



Project Open Hand
meals with love

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San Francisco Giant Race Presented by Blueprint for Athletes Registration to Open on February 18, Runner Fundraising will Benefit Project Open Hand

Project Open Hand launches 2016 “Fill the Stadium” fundraising challenge to provide 150,000+ meals to Bay Area seniors and neighbors battling critical illness

SAN FRANCISCO, February 12, 2016 – The San Francisco Giants announced today that registration for [The 2016 San Francisco Giant Race Presented by Blueprint for Athletes](#) will open to the public on Thursday, February 18 at 9:00am. As one of San Francisco’s premier road races, The Giant Race gives more than 20,000 runners the special opportunity to cross the finish line on the field at AT&T Park. The seventh-annual San Francisco Giant Race Presented by Blueprint for Athletes is set to take place on Sunday, September 11, 2016, and will feature a Half Marathon, 10K, 5K, and Kids Race and Family Relay.

[Project Open Hand](#), a nonprofit that provides nutritious meals and groceries to seniors and the critically ill in the Bay Area, returns as The Giant Race’s Official Benefiting Partner. Last year, [runners who signed up to fundraise for Project Open Hand](#) helped raise more than \$335,000. This year, Project Open Hand has announced the first-ever virtual [“Fill the Stadium” challenge](#) with the goal of raising \$400,000 to provide more than 150,000 healthy meals to seniors and neighbors living with critical illness in the Bay Area. In addition to these important community benefits, [fundraisers](#) will be entered to win [exclusive prizes and experiences](#) from Project Open Hand and the Giants.

“We are excited to again partner with the San Francisco Giants for this great race. We are eager to see familiar faces of fundraisers and volunteers from years past and to meet the new fundraising champions for 2016 who are so important to helping us fulfill our mission of providing healthy *meals with love* to those in need,” said Mark Ryle, Project Open Hand Co-Chief Executive Officer.

Added Ryle: “For just under ten dollars, Project Open Hand can provide three healthy meals to seniors and those with long-term illness. If we had \$10 for every seat in AT&T Park, we’d reach our fundraising

goal of \$400,000, which would provide more than 150,000 meals for neighbors in need. Not only will runners ‘fill the stadium’ as they cross the finish line on Race Day, but we hope they will also help us fill our virtual AT&T Park with donations so we can reach our goal.”

As part of the Fill the Stadium challenge, all runners are encouraged to fundraise for Project Open Hand. In addition to supporting a great cause, fundraisers will be eligible for fantastic prizes and exclusive experiences as they reach key fundraising milestones. Fundraisers who commit to and reach a goal of raising \$1,000 for Project Open Hand through the “Fundraise to Run” program will not only receive free registration, but also receive a [number of prizes](#) ranging from Giant Race coffee mugs and runner’s lights to VIP Lounge access on Race Day. Those who raise \$2,500 or more will be awarded special prizes, such as San Francisco Giants memorabilia and exclusive experiences.

“We look forward to another year of partnering with Project Open Hand for the Giant Race and inspiring our community to once again help support the important work of their mission,” said Sara Hunt, Vice President of Giants Enterprises.

For more than 25 years, Project Open Hand has been providing healthy meals and compassion for seniors and those living with life-threatening illnesses. With the help of their generous volunteers, Project Open Hand prepares 2,500 nutritious meals and delivers 200 bags of healthy groceries every day to nourish and heal those they serve throughout San Francisco and Alameda counties.

“Project Open Hand’s support was instrumental in my life while I was undergoing treatment for breast cancer,” said Eileen Liu, a former Project Open Hand client and now volunteer. “The warm meals they delivered were so helpful when I didn’t have the energy to shop and cook, also allowing me to fully focus on my recovery. The support from The Giant Race will be critical in allowing Project Open Hand to continue their mission of providing ‘*meals with love*’ to our community.”

For more information about The 2016 Giant Race, visit giantrace.com. For the full list of prizes for Race participants who Fundraise to Run, visit <http://project.openhand.org/GiantRace2016>.

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About Giants Enterprises

Giants Enterprises is dedicated to developing new ventures and utilizing AT&T Park as a destination for non-baseball special events in San Francisco. For over 15 years, Giants Enterprises has produced numerous private events and hosted a variety of public events, including major concerts, motor sports events, international soccer matches, professional and college football games, Cirque du Soleil and the Giant Race. For more information, visit giantsenterprises.com.

About Project Open Hand

Founded in 1985, Project Open Hand is a nonprofit organization that provides *meals with love* to seniors and the critically ill. Our food is like medicine, helping clients recover from illness, get stronger, and lead healthier lives. Every day, we prepare 2,500 nutritious meals and provide 200 bags of healthy groceries to nourish and heal our clients. We serve San Francisco and Alameda Counties, engaging more than 125 volunteers every day to nourish our community. For more information, visit openhand.org.