



PRESS ROOM – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Must! Charities Announces 2026 Board Officers and Welcomes New Executive Board Member

PASO ROBLES, CA (2026) — Must! Charities is proud to announce its 2026 elected board officers and welcomes a new member to its Executive Board as the organization celebrates 14 years of service and community impact in San Luis Obispo County.

The 2026 Must! Charities officers are:

- **Chairman of the Board:** Lori Bickel
- **Vice Chairman of the Board:** Lynn Gray
- **Treasurer:** Andy Niner
- **Secretary:** Doug Kruse

Additional board members serving in 2026 include Oliver Esparham, Maeve Pesquera, and Justin Smith.

Must! Charities also welcomes Kelly Pope as its newest Executive Board member. Pope and her husband relocated from Silicon Valley to San Luis Obispo in 2019. While seeking meaningful ways to give back locally, Kelly continued to hear about Must! Charities and reached out to CEO Becky Gray. She was immediately drawn to the organization’s mission and trust-based philanthropic model. Pope also serves on the board of SV2 (Silicon Valley Social Venture Fund), a collaborative philanthropic organization focused on equity-centered social impact through grantmaking, impact investing, and immersive learning.

“It truly felt like a small-world moment,” said Becky Gray, CEO. “Kelly immediately understood what we were building because she had lived it. She brought tremendous knowledge to our team right away—we were literally taking turns meeting with her to learn from her. It quickly became

clear she belonged on our Executive Board. She has been a true gift to our organization and our community.”

Founded in 2012, Must! Charities has helped positively impact tens of thousands of lives by supporting local nonprofit programs and initiatives that strengthen families, improve wellbeing, and build a healthier community.

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About Must! Charities:

Must! Charities is a nonprofit organization dedicated to changing the model of philanthropy by uniting donors, pooling resources, and investing strategically in our region while empowering nonprofits and educating our community. From day one, we’ve stood by a bold promise: every dollar donated by the community goes directly to the causes we champion. This commitment is made possible through Must! Roots, a dedicated fun funding source that covers all operational expenses, ensuring community giving fuels nothing but impact.

Learn more or get involved visit mustcharities.org