

**MEET EACH NEED WITH DIGNITY**



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## **Wells Fargo Gives \$50,000 to San Fernando Valley Charity**

MEND (Meet Each Need with Dignity), the San Fernando's largest anti-poverty agency, has announced a \$50,000 donation from Wells Fargo. The donation will support MEND's emergency food program over the holiday season and into 2010.

Marianne Haver Hill, MEND'S President and CEO, says the donation comes at a time when high unemployment is pushing demands for help to record levels and when charities are worried about resources to meet the needs of the most vulnerable.

"During this period of great economic uncertainty, with so many new applicants coming to MEND for emergency food, we are extremely grateful to Wells Fargo for recognizing this need and supporting our agency as we seek to provide nutritionally balanced and generous boxes of staples and fresh items," said Hill.

"Wells Fargo continues to hear from our non-profit partners about the soaring demand for food while donations decline," says Marla Vasquez, Wells Fargo San Fernando Valley Community Bank regional president. "We all need to do more to support organizations like MEND that are helping our communities through this challenging time. This is why we are expanding our support of MEND with a cash donation of \$50,000."

Vasquez will present the check at MEND's Pacoima headquarters on Saturday, December 19 at 11 AM, during MEND's 36th Christmas Basket distribution when some of the 1,200 needy applicant families will be collecting their boxes of food, new toys and new blankets.

### **About MEND**

In the early 1970s, MEND (Meet Each Need with Dignity) opened its doors in an effort to transform the lives of the neediest residents of the San Fernando Valley - poor children and their struggling families. Starting as a small group of volunteers working from a garage, MEND has grown into one of the leanest-operating non-profit organizations in existence. More than 94% of the support and donations received by MEND, now the largest poverty agency in the Valley, provides emergency food, clothing, medical, vision and dental care, job skills training and job placement assistance, English as a Second Language classes, youth activities, and a Christmas program. In 2008, MEND served over 30,000 individuals each month utilizing a workforce of more than 2900 volunteers.