

Guild Mortgage – Giving Back the Guild Way

A Culture of Community Commitment and Engagement

Guild Mortgage is one of the fastest-growing independent mortgage companies in the U.S. The company's core business is helping people achieve homeownership, with a focus on first-time homebuyers. The San Diego-based company now has more than 250 branch and satellite offices in 25 states.

Throughout the company's history, Guild employees have delivered on their commitment to improve their communities through charitable efforts and volunteer work. The Guild Giving Program encourages employees to donate time and money to charitable causes in their own communities. Rather than directing from the top down how to give back, the company designed a program that lets employees determine where their energies and resources are best placed.

To encourage employees to be successful in these efforts, Guild currently partners with Benevity, a Canadian company that created an online platform to track donations and volunteer hours and find local volunteer opportunities and charitable organizations. Charities include food and shelter organizations, health and human services, youth and elderly philanthropy efforts, and arts and education. Employees can use the program to monitor and track their own contributions of time and money at any time.

The Guild Giving Program provides a dollar-for-dollar donation match, up to a maximum of \$250 per year, per employee, with a \$100 minimum donation per transaction, and up to 16 hours of paid volunteer time for each employee. In addition, Guild Giving now offers 10 \$1,500 academic collegiate scholarships annually, available to all eligible members of the communities served by Guild. More information about the scholarship program can be found on the [Guild Giving website](#).

All charitable donations are managed by the Guild Giving Foundation, which works to strengthen communities where Guild Mortgage employees and customers live. Started in 2017, the foundation's mission is to open doors to new opportunities by encouraging employee volunteerism and delivering on the company commitment to provide shelter and inspire positive change. Its volunteer initiatives include supporting youth development, financial literacy, economic revitalization and veterans' services, while engaging in programs to combat hunger, homelessness and domestic violence.

On the national scene, Guild partners with the Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA) on its Opens Doors Foundation. The program helps families by making their mortgage payment when a sick or injured child must be hospitalized for an extended period. The purpose is to give parents relief from worrying about missing work and getting behind on their mortgage. Instead, the parents can stay with their children and focus on helping them get better. Guild contributed financially to the Opens Doors Foundation, and was the first mortgage company to set up an automatic payroll deduction for employees who want to contribute.

Nationwide Examples of the Guild Commitment to Community and Service

Hannah House Prom Dresses – April 2017 – Guild's Columbia Main office donated more than 30 prom dresses to the [Hannah House](#) in Columbia, S.C. to help girls in need attend their prom. Hannah House is a shelter for women and children dedicated to creating "a haven of hope and center of help by identifying and responding to the emotional, physical and spiritual needs of our residents." Their mission is to transition the lives of women and children by providing them with hope to live a purpose-driven, empowering life.

Guild Gala – March 2017 – Guild's Morgan Hill branch welcomed clients and corporate and referral partners to the Granada Theatre for the Guild Gala. The event benefited [Community Solutions](#), a nonprofit human services agency offering mental health services, support for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking. It also provides housing programs for clients facing mental health and other challenges. Winning bidders pledged more than \$24,000 to support children, youth and adult victims of violence in Santa Clara and San Benito Counties. Community Solutions raised a record \$83,000.

ReWalk – February 2017 – Guild donated \$116,000 to the [Infinite Hero Foundation](#), a nonprofit that helps provide disabled military veterans access to groundbreaking rehabilitation programs. Guild's donation was used to purchase a revolutionary, wearable exoskeleton from [ReWalk Robotics](#) for the VA San Diego Healthcare System Spinal Cord Injury Center. The exoskeleton provides powered hip and knee motion to enable those with spinal cord injuries to stand upright and walk and will be used to train patients at the VA Center on use of the machine.

At the 2017 Guild Leadership Summit, Guild saw firsthand how the exoskeleton works when a veteran demonstrated the device. Guild attendees provided donations of \$24,000 to assist veterans. This was one of the largest sums the Infinite Hero Foundation has ever raised from a single event.

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For additional information, see www.guildgiving.org

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