purchase books, received book donations from local businesses, and organized distribution points throughout the County. Working with the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District Administration, George organized a monthly distribution site at the La Mesa school, where parents and children selected age-appropriate books when they arrived to pick up free lunches.

George also enlisted the help of volunteers from the Kiwanis Club of Monterey making the book collection and distribution a club service project. As a result of his efforts, more than 3,000 books were distributed in 2020.

In addition to helping expand literacy for students, one afternoon a month, George volunteers at the Food Bank for Monterey County. His leadership has inspired other volunteers to serve with him.



## ASSET BUILDING



### Patte Kronlund

Since 2008, Big Sur has experienced 4 major wildfires, multiple road closures due to landslides and road failure, and COVID-19, resulting in the closure of local businesses. While the resident community of Big Sur is small, when you add in the folks who work here, the number is well over 2000. When disaster hits, local families are both financially and emotionally impacted. Patte, both personally and in her role as the secretary for the Community Association of Big Sur (CABS) board, has taken the time in every disaster to connect with and empathize with residents and businesses that have been impacted. She has carefully identified the most vulnerable and impacted individuals and families. She matches them up with donations and resources to mitigate the financial impact to each

family or individual. Patte has written easily more than 5,000 checks, made countless site visits, spoken hours on the phone to seek out those impacted to hear their stories and help them find meaningful solutions. During her 30 years as a resident and homeowner in Big Sur, Patte has leveraged her love of community and her amazing memory for the benefit of the community. Patte's professional expertise (formerly HR), her innovative fund-raising ideas, her talent to organize and execute relief efforts quickly on a large scale has made her the go to person for other communities along the coast experiencing similar challenges. She gladly shares the process and the templates she has developed to help these communities develop their own crisis relief programs.

Patte's work has enabled cash and resource benefits to flow quickly and meaningfully to families, nonprofits and businesses post-crisis. Patte has the trust of both the residents and the businesses through her relationship building. Thousands of families who live and/or work in Big Sur have benefited from her efforts. During the Dolan Fire, it was clear that there is no organizations like CABS with this level of ability to respond in other impacted communities. Sadly, the many crises over the last 12 years were CABS and Patte's teacher. CABS's partners, like the Community Foundation for Monterey County, the Big Sur Land Trust, and others, see Patte as their community partner who can help them deliver on mission.



## ASSET BUILDING



### Kris Hoffman

Helping families achieve financial stability is something Kris Hoffman has been doing for years through United Way Monterey County's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

The VITA service provides free tax preparation, both federal and state, for anyone who made less than \$56,000 in 2020. The goal of VITA is to ensure that working people obtain all the tax credits and refunds they are due without having to pay fees to file their tax returns.

United Way recruits and trains community volunteers like Kris to receive IRS tax certification. These volunteers staff VITA sites to assist tax filers with program eligibility and determine if they qualify for tax credits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Young Child Tax Credit.

Kris has been volunteering with VITA for many years working at United Way's Monterey Office and CET Salinas sites and contributes over 25 hours a week during the tax season. Kris has worked with VITA for so long that she recalls when they used to have software discs they had use on the computer to get information.

Due to COVID-19, all VITA sites were suspended in mid-March 2020, but Kris was one of the many volunteers who quickly pivoted to work remotely. With enhanced software, the tax preparation, and filing process was done electronically, preventing any in-person meeting.

Kris has an amazing ability to make taxes fun. She is such a joy to work with and can make you laugh at any moment. She really loves volunteering, and it shows in how she treats tax filers and other VITA volunteers. Kris has been a wonderful support with other volunteers and constantly provides insight to everyone.



## HOUSING SOLUTIONS



### Esther Malkin

Esther Malkin is the founder and director of the Monterey County Renters United (MCRU). She dedicates her time advocating to prevent homelessness crisis in the region, volunteers to increase affordable housing and to protect the rights of renters in Monterey County.

