Today, over 5,000 human beings return to a home they might not have had otherwise. That’s because of you.

At TNDC, we are in a truly privileged role. We are able to provide something truly life changing for people.

But we can only do so much. It’s really you and the rest of our neighbors who create the climate and community enabling us to make positive change.

As we end 2019 and celebrate achievements like the completion of the Eddy & Taylor Family Apartments and the Webster Street People’s Garden, I feel immensely grateful for your support.

May this holiday season remind you of all that makes us human as we continue to build more homes and supportive communities for those who need them most!

With gratitude,

Donald S. Falk, CEO

The TNDC Webster Street People’s Garden is more than a new urban farm.

The Webster garden represents food security, equitable harvest distribution, and freedom from the stigma of standing in line for food—all thanks to your support!

Serving seniors living at two of our Western Addition buildings, Rosa Parks and Willie B. Kennedy Apartments, this green open space is even larger than our beloved Tenderloin People’s Garden near City Hall!

Because of your support, Webster Street People’s Garden grew from an empty lot on the side of a building into a therapeutic space offering 100 pounds of fresh produce to about 30 households—all free of charge.

Residents, some of whom are formerly homeless and live with disabilities, are thankful for having healthy food so close to home. They are also thankful for a place to just sit and take in the aromas of rose-scented geraniums, lemon verbena, and Mexican marigolds—the leaves of which are good for making tea to soothe nerves.

Jenn Ye, Urban Agriculture Coordinator, spends much of her time tending to the garden and its visitors. Like the rest of her team, she considers herself more than just an urban farmer—she sees herself as a public servant.

“We’re addressing what we’re being confronted with,” shared Jenn. “We need the ability to be creative and adaptive to the community we’re serving.”

Thank you for helping us address the enormous levels of food insecurity individuals and families in low-income neighborhoods face.

Without you, many housebound seniors and people faced with immobility, would not receive the nourishment of healthy daily meals.
When you hear “public housing,” what do you see? An old building standing on its last legs? Peeling walls? Chipping stairs? Thanks to you, that image is a far cry from where Ellis Gardens is today.

“To see it before the renovations and to see it now, it’s so different,” longtime resident of Ellis Gardens Luis Castillo said. “Things have really improved. The tenants are all really happy with it.”

Ellis Gardens, formerly known as 350 Ellis Street, is one of the five buildings that TNDC renovated as part of former Mayor Ed Lee’s Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program to turn public housing into dignified housing worthy of its residents. Because of the impressive reputation in affordable housing you’ve helped us build and uphold, TNDC was offered five buildings to renovate and take over in 2015.

Four years and many replaced floors, roofs, cabinets, and windows later, over 800 residents now enjoy a home that feels like home. Residents of the RAD buildings, the majority of whom are seniors and live with disabilities, also have more of the resources they need to thrive, such as onsite supportive services, upgraded elevator and wheelchair lifts, better lighting, and improved security.

On October 30, we celebrated the reopening of Ellis Gardens alongside our partners at Glide Community Housing, the Mayor’s Office of Housing, D&H Construction, Paulett Taggart Architects, Bank of America, and more!

In true housing development style, TNDC Senior Project Manager Gabriel Speyer noted, “I’m very proud of what we accomplished…and we did so under budget.”

We are proud to raise the bar on what it means to serve our neighbors, community, and environment. This achievement will eliminate 26,000 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions a year — an impact comparable to stopping the emissions of 90,000 pounds of burned coal!

The long-term energy cost savings can also be reinvested into our homes to better serve residents. Earlier this year, the U.S. Department of Energy and the Department of Housing and Urban Development also recognized TNDC for a 20% reduction in energy and water use.

With your continued support, we plan a 30% reduction of our total carbon imprint by 2028. Switching to clean power is just one of the sustainability efforts you’ve made possible. Thank you for helping make these bold and necessary changes!

You helped renovate 96 homes at Ellis Gardens

1. Double your gift with TNDC’s Challenge Match. Learn more at tndc.org/food-wellness-challenge

2. Host a holiday gift drive for the kids of our Tenderloin After-School Program. Contact Dolores Gould at dgould@tndc.org for more information.

3. Follow @TNDC on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn.

4. Donate stock. Find out if a long-term gift like this is a good fit for you by contacting Dolores Gould at dgould@tndc.org.

5. Give what you can to TNDC. You can give online at tndc.org, send a check in the attached envelope, or ask your employer about workplace giving!

Save the date!

TNDC Birthday Dinner
Friday, May 1
6-9:30 pm
Hilton Union Square
333 O’Farrell, San Francisco

Steam it, boil it, stir-fry it, or eat it raw!

Chinese Cabbage crops are currently being harvested at the Webster Street People’s Garden! Resident gardeners are enjoying the many uses of this mildly sweet-tasting vegetable.

At first glance, it looks like a head of lettuce, but the tips of their green leaves are crunchier and add a crispy texture to soups and stir-fries.

Delicious and nutritious!