

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Digging Deep in Union City – County Supervisor contributes \$15,000 to assist expansion For Immediate Release Tuesday, January 12, 2016 Contact: Chris Miley at (510) 272-6692



OAKLAND—Outside of the Alameda County Administration Building, Dig Deep Farms sets up a weekly farm stand to bring fresh, locally grown produce to the market place. Dig Deep Farms is a program of the Deputy Sheriffs' Activities League (DSAL). DSAL was started from the Alameda County Sheriff's Office in 2004 to create recreational and educational opportunities for children and youth in Unincorporated Alameda County communities, as

well as, build relationships between Sheriff's Deputies and community members.

Dig Deep Farms is an innovative program DSAL began in 2010 with residents in Ashland and Cherryland, to increase access to healthy food and create jobs. Dig Deep Farms provides locally grown healthy foods to communities that have traditionally lacked access to fresh produce. Dig Deep Farms employs at-promise youth and local residents returning from jail.

Partnering with Alameda County Supervisor Richard Valle, Dig Deep Farms is looking to expand its program and begin farming in Union City. The Masons of California have generously provided access to 5 acres of land along Mission Boulevard for Dig Deep Farms operations. Supervisor Valle is happy to present the Deputy Sheriffs' Activities League with a \$15,000 check today to support its Dig Deep Farms program and help them dig deep in Union City.

Upon presenting the check Supervisor Valle said, "We are excited about the partnership our office, the Masonic Homes, and DSAL has formed. We are proud to support the innovative employment model Dig Deep Farms uses and the health benefit they provide our communities. These funds will continue to make District 2 healthier and sustainable."

The Union City expansion will take time and fundraising to see Supervisor Valle's, the Mason's, and Dig Deeps Farms' vision to completion. However with the starter funding from the District 2 Office Dig Deep Farms will be able to begin planning and preparation of the farm lands later this year.

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