

# Equity and Human Relations Award Nomination Form



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## Nominee Information

Award Category **Non-Profit Organization**

Name of Individual/Student/Non-Profit  
Organization/Business **Grace Diner**

Name of Business Owner or Manager

Business or Non-Profit Organization Website **GraceDiner.org**

Name of Organization's  
President/Director/Representative **Lisa Skelley**

Purpose of Non-Profit Organization **Feeding the hungry and providing clothing and  
resources for those most in need.**

City **Culver City**

Street Address **4427 Overland Ave**

State **CA**

Zip Code **90230**

Phone **310-559-1027**

Email **skelleyone@gmail.com**

Current Occupation

About your Nominee

**Grace Diner was founded in 2009 when the downturn  
of the economy put many people in financial jeopardy  
and hardship. It quickly grew from feeding 30 a week  
to 100 or more for free, as well as providing warm**

clothing, a few grocery items, a list of resources for further help, and holiday get-togethers with small gifts for the attendees. It never once missed its free weekly service, and offered not only food but much needed fellowship to its clients. They are Diner family.

When Covid hit mid-March 2020, Grace Diner amped up. It started handing out meals 3 days a week, and then -- with the help of FeedCulver -- was able to go to 5 days a week. For the past 20 months Grace Diner has given out 200+ free meals a DAY, Monday through Friday. That's 87,000 free hot meals.

In addition to meals, Manager Lisa Skelley and a team of volunteers (some of them homeless) work with other non-profit entities such as Grace Lutheran, Culver-Palms Methodist, Culver Palms Church of Christ, ReCycle LA, SAVES, and local businesses like Sorrento's Market, Trader Joe's, and Ting, as well as many many local individuals in order to collect groceries, food, warm clothing and bedding for those in need. The Diner cycles about 600 lbs of groceries through to the poor in Culver City and the Westside every single week, and delivers the excess to other area churches in need such as Pueblo de Dios in Compton.

Grace Diner also works with St Joseph's to get unhoused clients on Section 8, if needed, and rehomed as soon as possible. On its own, it has been instrumental in funding men and women to return to their out-of-state families. Ms Skelley has personally driven people to the DMV to get IDs and to Urgent Care facilities to get medical care. She also worked with Culver City officials to hold a vaccine clinic for volunteers and clients of the Diner.

There is no clearing house criteria or sign up list in order to come to Grace Diner. Its clients are those who are in need, period, and include the working poor, seniors on fixed incomes, disabled individuals, veterans, students, and people living in their cars and other unhoused individuals -- no questions asked. It

respects the dignity of all and is dedicated to service to the most under-served and often forgotten members of our society.

I hope that recognition of its efforts and accomplishments through this Award will help get it the funding it (AND we as a community) need in order to continue this vitally important work.

Upload files. You can upload files containing the information instead of filling out the field above or to supply additional information in support of your nominee.

## Nominator Information

Your Name	Marina Tidwell
Street Address	9041 Krueger St
City	Culver City
State	California
Zip Code	90232
Phone	310-621-1035
Email	mlctidwell@gmail.com
Relationship to Nominee	Co-worker