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Danville Express News

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Calpine to donate \$10,000 to food bank of Contra Costa and Solano



Calpine Corp., which operates a power plant in Pittsburg, will donate \$10,000 to the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano today, Contra Costa County Supervisor Federal Glover announced Tuesday.

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Lisa Sherrill, spokeswoman for the food bank, said the donation will provide an estimated 20,000 meals to residents in the two counties.

The food bank currently provides food to 130,000 people every month through soup kitchens and grocery bag giveaways.

Sherrill said that a lot of people who need food do work, but still don't make enough money to feed their families. The grocery bags are a way to supplement the food they are able to buy. Other food bank clients are people who have been laid off and are having trouble finding work, Sherrill said.

According to Glover, more than 89,000 Contra Costa County residents get food from the food bank each month, a 63 percent increase from three years ago. An estimated 28 percent of people being helped by the food bank are children, Glover said.

Calpine has also paid for Glover's annual Thanksgiving turkey giveaway. Last year, the company paid for 600 turkeys, which the supervisor gave away for free to needy families, Glover said.

Calpine officials will meet with Glover and representatives from the food bank at 1 p.m. today to tour the facility and present a check for the donation, Glover said.

The food bank is located at 4010 Nelson Ave. in Concord.

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