



## OUR MISSION

**White Pony Express (WPE)** is a non-profit organization based in Contra Costa County, CA. We are on a mission to help eliminate hunger and poverty by delivering the abundance all around us to those in need, **with love.**

## THE WHY BEHIND OUR WORK

Dr. Carol Weyland Conner founded WPE in 2013. She was troubled by the fact that in a county of tremendous abundance, thousands of people went hungry each day and many more suffered from inadequate, unhealthy diets. At the same time, grocery stores, retailers, food manufacturers, farms, and restaurants were discarding thousands of pounds of high-quality fresh food. The organization matured by harnessing this abundance through our dedicated local volunteer base. Being a caring 'neighbor' is an idea that's fundamental to our organization, and is one of our most effective safeguards against hunger and poverty. By expressing compassion and love toward the community, WPE aims to build a sense of unity, fulfilling our motto, **all of us taking care of all of us!**

## WHO WE SERVE

Our 80+ regular recipient agencies serve a wide variety of demographics and include shelters, community centers, senior living facilities, foster youth programs, homes for people with disabilities, under-sourced schools, and more. By providing **free food and clothing** to these agencies, they are able to focus their limited budgets and energy on the services they specialize in, creating an omni-win for everyone!

## ALL OF US TAKING CARE OF ALL OF US

## IMPACT

In just **8 years**, a small but mighty team of **17 staff**, dedicated volunteers, and **11 vehicles** have rescued and delivered **18 million pounds of fresh, high-quality food** – enough for more than 15 million meals! We have distributed **700,000+ items of clothing, shoes, books & toys**. Through our partners, and powered by **400+ volunteers**, our growing circle of giving serves **120,000+ people** in our community.

**100+** ACTIVE RECIPIENT PARTNERS

**8 YEARS**

**700K+**  
CLOTHING, SHOES,  
BOOKS AND TOYS

**18M+** POUNDS OF FOOD

**400+** ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

**11** SCHOOL PANTRIES

**120K** PEOPLE SERVED IN COMMUNITY

## OUR APPROACH

Our "circle of giving" model is anchored by three core principles outlined by WPE's Founder:



### SHARING ABUNDANCE

The "surplus-to-need" template is not linear, it is a circle. Filling gaps with surplus creates more surplus: energy is generated, money is saved, the environment benefits, families heal, and spirits are lifted. We believe the "circle model" is a highly replicable one.



### HARNESSING THE POWER OF VOLUNTEERISM

Volunteering is giving from the heart, and we build community through service. When people join in service there is a spark, a natural inclination to share in the joy of giving.



### DELIVERING WITH LOVE

We see those we serve and partner with as members of our one family and only offer food and goods we would share with a loved one. We provide choices. The power of choice gives recipients a feeling of agency and freedom. We use food and clothing as vehicles for sharing love.

# SERVICE PROGRAMS

White Pony Express operates three programs to meet our mission:

## FOOD RESCUE



Our Food Rescue program meets the challenge that food markets face – what to do with surplus fresh food – to solve the problem of hunger? We pick up high-quality surplus food and deliver it to over 70 organizations serving those in need, 7 days a week. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we've expanded to meet the spike in community need, plus the doubling and tripling of food donations. We receive a daily average of 14,000 lbs. but sometimes we rescue up to 37,000 lbs. of high-quality surplus food per day! Projects in 2021 include **Drive-Thru Giveaway Events** where we offer free groceries, clothing, toys, and books; the launch of **Neighbors Helping Neighbors**, WPE's new collection and distribution center focused on smaller, more frequent donations; and growing our School Pantry Program which provides groceries to low income families across Contra Costa County. Our WPE **School Pantry Program** currently serves 11 low-income schools, and our goal is to serve every qualifying school in Contra Costa County.

## WHITE PONY GENERAL STORE (WPGS)



Our General Store program distributes new and like-new clothing, shoes, toys, and books. We have brought 60 unique pop-up "Mobile Boutiques" to neighborhoods in need, offering a personalized and joyful shopping experience. In winter, our Cold Weather Program provides life-saving warm clothing, backpacks, and supplies. WPGS offers a comprehensive Children's Program and an initiative focused on our neighbors experiencing homelessness.

## THE WHITE PONY INN (WPI)



WPI is not a structure made of bricks and mortar but refers to a small group of volunteers who flexibly use their skills to assist Inn "guests" at the individual and family level. The Inn is a pilot project that provides counseling, medical advice, and loving aid to help people regain balance in their lives. With this assistance, many of our guests have become self-sufficient.



## WAYS TO HELP

2021 is a big year for WPE as our annual budget has grown to **\$2.5M to meet our community's growing needs**. To learn about ways you can help visit our website at [www.whiteponyexpress.org](http://www.whiteponyexpress.org) or call us at (925) 322-0604.



### DONATE

Online, by check, via stock, or through our Legacy Giving program.



### VOLUNTEER

Visit our Volunteer Page or email [volunteer@whiteponyexpress.org](mailto:volunteer@whiteponyexpress.org)



### FUNDRAISE

Email Lauren Militello at [development@whiteponyexpress.org](mailto:development@whiteponyexpress.org)

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



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