Esther serves on the board of the Housing Resource Center of Monterey County and has been instrumental in representing the voice and protection of renters, who make up more than 50% of residents in Monterey County. She addresses the City Council at almost every meeting as a spokesperson for local renters, as well as lobbying Jimmy Panetta and State representatives to provide renters protection, affordable housing, limits on rent increases, and

fair and equitable treatment of renters. Hundreds of renters received financial assistance due to Esther's efforts.

During 2020, Esther consulted with several local cities in Monterey County to advocate for the creation and implementation of the Emergency Rental Assistance Programs to support renters who lost their job or experienced loss of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Esther holds a B.A. in business & marketing from Florida State University and has directed her lifelong career in corporate sales, marketing, training, and public relations, to shine a spotlight on social issues that are important to her.

The goal of MCRU is to advocate to increase affordable housing and protect the rights of renters in Monterey County. MCRU has been in existence approximately three years. The group's motivation is simple: Renters make up more than 50% of residents in Monterey County. Those that support the local economy ought to be able to live in the community they serve.

They collaborate with the local organizations and officials, inform, and mobilize to make the local rental market fair and affordable for all. The group has partnered with Monterey Bay Economic Partnership, the Monterey County Housing Coalition, and numerous county, city, and elected school district officials to successfully advocate for affordable housing projects and protect renters' rights.

## HOUSING SOLUTIONS



### **Monterey County Renters United**

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The group's advocacy has been instrumental in representing the voice and protection of renters in Monterey County.





## COMMUNITY IMPACT



### Monterey Peninsula Young Professionals

Tabitha Cook (Founder & President), Marieke Desmond (Co-Founder & Vice President), Rachel Shimabukuro (Co-Founder), Nathan Cook, Jehan Valera, 150+ participating members.

Monterey Peninsula Young Professionals (MPYP) helped the community during the COVID-19 pandemic in various ways. They recognized the increasing need for basic necessities and convened their members and collaborated with the community service organizations and groups to expand their reach and impact.

MPYP raised funds and sought monetary and food donations to administer food drives for the students at the Roosevelt Elementary School. They collaborated with the Seaside Rotary Club and the

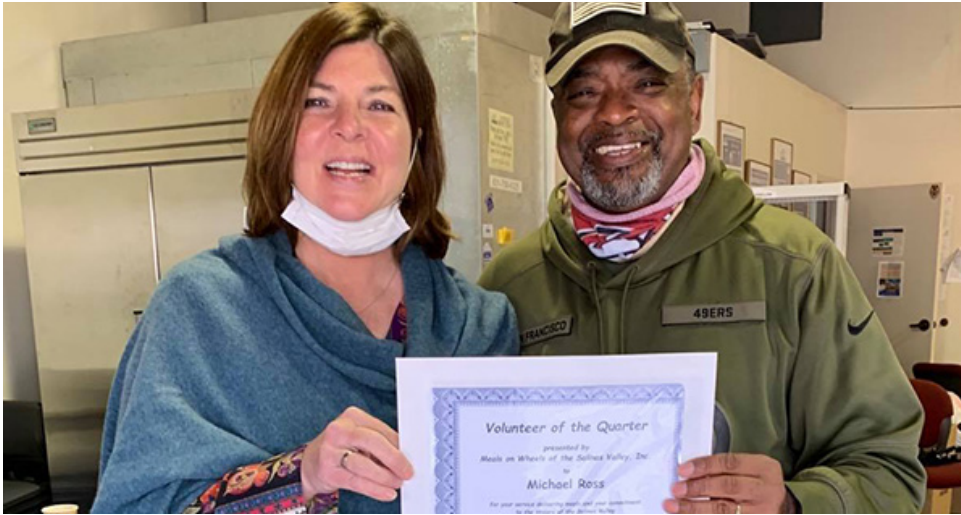
Bethel Baptist Church in Seaside to collect canned goods and supplies to be donated to senior citizens. They engaged the community to encourage book donations and held a book drive for the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District.

