

Click [HERE](#) for a printable calendar of upcoming events!

## Speakers

**September 08, 2021**

[Charmin Smith, Head Coach, California Golden Bears Women's Basketball Team](#)  
"Cal Women's Basketball Post-Covid"

**September 15, 2021**

[Doug Fielding, Former Owner/President of the Charcoal Companion Group](#)  
"America vs. China: Who Will Be the Loser in This Economic War?"

**September 22, 2021**

[Berkeley Peace Grove Committee](#)

**September 29, 2021**

[Tom Debley, Founding Director of the Heritage Resources Department at Kaiser Per](#)  
"Henry J. Kaiser, 100 Years of East Bay History"

## Events

September 8th

["Thirsty Thursdays" Electric Transportation Event](#)

September 9th

[Supportive Housing Service Project: Packing Hygiene Kits](#)

September 15th

["Thirsty Thursdays" Electric Transportation Event](#)

September 19th

[Picnic - Cordonices Park](#)

September 22nd

["Thirsty Thursdays" Electric Transportation Event](#)

September 29th

["Thirsty Thursdays" Electric Transportation](#)

## Club Announcements

By Linda Cogozzo

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, September 8, 12:30 PM, via Zoom. Charmin Smith, Head Coach of the California Golden Bears Women's Basketball Team (<https://bit.ly/3ngWgN5>), will speak on "Cal Women's Basketball Post-Covid." She'll catch you up on all the changes and fill you in on the excitement for the upcoming season! The speaker is provided by President Arlene Marcus.

**Promote Electronic Vehicles:** The Berkeley Rotary Climate Action Team (RCAT) invites you to Thirsty Thursdays (in September), sponsored by Berkeley Ecology Center at the Civic Center Farmers' Market. Bring your EV, PHEV, or electric bike to display, and/or pass out information about electric vehicles. It's a fun, easy way to talk to people about electric cars and there's music and food! Register: <https://bit.ly/3jjgl2T>

**Pack Toiletry Kits** with the Supportive Housing Committee on Thursday, September 9, at 3115 Eton Ave., Berkeley, at 11 AM. (Counts toward Blue & Gold!) Plus, the committee is asking for donations of gently used men's clothing (shirts, pants, undershirts, socks, jackets, and shoes), which can be dropped off on packing day. For more information about packing and donating, email Jackie Hammond at [jphbooks74@gmail.com](mailto:jphbooks74@gmail.com).

**Back to the Future:** Meet up with fellow Rotarians on October 29-31 at District 5160's conference at the Olympic Valley Resort at Squaw Creek in Lake Tahoe. Two years in the making, the conference is bound to deliver fun, fellowship, and inspiration! Register: <https://conference.rotary5160.org>



## What Has the Supportive Housing Committee Been Doing?

By Irene R. Hegarty

**A lot.**

At last week's meeting, Jackie Hammond and Joanne Dickinson-Harper (affectionately known as J&J) gave a report on the activities of the Supportive Housing Committee over the past year. The data in the box below tell the story. From packing and

## Event

## Birthdays

[Ione Hill Elioff](#)

September 8th

[Reginald J. Garcia](#)

September 9th

[Joshua H. Oliver](#)

September 10th

[Manjul Batra](#)

September 17th

[Travis Neal](#)

September 18th

[Eva J. Gero](#)

September 20th

[Antonia B. Sweet](#)

September 24th

[Schuyler Bailey](#)

September 28th

[Robert L Sorenson](#)

October 4th



distributing personal care kits to the homeless to providing backpacks with school supplies for children in Berkeley's Harrison House Shelter to providing blankets and knitted hats to veterans and sending school supplies

and personal care kits to South Africa, the Supportive Housing Committee is making positive change in our community and our world.

### Serving the Unhoused: By the Numbers

- 350 Personal care kits **per month** assembled and distributed, with 4800 pieces
- 4200 Kits **total**, packed with 57,600 pieces
- 115 Bags of school supplies packed and delivered to Berkeley Public Schools during COVID
- 300+ Blankets and hats collected and distributed to veterans for Christmas 2020
- 20 Volunteers ♦ Rotarians and friends ♦ accomplished all of this, and more!!

Their work is made possible through the donations and volunteer hours of Berkeley Rotarians, their friends and family, and through partnerships with local organizations, including the Oakland Rotary Club, Berkeley Public Schools BEARS program, veterans groups, and local shelters.

