

Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Cal Water marks 37 Years of Operation Gobble with $26,000 for Salinas Valley communities

SALINAS, Calif. — A Thanksgiving tradition of giving continued in the Salinas Valley today on Monday, Nov. 23, as California Water Service (Cal Water) joined local leaders and nonprofit organizations to help families in need during the holiday season.

Cal Water donated $26,000, which included $9,000 in monetary donation to five organizations and 425 meal kits to 21 organizations through its annual Operation Gobble program, supporting local organizations that help provide food and other essential services to individuals and families in Salinas and King City.

Now in its 37th year, Operation Gobble reflects Cal Water's longstanding commitment to supporting the communities it serves, particularly during a time of year when many families may need extra help.

"Operation Gobble is about neighbors helping neighbors," said Brenda Granillo, Salinas District Manager. "For 37 years, we've been proud to work alongside local leaders and organizations that know their communities and are making a meaningful difference for families who need support."

Cal Water again partnered with local elected officials including Assemblymember Robert Rivas, State Senator John Laird, Monterey County Supervisor Chris Lopez, Salinas Mayor Dennis Donohue, and nonprofit organizations through Operation Gobble to help direct donations where they could have a meaningful impact. Cal Water donations were presented to Partners for Peace, Digital Nest, Hebbron Family Center, Boys & Girls Club, The Food Bank for Monterey County, Salvation Army of Salinas, Dorothy's Place, Loaves & Fishes, and the Salvation Army of Soledad/King City. In addition, elected



officials selected organizations that would be receiving meal kits, which they will deliver to families they have identified as most in need.

“It's another great year continuing our partnership with Cal Water in the spirit of giving. We are also grateful to our local nonprofits that work to ensure that our struggling families are able to celebrate Thanksgiving,” said Salinas Mayor Dennis Donohue.

Supervisor Chris Lopez also recognized the importance of helping local families during the holidays.

“This is the time of year when we all give thanks for the blessings and bounty in our lives,” Supervisor Lopez said. “Cal Water’s Operation Gobble makes sure that those in need in our community don’t go without. I continue to be thankful for their programs and contributions not just during the holidays, but year-round.”

Cal Water’s Operation Gobble donations come from the utility’s philanthropic giving program, not from water rates.

About California Water Service

California Water Service provides high-quality, reliable water utility services to about 126,620 people through 29,000 service connections in Salinas, and more than 2 million people statewide through 500,000 service connections. Cal Water’s purpose is to enhance the quality of life for customers and communities. To do so, it invests responsibly in water and wastewater infrastructure, sustainability initiatives, and community well-being. The company’s 1,200 employees live by a set of strong core values and share a commitment to protecting the planet, caring for people, and operating with the utmost integrity. The utility, commemorating a century of service this year, has been named one of “America’s Most Responsible Companies” and one of the “World’s Most Trustworthy Companies” by *Newsweek*, a USA Top Workplace, and a Great Place to Work®. More information is available at www.calwater.com.

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