MPYP collected canned food and school supplies to be donated to the Alisal Family Resource Center for distribution to the farmworkers. They also partnered with Salinas High School Environmental Fashion Club and organized a toy and blanket drive to benefit the farmworkers.

They raised money for families of local firefighters and bought them grocery and restaurant gift cards. And they donated gift cards to students at Salinas High that could not afford lunches.

The Monterey Peninsula Young Professionals is a group of 21–40-year-olds committed to networking, professional development, and community outreach under the umbrella of the Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce. As a sub-committee of the Chamber, MPYP hosts mixers and networking events to strengthen relationships between young professionals and local businesses throughout Monterey County. The group has over 150 members.

## COMMUNITY IMPACT



### Michael Ross

Michael dedicates his time volunteering for Meals on Wheels of the Salinas Valley, improving the health and well-being of seniors since 2016. He has such an enthusiastic personality and is always willing to help wherever and whenever needed. Michael not only has worked in the warehouse; unloading supplies, packing meals; but he drives a route to deliver meals to homebound seniors. Any time there is a need for extra help, Michael is the first volunteer to step in and keep the organization running smoothly.

Michael's actions for community impact are evident. He works so hard to support his community, especially those who are the most vulnerable. Michael is a team player and inspires others to serve.

He gets along with everyone he interacts with and spreads the good work of Meals on Wheels throughout the community.

Since March of 2020, Michael has volunteered around 10 hours per week—more if it was needed. Meals on Wheels of the Salinas Valley staff wanted to acknowledge the outstanding volunteerism exhibited by Michael Ross by nominating him for the Live United Service Award. Each year their staff nominates one or more volunteers to be recognized at this event.

Meals on Wheels is a non-profit agency that delivers nutritious meals to homebound seniors throughout the Salinas Valley who cannot shop or cook for themselves. The organization believes that no senior should ever go hungry and serves over 450 seniors each year with weekly delivered meals.



## COMMUNITY IMPACT



### **Kate Novoa (Big Sur Kate)**

During disasters and their aftermath in Big Sur, critical information often comes from the Big Sur Kate blog, managed by Kate Novoa since 2008. She has earned the trust of local communities and diverse group of residents. Kate has confronted many challenges during the natural disasters that strike Big Sur that resulted in increasing risks for the entire community. Her impact is importantly local, however, her ability to respond to needs has been recognized well beyond Big Sur, including Monterey County, and by national and international media including CNN and [The Guardian](#).

Kate creates the “go-to” local information and resource platform, empowering Big Sur locals and tourists. Kate gathers reliable

information from multiple sources, often leading to solutions that can be critical to residents. She engages daily with the blog’s community, who depends on her volunteer efforts.

Kate is a veteran and a public defender. She is also an amputee who uses a wheelchair to get around. She lives in a rustic home, on the very top of a mountain in Big Sur, with her dogs. From this very beautiful and unique vantage point, Kate observes, reports, and validates information, as well as connects neighbors to first responders, agencies and organizations. She helps to save lives, protect property, and reduce environmental impact.

Kate’s impact is growing. She is a strong advocate for Big Sur and Monterey County. She reflects a culture of volunteerism that is unique, exemplifying why service should be all inclusive. She takes initiative, shows leadership, and serves the community rigorously, tirelessly and with compassion. During emergency situations, Kate works 12 to 18 hours a day, seven days a week for the first two weeks of an incident, sometimes a month during fires. Afterwards, she continues to contribute over 40 hours a week until the crisis subsides. When there are no emergencies, she usually works 10 to 15 hours a week.



## COMMUNITY IMPACT



### Elfriede Murray

The need for compassion is always a concern, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. In March of 2020, towards the beginning of the pandemic, hospitals began implementing stringent protocols for visitors and laboring families. Elfriede Murray quickly identified a way she can give back to the community and got to work!

Her contribution was a Labor of Love.

