



November 2019 | sunflowerhill.org

November 7, 2019

#GivingTuesday is December 3, 2019



Give The Gift of Empowerment!

Join us on December 3rd for #GivingTuesday, and give the gift of empowerment to an adult with developmental disabilities! We've got an ambitious goal: raise [\\$24,000 in 24 Hours](#) to help fund our Sunflower Hill Gardens and Stable Cafe programs.

Did You Know?

Sunflower Hill offers its horticulture programming free of charge to 16 different adult day and high school transition programs throughout the Bay Area. We also offer our Stable Cafe programming at no charge to program participants.

You Can Help!

We need your help to reach our goal and continue offering our vocational and enrichment programs! On Giving Tuesday you can donate, follow us on social media and share our posts; challenge 10 of your friends and family to donate and then tag 10 of their friends and family. Stay tuned for information on how you can become a Sunflower Hill ambassador and share our mission and goal! Also, be sure to use our [#SunflowerHillEmpowers](#) hashtag and follow our progress on our website!

**#GIVING
TUESDAY**

Kickoff #GivingTuesday Early!

Ready to Give The Gift of Empowerment? Visit our [GivingTuesday](#) page and donate today!

Volunteers Make an Impact at Sunflower Hill Gardens

Working Hard in the Garden

This past Saturday, we were thrilled to host a very large group of volunteers from [Fremont Bank](#)! These fabulous, fun, and hardworking volunteers worked for several hours in the garden hauling tons of mulch, building new trellises for our raised beds, and weeding an entire crop block! We were so appreciative of their willingness to help and have fun too!



Greenhouse Gets A Clean Out!



[Blue Oaks Church](#) recently came out to the garden to help with our annual greenhouse clean out! The helpful volunteers mucked out the greenhouse and then applied a fresh layer of tung oil, used to protect the wood. Our greenhouse is a vital part to our garden, currently housing succulent rootings, acorn sprouts, herb cuttings that are being propagated, and sugar snap peas that program participants direct-seeded into trays and are now germinating. We are so grateful to the amazing Blue Oaks Church volunteers who helped make our greenhouse ready for another growing season!

Flipping Compost

A special thanks to the hard-working volunteers from St. Mary's alumni group who chose Sunflower Hill as their Service Day project. They spent the first part of the morning harvesting herbs for our community partner, [Culinary Angels](#). Then they worked up a sweat flipping compost, pulling out old plants and planting new ones in the hedgerow, and weeding our block of winter crops. It was a busy and productive day in the garden. Thank you St. Mary's!



A Fresh Coat of Paint

Thank you [LifeScan](#) and [HandsOn Bay Area](#) volunteers for joining us in the garden on a drizzly Wednesday morning. Volunteers helped stain the picnic tables, and applied a fresh coat of cheerful, yellow paint to our outdoor classroom chairs.



Interested in having your organization volunteer at our Garden? [Contact us!](#)

Community Events at Sunflower Hill Gardens

Fall Garden Festival!

It was a spooktacular time at our Fall Garden Festival! We were thrilled to host one of our biggest events at the garden on October 26, with over 90 attendees who enjoyed hayrides, garden tours, facing painting, cooking demonstrations, a scavenger hunt, and numerous pumpkin-related games! We are so thankful to all of our community partners and volunteers who helped make the event a huge success: [NCL Pleasanton](#), class of 2022 provided volunteers; Monica Hobbs from [Culinary Angels](#) whipped up a delicious pumpkin soup, and Don Keech from the [Livermore Heritage Guild](#) expertly guided the Hay Rides.



Sip 'N Shop Benefiting Sunflower Hill

This last weekend, we were honored to be the beneficiary of [Rubino Estates Winery's](#) Sip 'N Shop event. The two-day event featured numerous, local vendors selling their newest holiday goodies. Thanks to the hard-working Rubino staff, and all those who came to sip, shop, and support Sunflower Hill, we raised more than \$2,300! We are also very grateful to the amazing volunteers from NCL Pleasanton and NCL Livermore who were on-hand providing expert gift wrapping as well as selling raffle tickets!



Get Involved!

Shop Amazon?

Now you can donate to Sunflower Hill when you shop on Amazon! Just visit [AmazonSmile](#) and choose Sunflower Hill as your charitable organization, and then shop as you would normally. Sunflower Hill will receive a 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases!



Maximize Your Giving Impact!

CHEF, the Community Health & Education Foundation, is an organization that serves the Tri-Valley by providing resources and opportunities for local non-profits to foster a community of giving. On the 1st day of each month, CHEF will match \$1 for every \$2 donated to local non-profits like Sunflower Hill. CHEF's goal is to generate \$60,000 of monthly giving in the Tri-Valley. Funds typically are met within hours of being opened - so visit the [CHEF website](#) (be sure to select Sunflower Hill) early on the 1st day of each month.

Community Happenings

All-Abilities Playground in Dublin

Dublin plans to create and build an all-abilities playground, allocating \$4 million for the project. The Imagine Playground at Dublin Sports Grounds [broke ground](#) in October with \$1.4 million secured by the city of Dublin and Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan from a grant by the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

Disability Organizations Plan to Create 1 Million Jobs

Autism Speaks, Special Olympics and Best Buddies have joined forces to create 1 million jobs for people with developmental disabilities by 2025. [Delivering Jobs](#) plans to encourage employers to hire people with disabilities as well as provide tools for job seekers to prepare them for opportunities in the workforce.

Expanded Disability Housing

The Federal government plans to set aside \$112 million to [expand disability housing](#) in the U.S. The Department of Housing and Urban Development will make \$75 million available to fund new housing for people with disabilities. In addition, \$37 million is now available in rental assistance for people with disabilities.

Upcoming Events

November 17: Breakfast at the [Stable Cafe](#)
December 1: [CHEF Giving](#)
December 3: [Giving Tuesday](#)
January 18: [Make a Difference for Pleasanton Festival](#)



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