[Read More](#)

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## Rolling Forward with Berkeley Food Network

By Katherine Campbell King

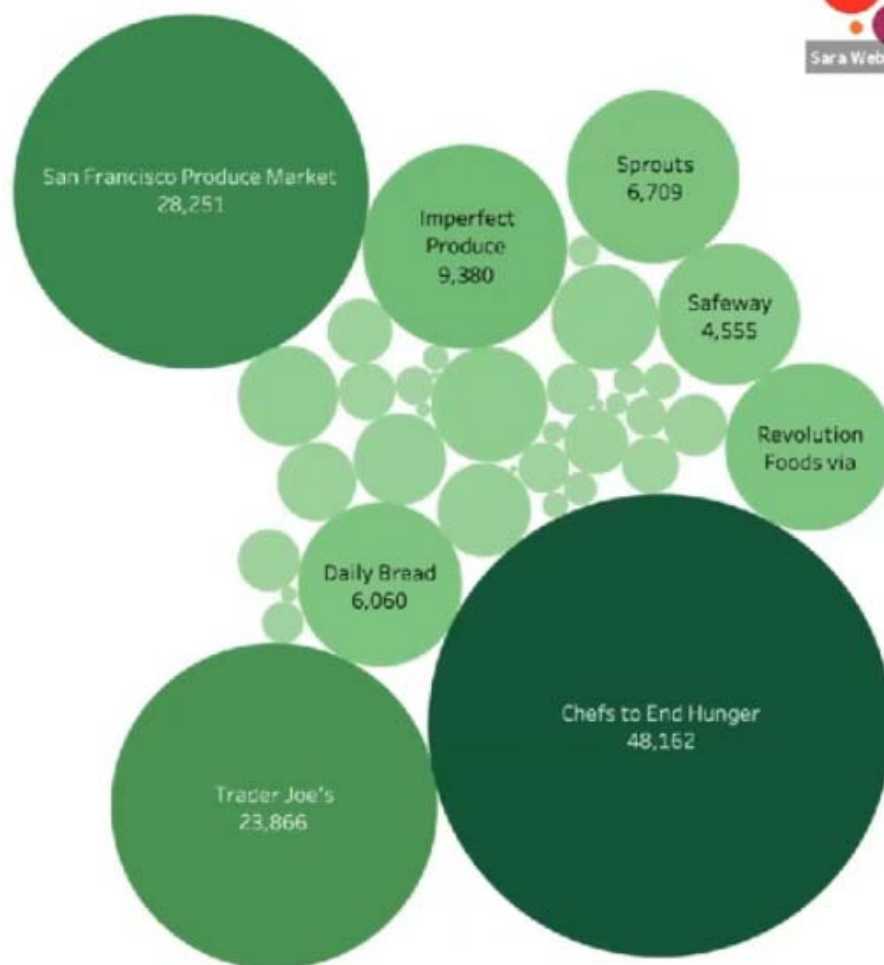
Sara Webber, Executive Director of the Berkeley Food Network, spoke to the club in June 2019 at an earlier stage of development in the Berkeley Food Network (BFN), and talked about how the organization was created and early programs running mobile pantries for the senior centers, schools, and other organizations like Head Start. From its inception, BFN's goal was to be deeply enmeshed in the community, seeking to be a model for out-of-the-box solutions to make healthy food more equitably accessible.

As is so common with Rotary presentations, following that day we had club members reaching out to Sara with suggestions, connections (and some donations!). Our Rotary ♦ wheel ♦ logo always feels so appropriate in the moments when we are ♦ rolling forward ♦ in the community.

Fast forward two years, and Sara has returned. Both BFN and Berkeley Rotary's involvement with the organization have taken a leap forward by necessity. Before the pandemic hit, BFN's work was building via incrementally more mobile pantries and a budding food recovery and meal production program, feeding about 1,600 people/week. Starting in April 2020 they quickly grew to serve about 5,000/week. Sara cited the model of partnership with other community organizations as the key to being able to ramp up and meet that need; there are currently nearly 90 network members.

Three key areas of expansion during the pandemic were more mobile pantries, development of a delivery program for homebound seniors, and a big expansion in food recovery work. The kitchen operation creates healthy frozen meals that are popular

across mobile pantries, with seniors, and with homeless clients. BFN expects to produce 50,000 meals in 2021 and to distribute nearly 1,300,000 pounds of food. The graphic below shows some of the sources for that recovered food.



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