The pandemic posed different challenges for new mothers because interactions with families were limited. Elfriede brought joy and love to the moms with crocheted baby booties! Sending moms home with a newborn baby that is adorned with crocheted baby booties- what more can a new mom ask for!

The impact of her baby booties is heartwarming. While someone may see it as a simple pair of booties, her generous gift provides moms, some are first time moms, with a sense of kindness and compassion. The restrictions that were in place at hospitals did not allow for any family member to be in the delivery room or the hospital itself. As a mom, grandmother, and great grandmother, Elfriede understood exactly what that meant. It meant that this emotionally charged experience in a woman's life, having their birth plan derailed, may have left her feeling scared and very alone.

Local hospitals received hundreds of these baby booties. Local hospitals included Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital, Montage Health (CHOMP) and Watsonville. Elfriede also donated booties to the Echota Cherokee Tribe in Alabama, and a hospital in Berkley.

Elfriede's Labor of Love was strengthened by contribution from her family. They drove around the County to locate the needed yarn. Since March of 2020, and continuing into 2021, Elfriede has crocheted for hundreds of hours. She does this every day, at least four pairs of baby booties a day. The 80-year-old great-grandmother continues to forge ahead and not allowing anything get in her way.

## COMMUNITY IMPACT



### Kim Stemler

Personal testimonial: “My children and I were evacuees from the wildfires, and we were hiding because of a domestic violence situation. This situation created judgement against us in our community and we were being denied all substantial help. I had no choice but to pay to stay at the Hofsas House in Carmel-by-the-Sea where we received a discount but I was still spending the money I did not have.

I needed to find help because I have had a chronic health condition that could have potentially put me in the hospital. During this fear and panic, I was contacted by Kim Stemler and the organization she volunteers at, the Community Emergency Response Volunteers

(CERV) of the Monterey Peninsula. She paid for our last night in the Hofsas House and got us into the Asilomar evacuation center. She linked me with so many caring people and organizations including the governor’s office. She had food sent to us and got us several gift cards. Before I met Kim, I was contemplating going back to San Diego and back to my abuser so that we would have a roof over my children’s head. Thanks to Kim and CERV, I did not have to make that tough decision. Soon after, she put the word out for housing, and we found a rental home.

Kim’s organization got a grant for wildfire victims. That money helped with our rent. She helped fill our house with furniture, food, and other necessities. Because of Kim, our 2020 Christmas was more amazing than I could have ever imagined. Unfortunately, shortly after we moved into the new home, I was hospitalized, and Kim took care of my children while I was away.

I am home now, and things are slowly getting back to normal. We are grateful for Kim for making us feel safe. I initially thought that we were the only family she helped but I was wrong. CERV of the Monterey Peninsula helped so many other individuals and families in need.”

Kim is the Executive Director of the Monterey County Vintners & Growers Association and volunteers as a Board member for the CERV of the Monterey Peninsula, the California Association of Winegrape Growers, and the Emile Norman Arts Foundation. She is a long-time member of the Rotary Club of Monterey and was named Monterey County Woman of the year.



## COMMUNITY IMPACT



### Jessica Faddis

Jessica Faddis is the founder off ALL IN Monterey (ALL IN), a volunteer organization created as a response to the COVID-19 crisis. Jessica has shown great leadership and dedication to her community. She organized, united others, and volunteered while still working and dealing with crisis in her paid job. She is always positive, serves with her heart, inspires kindness, and motivates others in our community.

All IN started by feeding people in need when Dorothy's Kitchen had to close due to the pandemic. The cook at Dorothy's Kitchen was providing 300-400 meals on her own. Jessica and ALL

IN recognized the importance of continuing this service. They started making 1,200 peanut butter sandwiches a week for Dorothy's Kitchen.

Then the group convened the community into making and donating more food and created a food pantry. Through her capacity as executive director for the Carmel Youth Center, Jessica teamed with Carmel Youth Center board member and Flaherty's Seafood Grill & Oyster Bar owner Ken Spilfogel to secure an entire truck full of restaurant perishables. The group rented a trailer and delivered over 900 cases of food to families in need in the community.

