



---

# Board of Supervisors Memorandum

---

August 10, 2021

## Friends of Robles Ranch Community Center and Food Bank Allocation

### Background

On June 21, 2021, I received the attached request for additional funding consideration for the Friends of Robles Ranch who operate My Friends Closet and the Community Food Bank in Three Points. The communication from Friends of Robles Ranch President Pat King indicates damage and additional demands placed on the Friends of Robles Ranch in operating the food bank, clothing and other related services for residents of the Three Points area.

They have been awarded a \$36,000 grant from the Board approved Community and Workforce Development Outside Agency Fund; however, these funds were insufficient to meet their needs, the grant was nearly \$18,000 less than requested. Given the unusual demands placed on the Friends of Robles Ranch due to vandalism and isolation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, I would recommend the Board of Supervisors allocate an additional \$10,000 to the Friends of Robles Ranch nonprofit for providing community services to residents in the Three Points and surrounding areas.

### Recommendation

I recommend the Board of Supervisors approve an additional \$10,000 grant to Friends of Robles Ranch to continue their nonprofit services to the Three Points community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C.H. Huckelberry".

C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator

CHH/anc – July 22, 2021

Attachment

c: Jan Leshar, Chief Deputy County Administrator  
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer,  
Health and Community Services

## Chuck Huckelberry

---

**From:** Pat King <anvilranch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2021 8:04 AM  
**To:** Chuck Huckelberry  
**Subject:** Request for assistance

June 21, 2021

Dear Mr. Huckleberry:

The Friends of Robles Ranch have been serving our community for over 25 years. We have a tremendous partnership with the staff at the Community Center that shares a common goal to provide services, resources, and a safe environment for our community members to thrive. We are thankful for our partnership with Pima County to utilize the property and facilities to operate our non-profit store ( My Friends Closet) and our Community Food Bank. Our store provides clothing vouchers to community members in need and affordable clothing and household items. We rely on generous donations from our community and the money we make we use to fund scholarships, programs for the community center, and other activities in the community. Our Food Bank is an essential asset in our community. We feed seniors, family, and individuals

The Community Center is a vital asset to our community. The staff at the center are great. They are encouraging, positive and spend quality time with the youth who participate in the after-school programs. Along with playing games, the staff also teaches the kids how to take pride in taking care of the center by forming teams to clean up the grounds. We are honored to have the ability to assist the Community Center in any way possible to continue the excellent work that is taking place.

With the onset of the Corona Virus, this year has been challenging emotionally, financially, and most importantly, the community not gathering. My Friends Closet, Community Food Bank, and the Community Center are just a few places in the community where people gather and do life together. As we start to close out our budget year, reviewing our expenses and income, we find ourselves in need of help. We know that we are not alone in getting over the financial hump on the road to recovery.

This year, we reflect on some hardships that have hit our community members, the center staff, and our team as well. With the arrival of the Corona Virus, we had to close our resale store to protect our customers, volunteers, and staff. After shutting down the store, we had to regroup and think about safely reopening the store. We started looking at how other retail stores were setting up their store. We soon formulated a plan to improve safety according to the CDC recommendations. We installed social distancing signs, purchased new racks to create more space in the store, installed plexiglass for the cashier, and replaced shelving that took less room.

Also, vandalism has happened to My Friends Closet, Community Food Bank, and our Community Center. During the 25 years, we have never experienced vandalism, attempted break-ins, or graffiti. Sadly, times are changing. We had to repair a heavy metal security screen on our Food Bank window because someone tried to break in. My friends Closet had someone ram their vehicle into pods attempting to break in where we store clothing and household items. The Community Center has been broken into as well. There has been an incident where the Parks and Recreations

Department camera may have recorded a possible drug transfer on the Community Centers property during the after-hours.

Due to the recent criminal activities, we have decided to add some safety enhancements to the store and food bank. As winter approaches, the staff and volunteers at the store and food bank will close after dark. We have decided to install cameras, solar security lights, and safety signs at both of the facilities. We are very thankful for the County installing gates at both exits/entrances to the property from the highway. We believe that this prompt action taken by the County will help increase the safety of our staff and reduce property damage/theft.

This year has been a challenge. We are thankful to our volunteers who continue to show up to make a difference. We are grateful that we can reach out to organizations such as this to submit a request for available resources to help.

We are excited about serving our community and getting back to what we love doing community service.

Thank you,

Pat King, President

Friends of Robles Ranch