

# making a difference in richmond



By Lily Rahnema

Chevron Richmond is committed to investing in Richmond and western Contra Costa County with our time and resources to support local organizations that make our community a better place to live

and work.

Since 2012, we have invested more than \$35 million with community organizations in Richmond and western Contra Costa County. This support enables positive impacts in the lives of thousands of residents across neighborhoods in our community. We provide social investments to results-orientated organizations that help improve education, drive economic development, train workers and create opportunities for youth in this community.

The refinery's workforce also values giving back by applying their skills, experience and energy to help the organizations we collaborate with to succeed. Our team members share their time serving as advisors, board members and volunteers. Employees can also go a step further through Chevron's Humankind Program, which matches financial contributions made by employees and eligible retirees to nonprofits they might work with individually and provides grants for time they spend volunteering.

I'm proud to share the results of our 2018 community giving, and thank all of our community organizations and our employee volunteers, for their ongoing hard work serving residents from all walks of life. Together we are making a difference in this community that we share.

Lily Rahnema is the Community Engagement Manager for the Chevron Richmond Refinery.

## hacer un cambio en richmond

Por Lily Rahnema

Chevron Richmond está comprometido en invertir en Richmond y el oeste del Condado de Contra Costa donando tiempo y recursos para apoyar a organizaciones locales que hacen que nuestra comunidad sea un mejor lugar para vivir y trabajar.

Desde 2012, hemos invertido más de \$35 millones de dólares en organizaciones comunitariasen Richmond y el oeste del Condado de Contra Costa. Este apoyo impacta positivamente las vidas de miles de residentes en los vecindarios de nuestra comunidad. Ofrecemos inversiones sociales a organizaciones orientadas en resultados que ayudan a mejorar la educación, impulsan el desarrollo económico, capacitan a trabajadores y crean oportunidades para los jóvenes de esta comunidad.

La fuerza laboral de la refinería también valora la colaboración al aplicar sus destrezas, experiencia y energía para ayudar a que las organizaciones con las que colaboramos a tener éxito. Los miembros de nuestro equipo comparten su tiempo como asesores, miembros de la junta y voluntarios. Los empleados también pueden ayudar aún más a través del Programa Humankind de Chevron, el cual iguala las contribuciones económicas hechas por los empleados y jubilados que reúnen los requisitos para organizaciones sin fines de lucro con las que pueden trabajar personalmente y provee subsidios por el tiempo que dedican como voluntarios.

Me enorgullezco de compartir los resultados de la colaboración comunitaria de 2018 y agradezco a todas nuestras organizaciones comunitarias y nuestros empleados voluntarios por su arduo trabajo al brindar servicios a los residentes de todo tipo y hacer un cambio en esta comunidad que compartimos.

Lily Rahnema es gerente de relaciones con la comunidad de la Refinería Chevron Richmond



## \$3,574,417 total giving in 2018



economic development







additional funding



richmond promise: \$970,750

environmental and community investment agreement (ECIA) grants: \$500,000

### economic development

## fostering opportunities

Many high-paying jobs in today's economy require advanced skillsets, which has led to an increasing skills gap. Minimizing that gap in our community is critical to Chevron. We support organizations leading those important efforts and have a proven track record of successful vocational training and job placement.

#### **Rubicon Programs**

Rubicon works to transform East Bay communities by equipping people to break the cycle of poverty. Rubicon provides vocational training, entrepreneurship opportunities, on-the-job training, career-aligned transitional employment and education. Learn more on page 5 of the newsletter.



### youth and public safety supporting local youth and protecting the community

The Richmond Refinery supports local organizations that make our community safer and provide opportunities for youth to succeed. We contribute to improving public safety by supporting impactful intervention programs for vulnerable youth.

#### The Wright Institute

The Wright Institute is a school-based collaboration with the Greenwood Academy that provides funding to support peer mediation, crisis intervention and conflict resolution to help students successfully transition back to high school, college and the job market





Few factors are more important to the future success of communities than having a welleducated population prepared to meet tomorrow's challenges. We cultivate innovative relationships with organizations, local governments, and community and nonprofit organizations to improve instruction in the key subjects of science. technology, engineering and math (STEM).

#### **Project Lead the Way**

Project Lead the Way helps West Contra Costa Unified School District's students solve complicated, real-world problems in a team environment. Along the way, students not only learn how to utilize engineering solutions to solve problems, but how to work together to innovate and collaborate and obtain the skills they need to excel.





### civic and community proud to support our city and community

Chevron has a long history in Richmond and we're proud to sponsor some of the events and programs that bring to life the city's unique culture and spirit of pride and purpose.

#### **North Richmond Music Festival**

The North Richmond Music Festival is a free event that celebrates Richmond's deep history of music and the arts. Music lovers gather each summer to hear local artists perform and enjoy family-friendly activities and lunch. Chevron has been a proud supporter of this event for many years.

Stride Center

### organizations funded in 2018

American Chemical Society Bay Area Rescue Mission Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo **Bread Project** Charles Reid Foundation Community Energy Services Cooperation Community Housing Development Corp. of North Richmond Community Violence Solutions Contra Costa College Foundation Contra Costa Economic Partnership

Contra Costa Office of Education Coronado Neighborhood Council Council Of Industries West Contra Costa CSU East Bay East Bay Economic Alliance Foundation East Bay Leadership Council Easter Hill United Methodist Church **Exploratorium Teacher Institute** Familias Unidas Youth Program Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Girls Inc. of West Contra Costa County Greater Richmond Interfaith Program

Contra Costa Family Justice Alliance

Groundwork Richmond Healing Circles of Hope Industrial Association of Contra Costa County John Muir Land Trust Junior Achievement of The Bay Area Kiwanis Public Safety Dinner Latina Center Laurel Park Blue Festival Let's Grow Richmond Multicultural Institute North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church North Richmond Music Festival