Jessica serves as the Executive Director at Carmel Youth Center Inc., a youth development organization that provides services and leadership to meet the emerging needs of young people and their families in our community.



## COMMUNITY IMPACT



### **ALL IN Monterey**

Jessica Faddis, Tanya Kosta, Yesenia Velarde, Karen Blackwell

Founded and operated entirely by volunteers as a response to the COVID-19 crisis, ALL IN Monterey (ALL IN) grew rapidly. By June 2020, it was serving over 16 organizations and thousands of individuals weekly.

It all started with sandwiches. ALL IN, initially consisting of less than a handful of members, was making 1,200 peanut butter sandwiches a week for Dorothy's Kitchen to help those in need during the pandemic. Jessica and the original members created a Facebook group, encouraging locals to participate, and contacting community service providers to see what type of donations would be most helpful for

families in need. They called shelters, food pantries and faith-based organizations, and contacted the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District leaders asking them to identify families in need.

Soon after, a special donation from a local restaurant triggered a growth spurt in outreach and ALL IN secured an entire truck full of restaurant perishables. What was likely destined to go unused – eggs, meat, cheese, tortillas, fruit, vegetables and more – was bundled into around 900 cases of food to families in need.

ALL IN is still feeding local families and caring for people through the pandemic and devastating fires. Volunteers have been serving by distributing perishable food, groceries, pet food, and preparing care packages with diapers, hygiene supplies, etc. In addition, the group created the Kindness Closet, operating twice a month, providing people in need with donated items.

ALL IN led by example and altruism. They inspired the community to come together and support one another. They initiated all efforts and motivated community members of all ages to join in caring for others. Their service has helped at least 1,000 families a week. ALL IN Monterey's community service impacted nearly 50,000 people throughout Monterey County.

## COMMUNITY IMPACT



### Jose Mendoza-Perez

In 2019, Jose became a member of Return of the Natives' (RON) RESTORER Program as he recognized the need for community involvement in creating safe and accessible outdoor opportunities for families and children. As a RESTORER he was a mentor of youth and a leader with families and the public who volunteered with RON with native planting and cleanup events.

Jose is a role-model for CSUMB service learners and a leader on how to be an effective hands-on volunteer. He gave native planting demonstrations to one-time volunteers and inspired them to learn more about the work of RON. He played a key role in motivating other volunteers and CSUMB service learners to keep

working and volunteering. He used his Spanish skills in making non-English speaking community members feel welcome and volunteer alongside of him.

Jose was always ready to take the initiative, learn more to serve the community. He readily took on new opportunities and was eager to learn about ecology and nature. He has always been willing to share his knowledge and he even conducted a TV interview about the work of RON.

He volunteered every weekend until the implementation of Shelter-in-Place in March 2020. But his contribution did not end there. He stayed in contact with RON staff even when COVID-19 prevented active hands-on volunteering and he contributed educational photos for RON's social media pages. RON is committed to keeping Jose engaged in stewardship, in furthering his education, and exploring possible career goals.



## COMMUNITY IMPACT



### Suk Horton

Suk Joined the Marina Recreation Volunteer team in March 2020 when the Shelter-in-Place was implemented. She volunteers for the COVID-19 Food Distribution Program to support for the Marina residents during the COVID-19 Relief Emergency Operations Order. She has been present for each of the weekly food distributions ensuring that the City of Marina residents have the necessary nutrition they need. Suk also served to manage a team of drive through volunteers that provided food for the families in need.

Suk's efforts and her support for the COVID-19 Food Distribution Program are a credit to her and the efforts provided for the Marina community during the pandemic. Suk has been dedicated

to serve the community since March 2020, demonstrating and driving measurable impact to create sustainable solutions for the residents of Marina. She has always been dependable, collaborative, and eager to inspire others with her service. Her integrity and values motivated the community and helped create a culture of volunteerism.



