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 milage
  Administration of TimeBank...local or online

* **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

**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.