Kathy Jackson
Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties

Kathy Jackson joined Second Harvest Food Bank as Chief Executive Officer in August 2009. In the face of overwhelming community need, she has overseen a more than 50% increase in the number of clients served and food distributed monthly by the Food Bank. Fresh fruits and vegetables “rescued” from growers now constitute more than half of the food distributed by Second Harvest. Determined to address space constraints, Kathy secured the donation of a building from Cypress Semiconductor, the largest gift in Second Harvest history. After a successful $10 million capital campaign, the resulting new fresh produce facility and volunteer center – completed in 2012 – has already led to operational efficiency gains.

Prior to joining the Food Bank, Kathy served as Board President for the Foundation for the Future at public Menlo-Atherton High School. From 2006 to 2009, she led a 33-person Board that grew donations more than 100% while increasing expenses less than 33%.

Before entering the non-profit world, Kathy spent 23 years in asset-based leasing and lending as a senior executive and business leader with Bank of America Leasing and Capital, GATX Capital Corporation and D'Accord Incorporated. She also served as Vice Chair of the Equipment Leasing and Finance Association, a trade association representing financial services companies and manufacturers in the $650 billion U.S. equipment finance sector.

Kathy was named a “Woman of Influence” by the Silicon Valley Business Journal in 2010 and currently serves on the boards of the California Association of Food Banks and Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief charity. In 2014, she was honored as Network Leader of the Year across the 202 food banks within Feeding America.

Kathy has an MBA in Marketing, Finance, and Accounting from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University and is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Stanford University.