## COMMUNITY IMPACT



### Marina Foundation

Steve Emerson, President; Dorothy Emerson, Vice President of Operations; Linda Wight, Vice President; Nancy Fortman, Secretary; Cody Kievlan, Treasurer; and Board Members Don Livermore, Jeanne Nakagawa, Carl Faria, Mike Mast, Mary Estrada, Susan Boettner, and Dusan Tatomirovic

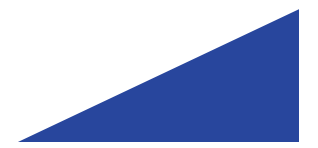
The Marina Foundation, a nonprofit in the City of Marina, stepped up in March 2020 as part of the Emergency Operations Order under COVID-19 to build and operate a citywide COVID-19 Food Distribution Program for the families impacted by the pandemic.

The Marina Foundation creates sustainable solutions for Marina residents. To support the COVID-19 Food Distribution Program, they

mobilized volunteers, and engaged with a variety of stakeholders, including nonprofits, students, businesses, local leaders, and faith-based organizations.

The mission of the foundation is to award scholarships and/or grants to Marina residents, to support educational programs that benefit Marina students, and provide financial support to organizations and events that serve the community.

Over the past few years, the foundation has helped fund various nutrition programs for the youth and the community, helped raise funds for an ADA van to serve seniors, contributed to the expansion of the Food Pantry at the Veterans Transition Center and helped to provide funding to re-imagine a community playground. The foundation awarded the annual Man and Woman of the Year awards, organized its annual Christmas Tree Lighting and provided over \$10,000 in scholarship funds in 2020 alone, among many other services.





## COMMUNITY IMPACT



### Union Bank Volunteers

Union Bank employees responded to United Way Monterey County's call for volunteers to send in 'Notes From Home' to the Family Resource Center of the Salinas City Elementary School District. The family resource center provides food, clothing, school supplies, and other necessities to many families experiencing financial stress and housing instability. These 'Notes From Home' provide a personal and a special touch of encouragement that leaves a positive impact on the families.

The District Homeless Liaison at the Salinas City Elementary School District said the following about the impact of these notes: "We love the notes of encouragement! The notes go out with any resource

we distribute at any time! We have a tub of English and one with the Spanish notes. The parents really enjoy reading how a community member cares! That's the bottom line, our community cares. Thank you for this outreach that benefits our families who are going through a tough time!"

Union Bank employees from branches throughout California, including Monterey County, Alameda, Cathedral City, Gilroy, Roseville, Sacramento, Turlock, and Yuba City responded to this need and sent in over 800 Notes in both English and Spanish.

The 'Notes From Home' submissions by Union bank employees are being distributed with any resource from the resource center to the families receiving assistance. These notes have had a great impact on these families as they have helped show them that the community cares and that they are not alone in their struggles.



## COMMUNITY IMPACT



### **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Missionaries in the California San Jose Mission**

Representative Jeanne Merrill

The City of Marina implemented an Emergency Operations Order when the Shelter-in-Place was put mandated in March 2020. In response, the members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Missionaries in the California San Jose chapter have been volunteering for the City of Marina's weekly Tuesday & Friday COVID-19 Food Distribution. The missionaries have been the backbone of this distribution program.

They volunteered and mobilized others to serve to benefit the families in need in Marina. They demonstrate the true spirit of

volunteerism combined with leadership and motivation. Their dedication to teamwork has been inspirational, always showing respect for one another and compassion for their community. The families in need has known that they could depend on their dedication to serve the community.

Missionaries of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS Church) are volunteer representatives of the Latter-day Saints Church who engage variously in church service, humanitarian aid, and community service. Mormon missionaries may serve on a full- or part-time basis, depending on the assignment, and are organized geographically into missions.

Volunteers are in the age range of 18 to 21, serving the community they live in. They have rotating assignments, focusing on the cities of Seaside, Marina, and Monterey.



