



Project Open Hand
meals with love

For Immediate Release

Project Open Hand Receives \$170,000 Grant from Bayer Fund

Donation to provide Medically Tailored Meals to clients with heart disease and cancer

[Oakland/CA] / August 10, 2021] – Project Open Hand announced today it received a grant for \$170,000 from Bayer Fund, which will be used to provide medically tailored meals (MTM) to clients with heart disease and cancer and support the nutrition intervention experience for its clients in the East Bay.

“This is a substantial showing of support from Bayer Fund and will greatly impact our work. Many of our clients belong to some of the most vulnerable populations in our East Bay community. Not only do they need access to food, but they also need access to healthy, life-saving nutrition – and this grant helps us continue to address a critical issue – nutrition security,” said Paul Hepfer, Chief Executive Officer of Project Open Hand.

“This grant will not only provide support to our organization, but also the community we serve by allowing us to recruit, enroll, and serve 55 low-income adults diagnosed with stage 3 or 4 cancer or congestive heart failure in the East Bay. These individuals will receive up to 12 months of MTM intervention, which includes an effective combination of nutrition education from registered dietitians and healthy meals and or groceries customized to meet a client’s specific medical condition.”

“Throughout the years, the grants given through Bayer Fund have helped strengthen our communities across the United States,” said Al Mitchell, President of Bayer Fund. “We’re proud to be able to provide support to develop programs that help combat challenges such as food insecurity, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education and support services to patients and families managing an illness or disease.”

In 2020, Bayer Fund awarded more than \$17 million to over 3,400 charitable and nonprofit organizations to help address essential needs in food and nutrition, STEM education and community development. Over the last five years, nonprofit organizations across the U.S. have received more than \$80 million.

To learn more about Project Open Hand, visit www.openhand.org.

To learn more about Bayer Fund visit <https://www.fund.bayer.us>.

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About *Project Open Hand*

Founded in 1985 as a grassroots response to the AIDS epidemic in San Francisco, Project Open Hand is an innovative, outcome-driven, client-centered partner in the public health and medical arenas, preparing over 2,500 medically tailored nutritious meals daily for clients with chronic illnesses such as heart disease, diabetes and HIV/AIDS in San Francisco and Alameda counties.

About Bayer Fund

Bayer Fund, a philanthropic arm of Bayer, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening the communities where Bayer customers and employees live and work by providing funding for food and nutrition, education and community development projects.

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