

# **PROPOSAL**

In August of 2018, Community Food Bank will be relocating to a new distribution center that is three times its current size and fully furnished because of the extreme generosity of Lou Amendola and his family. This move comes at a perfect time for Community Food Bank, and the 280,000 people served each month. Turning away food and volunteers daily, the current facility is too small to meet the need in our community. The Amendola Family wanted to help in a significant way and has provided Community Food Bank the opportunity to purchase their current distribution center at below market value and combined it with a donation of over \$2 million in cash and furnishings.

To honor the family, Community Food Bank would like to change the street name outside of the building to: **Amendola Drive** (formerly East Hardy).

#### **BACKGROUND**

In the summer of 2017, Lou Amendola received a piece of mail from Community Food Bank, detailing childhood hunger in Central California. Amendola could not fathom that children across the Valley went to bed hungry and immediately reached out to Community Food Bank. As the relationship began to grow and Amendola became more aware of the struggles of the hungry and the challenges of distributing food across the five counties Community Food Bank serves (Fresno, Kings, Kern, Madera and Tulare), Amendola came up with a plan that will forever change the lives of so many that struggle with hunger.

This generosity is no surprise to those who know him best: his family, friends and loyal employees. Lou Amendola who began his career in Fresno in 1984 with the purchase of Cencal Beverage. After this purchase he then changed the name to Valley Wide Beverage and quickly called Fresno his new home. Raising three boys with his wife Jane, and working hard to grow a successful business have been his top priorities. Today his three boys are a vital part of the growth of the company that now serves over 4,000 customers, employs 300 people, distributes 8 million cases of beer annually and services 7 counties in Central California.

Valley Wide Beverage has become one of the City of Fresno's leading businesses and has been acknowledged by its peers as a leader in sales, customer service and social responsibility.

## **Awards**

- 2016 Constellation Brands "Gold Crown Award"
- 2016 Guinness Quality Award
- 2015 West Business Unit Gold Crown Award
- 2014 Lou Amendola Introduced as MillerCoors Legend
- 2013 MillerCoors President's Award
- 2013 California Restaurant Association "Beverage Purveyor of the Year"
- 2012 MillerCoors President's Award
- 2010 MillerCoors President's Award
- 2009 MillerCoors Founder's Award
- 2008 Coors President's Award
- 2007 Coors President's Award
- 2006 1,000,000 Case Award from Crown Imports
- 2005 Miller Highlife Achievement Award
- 2003 Miller Brewing Company "Best Overall Vol Performance"
- 2002 Barton Beers "Wholesaler of the Year"

With Valley Wide Beverage's tremendous growth throughout the years they have reached capacity at their current facility on 4010 East Hardy, Fresno, CA 93725, and will be moving to a state of the art building 1 mile away, in the new development of North Pointe Business Park. This left the current facility available and Amendola generously spearheaded the partnership with Community Food Bank.

Community Food Bank currently operates out of a 50,000 square foot rented facility and will be moving in to the 140,000 square foot facility Valley Wide Beverage is vacating. This is nearly three times the square footage of the current facility— and the Food Bank will no longer have to turn away food and volunteers due to capacity. The new campus will also provide room for future expansion, including the opportunity for robust community partnerships, job training and education.

#### **NEW FACILITY**

- 81,750 sq ft dry storage
- 10,000 sq ft freezer/cooler storage
- 10,000 sq ft cold storage
- 25,500 sq ft receiving and agency pick up area
- 11,500 sq ft of office space
- 2,000 sq ft volunteer center
- 10 loading docks
- Easy freeway access
- 140 parking stalls
- Multiple meeting rooms
- On-site mechanic shop
- Private rail line
- Solar Power

# **CURRENT FACILITY**

- 41,500 sq ft dry storage
- 3,500 sq ft freezer/cooler storage
- No temperature controlled storage space
- No dedicated staging areas
- 4,000 sq ft of office space
- 1,000 sq ft multipurpose meeting room
- 4 loading docks
- 1 mile off freeway
- 6 guaranteed parking stalls

To honor the Amendola Family Community Food Bank would like to change the name in front of the "new" building to **Amendola Drive**. The Amendola's are not an ostentatious family, but it is important to honor them for their generosity and commitment to bettering our community. The Amendola's have repeatedly said they do not want their name on the building, but have indicated that this more subtle recognition would be an honor to them and their family for generations.

Thank you for your consideration.