## YOUTH VOLUNTEERS



### **Makena Silva**

Makena is Vice President of the Monterey Peninsula College Business and Entrepreneurship club. In 2020, Monterey Peninsula College Business & Entrepreneurship Club officers began brainstorming on how they could help alleviate the burden of the pandemic. They created supplies for the Healthcare industry to assist the medical facilities experiencing shortages due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In collaboration with design students and the Monterey Peninsula College's 3D printing department head, Makena and the team fundraised \$3,000 and began procuring materials for the project. Ultimately, they designed, manufactured, and distributed thousands of 3D printed face shields, reusable N95 straps, and adjustable strap holders to hospitals, private medical practices, and COVID-19

testing clinics. With the funds raised, they were also able to acquire over 200 N95 masks to deliver to hospitals. In the end, these efforts primarily helped local community organizations, including Montage Health (CHOMP), Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital, and Natividad. They also benefited the health care groups across the state and the country, including Kaiser Permanente, South Central Family Health Center's testing clinic in Los Angeles, Virginia Mason Hospital in Seattle, and even a private practice in Georgia. This project was made possible by a vast and generous network and the leadership of Makena.

Makena demonstrates the true spirit of volunteerism coupled with innovation and entrepreneurship. The 17-year-old volunteer engaged a network of resources including Rotary and Interact Clubs, community colleges, medical foundations, school clubs, and individuals who assisted with funding, outreach, and assembly to support the production and distribution of N95 masks and face shields to essential workers in Monterey County during the pandemic.

In addition to this project, in 2020, Makena volunteered for the United Way Monterey County's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) service providing free tax assistance for low to moderate income tax return filers. She also served as an intern for United Way Monterey County in the Spring of 2020, supporting the Resource Development and Marketing departments.

Makena was selected by campus administration to participate among top students in the National Society of Leadership and Success program. She is also a Musical Worship Sunday School teacher for the Sunday service at Calvary Chapel Monterey Bay.



## YOUTH VOLUNTEERS



### **This Club Saves Lives**

Leigh Cambra (club advisor), Olivia Hansen, Ananda Sadul, Abby Weisenfeld, Lily Weisenfeld, Ashley Davidson, Leila Kraut, Emily Cheshire, Shannon Ikemiya, Peyton Kelly, Sage Melton, Chelsea Nguyen, Maya Yamada, Tosin Oladokun, Jordy Cabrera, Madi Hart, Alexa Julien

This Club Saves Lives is a non-profit volunteer organization and a community service club at the Carmel High School. Their goal is to assess the need in their local communities and create projects to address those demands.

In 2020, the group served their community by providing over 100 blankets to the Casa de Noche Buena (Community Human

Services), Voices for Children, CASA in Salinas, Monterey County SPCA, Peace of Mind Dog Rescue, and All In Monterey; and collecting donations and organizing a Halloween fundraiser for the Food Bank for Monterey County to help families throughout the Monterey Peninsula. During Giving Tuesday Now fundraising, they helped collect donations to provide families in need with nutritious food for one week. This Club Saves Lives supported the Carmel community during the wildfires by providing meals and basic necessities to the evacuees. They also collected gift cards to help fire victims and support local restaurants.

This Club Saves Lives stands with equity in all their volunteer work. The group presented at the Monterey County Office of Education's All In for Equity Virtual Conference, sharing their initiatives and service that benefited all.

This Club Saves Lives is a student club at Carmel High School. The club was founded in 2015 by students wanting a platform where they could volunteer to benefit local communities. The name was inspired by This Bar Saves Lives, a granola bar company who donate a packet of life-saving nutrition for every bar they sell.





# George Lange

CHAMPION FOR EARLY CARE  
AND EDUCATION





# Patte Kronlund

CHAMPION FOR ASSET BUILDING



# Esther Malkin

CHAMPION FOR HOUSING SOLUTIONS





Makena Silva

OUTSTANDING YOUTH VOLUNTEER





# ALL IN Monterey

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE







Kate Novoa

LIFETIME OF SERVICE

# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



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