

Wells strengthens giving by 30 percent

Wells Fargo topped our List of largest corporate philanthropists with a 30 percent increase in giving in 2009.

The San Francisco bank focused on job preparedness and economic recovery programs for its giving last year, granting \$21,659,679 to Bay Area charities in 2009, up 30 percent from 2008.

"The stronger we become, the more we can support our communities," Michael Billeci, Bay Area regional president for Wells Fargo, said. "The need is greater now than ever because of the downturn in the economy."

WELLS FARGO

Rank on List: 1.

HQ: San Francisco.

CEO: John Stumpf.

Bay Area cash giving per employee: \$1,194.

2009 Bay Area giving: \$21.7 million.

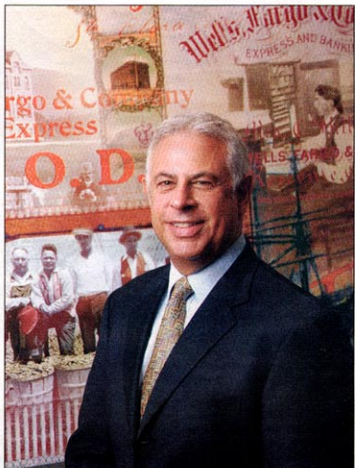
maximum number of organizations can benefit from our corporate giving," Billeci said.

For a nonprofit to receive grants from Wells, it must fall into one of six categories — community development, education, human services, arts and culture, civic and environment. In 2009, nonprofits in community development received \$8 million from Wells, education got \$6.8 million and \$3.2 million went to human services.

Billeci said organizations also "need to be well run, efficient and effective in helping communities." He listed Jewish Vocational Service, a nonprofit based in San Francisco that provides job skills training and job placement, as an ideal

Billeci has seen more financial need from nonprofits since start of the recession. Wells funded 2,000 grants in 2009 in the Bay Area. Last year, the company gave funded 1,900 grants. Recipients in San Francisco include the San Francisco Food Bank, San Francisco General Hospital Foundation, Glide Memorial Church, and the Chinatown Community Development Center.

"We try to do the best that we can to allocate our resources so that the



Billeci: Wells' giving increases as the bank grows stronger.

recipient for Wells funds. It received roughly \$100,000 from Wells in 2009.

Wells has given to JVS for about 15 years.

"We think they do terrific things in our community," Billeci said.

Wells gave over \$65,000 in grants to JVS in 2009. The company has also had hiring and training partnerships with JVS and designed curriculum for JVS clients who want to work in finance. "It's been a very positive, win-win relationship," Abby Snay, executive director of JVS, said.

—Laila Kearney ■