

TIME FOR A NEW KIND OF BANK  
Establishing TimeBanking on the  
Mendonoma Coast

**What is time banking?**

A network of people using time as currency to exchange services

**\*Cartoon**

Person A does something for Person B.

B pays A using time dollars.

Person A can spend those time dollars on recruiting the services of Person C or any other person using the time bank

**Every hour spent helping someone  
is worth 1 time dollar  
1 hour = 1 hour**

**TimeBanking Core Values**

**Assets:** We are all assets.

**Redefining Work:** Some work is beyond price

**Reciprocity:** Helping works better as a two way street

**Social Networks:** We need each other

**Respect:** Every Human being matters

**How does it work?**

Interested people join the time bank and list the kinds of skills or help they can offer others

**\*Time Bank Needs & Skills**

It can be facilitated in a number of ways; online, by phone or on paper.

As part of the time bank everyone can then earn time dollars by helping someone and spend time dollars by having someone else help them

**Why do we need a TimeBank?**

We may not know our neighbors as well as we would like to

Human Beings have a fundamental need to belong to groups, communities, and other social networks. Giving, receiving, reciprocating, and using our skills to help others are positive experiences

**We need to redefine the concept of work.**

Our economy is in a state of flux. Our lifestyles are changing and I believe we need to incorporate ways of working with each other that is beyond the status quo.

TimeBanking fills that niche. It is a place to start, a jumping off place for any number of other schemes we can develop to trade our services and exchange goods.

**TimeBanking can be used as a tool to rebuild sustainable behavior.**

It can:

support local food production,

provide support of those who wish to 'age in place'

build the network so desperately needed in times of natural or man made disaster.

**Why participate?**

The feel-good-factor: "Neighbor helping neighbor", being part of a community of people with the common goal of helping each other

TimeBanking is not meant to replace the cash economy. It is a complementary system of exchange that supports a healthy community.

**You are paying it forward**

The person you help helps someone else in turn  
The ripple effect propagates helping throughout a community.

Because I've received help I want to help someone else.

Existing community groups and networks can use time banking to grow their base and incentivize people to help each other

**Leadership is crucial to success**

TimeBanks last longer and are more robust when they are staffed by more than one person (One person with heaps of enthusiasm and vision is still one person at the end of the day!)

TimeBanking is about team leadership and creating a TimeBank where all members have 'bought in' and are engaged in its management.

**\*Core Leadership Roles**

**'Kitchen Cabinet'/Steering Committee:**  
a core group of enthusiastic and committed people

Your TimeBank will grow much more quickly if there is a core team of members to provide local knowledge, contacts, and advice in making policy decisions. You may start out with one or two people and grow your team over time. When complete, the team usually has between 5 and 7 people.

This team will bring added energy and know-how to support the **TimeBank Coordinator** and is a precious asset.

**New Member Recruitment** – this is the front person, the 'face' in the community.

**Membership Coordinator** - Welcome/Orientation for new members. Keeps in touch with membership, making matches based on member needs

**Events Coordinator** - Coordinates group activities for the TimeBank. Works on developing the TimeBank community

**Admin and Liaison** – Manages registration of members. Responsible for advertising the group (local notice boards, newspapers, community webpage).

**Time Bank Accountant** – Responsible for keeping track of the number of hours traded. (Both off and on-line)

**Overall Team Leader** - Ensures that everybody is happily taking responsibility for their position.

### Example policy decisions

#### \*Member Handbook

Membership fees...combination \$ and TimeDollars

Under what circumstances are participants screened...or not.

How will class hours be distributed

Policy on mileage

Administration of TimeBank...local or online

### Recommended for Rural Areas

a **Regional Network of TimeBanks** where individual members will grow to be a member of an average of three TimeBanks based on each individual's natural communities of interest.

#### \*Creating a Network

### Neighbor to Neighbor

Host a gathering of your neighbors

Introduce TimeBanking

Encourage neighbors to participate "Neighbor to Neighbor"

Create small networks to connect with other small networks creating a community wide TimeBank.

### Network Examples

Small enclaves of homes in and around the communities of Gualala, Anchor Bay, Point Arena

The Sea Ranch Neighborhoods

### To Close:

#### **Success Indicators for Start-Up Time Banks**

A strong sense of purpose and commitment to TimeBanking core values

Champions who provide passion, energy, support and resources for successful start-up

A start-up leadership team that is well-informed on Time Banking principles and practices

Time Bank membership that includes individuals, groups and local organizations

Early support at multiple levels within the host organization and/or community

A strong plan that covers actions, resources, and intended achievements

Enthusiastic, effective leadership for the TimeBank – with a team approach that actively nurtures and supports many leaders in different roles

Full sense of ownership by TimeBank members (including pitching in to help support the infrastructure) that builds over time