Nurturing Independence Through Artistic Development Oakland Symphony - 4th of July Celebration One Accord Voting Project Prescott-Joseph Center Pullman Neighborhood Council Regional Parks Foundation **Richmond Community Foundation** Richmond Fire and Police Holiday Program Richmond Juneteenth Parade and Festival Richmond North East Neighborhood Association Richmond Main Street Initiative

Richmond Museum Association Richmond Police Activities League Richmond Police Officers Association RichmondWORKS (City of Richmond) Rock The Casa Rosie the Riveter Trust Rotary Club of Richmond **Rubicon Programs** Santa Fe Breakfast Scholarships: Black Employee Network Scholarships: Somos Social Progress 4th of July Parade and Festival STAND! For Families Free of Violence

Teach for America The Wright Institute Trick or Treat on 23rd Street - Richmond Friends of Recreation West Contra Costa Business Development West Contra Costa Public Education Fund West Contra Costa Salesian Boys & Girls Club West Contra Costa Unified School District YES Nature to Neighborhoods YMCA West Contra Costa YouthWORKS (City of Richmond)



## Gail Thomas, Program Support Assistant Rubicon Programs



#### What is Rubicon Programs' mission?

We help people break the cycle of poverty through economic empowerment. Our goal is to get people to the point where they are able to earn a family-sustaining wage. Helping people is more involved than just getting them a job. To succeed in the long-term, people need employment as well as physical and emotional wellness and a connection to the community.

#### What programs does Rubicon offer in Richmond?

We have what is called a comprehensive program which is a three year effort. Because it honestly can take time for people to overcome the challenges and obstacles they face and get on the right path to a better life. We also operate the Re-Entry Success Center which is a one-stop place where people who are returning to the community can get the services they need.

#### When did you first become involved with Rubicon?

I first learned about Rubicon in 2009 when I needed help with housing. I had just gotten released from prison and was trying to get my life back together. I was a student at Contra Costa College but didn't have a place to live. Rubicon helped me with that.

#### What was your journey to becoming a Rubicon employee?

Several years ago I had some serious health issues. When I finally got better and was able to work again, I went back to Rubicon because I knew they could help me get back on my feet. I took part in a training program and worked as a volunteer. I then got hired as an Ambassador where I helped recruit people for Rubicon's programs. It really helped me so I wanted to be able to help other people.

#### Where would you be without Rubicon?

I've been to prison more than once. While I was able to stay clean at the beginning, it was a real struggle to make it over the long-term. Rubicon gave me a second chance. They helped me stay focused and get the tools I needed to work through the things that were holding me back. Rubicon gave me the support I needed to get over the hurdle.

#### Why is it important to have connections to the community?

Sometimes people overlook the importance of having a support system in place. You hear a lot of people say "pull yourself up by your bootstraps." You really need a community of people around you, helping and encouraging you to succeed. Participating in civic life, like voting or joining a place of worship, goes a long way to helping break that cycle of poverty.

#### What advice would you give others who are facing similar challenges?

If you need help, come and try Rubicon because they can help you. To me, they are different than other programs out there. They treat you like family and that helps you move forward in a positive way. The people are always looking out for you and trying to help pick you up. That's what kept me going and what a person needs.

#### Does Rubicon offer other services in the area?

Rubicon provides direct services at six locations and works in partnership with various service providers throughout Contra Costa and Alameda Counties. To learn more and find out how you can get involved, visit rubiconprograms.org or call 510-235-1516.

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#### para más información

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community corner

## providing a lifeline to seniors

By Janie Holland

For many seniors living in Richmond, community centers are vital lifelines that provide programming and support services. The North Richmond Multicultural Family Center, located at 515 Silver Avenue, is a shining example. The Center provides seniors and low-income families with a hot lunch five days a week, grocery giveaways, arts and crafts, nutrition education, exercise classes and other social services. The Center is also a cultural hub for the community where neighborhood groups as well as elected bodies, including the North Richmond Municipal Advisory Committee, gather for regularly scheduled meetings and events that lift



up the neighborhood's quality of life. Community Housing Development Corporation runs the Center's programming. We facilitated a volunteer-driven effort to beautify the Center, which included new blinds, interior painting and landscaping. A team of Chevron Richmond employees were part of the group helping with the beautification project. To learn more about the Center and its programs, please call 510-412-9290.

Janie Holland is a director with the Community Housing Development Corporation.

## brindar un sustento a las personas mayores

Por Janie Holland

Para muchas personas mayores que viven en Richmond, los centros comunitarios son un sustento vital que ofrecen programación y servicios de apoyo. El Centro Familiar Multicultural de North Richmond, ubicado en 515 Silver Avenue, es un ejemplo brillante. El Centro ofrece a las personas mayores y a familias de bajos ingresos un almuerzo caliente cinco días a la semana, regalos de comestibles, artes y manualidades, educación de nutrición, clases de ejercicios y otros servicios sociales. El Centro es además un núcleo cultural para la comunidad donde grupos del barrio y organismos electos, incluyendo el Comité Asesor Municipal de North Richmond, se reúnen en juntas y eventos programados que mejoran la calidad de vida del barrio. Community Housing Development Corporation opera la programación del Centro. Hace poco llevó a cabo un proyecto de embellecimiento con el trabajo de voluntarios para mejorar el Centro, lo cual incluyó nuevas persianas, pintura del interior y arreglo de los jardines. Un equipo de empleados de Chevron Richmond fue parte del grupo que colaboró con el proyecto de embellecimiento. Para obtener más información acerca del Centro y sus programas, llame al 510-412-9290.

Janie Holland es directora de Community Housing Development Corporation.