

Celebrating Our Heroes: Volunteer Appreciation Month & Recognition Luncheon



Our volunteers are so important! Above, a handful of volunteers from Cal Poly help complete our newsletter mailing.

April is a special time at Inland Valley Hope Partners as we celebrate Volunteer Appreciation Month, a time to honor and thank the remarkable individuals whose dedication and hard work are the heartbeat of our mission. Our volunteers' commitment is the driving force behind our ability to make a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve.

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Volunteers

This April, we're especially excited to invite you to our **Volunteer Recognition Luncheon on April 26th** at 11:30 a.m. The event will take place in the fellowship hall of First Christian Church of Pomona (1751 N. Park Ave.). This event is a small token of our immense gratitude for the time, energy, and love our volunteers pour into our community. It's our chance to say thank you and shine a light on the incredible work you do.

We would love to have as many of our wonderful volunteers in attendance as possible! Save your spot by letting our Development and Volunteer Relations Associate, Cirenia "CC" Cuevas, know you will be in attendance at 909-622-3806, x108 or cc@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org. When possible, we kindly request your response by April 18th.

Our volunteers are involved in various activities crucial to our operations and mission. From assisting with our monthly newsletter mailings, participating in gleaning activities to ensure fresh produce is available, to working diligently in our food pantry - every task performed by our volunteers is a cornerstone of our success.

Join Our Volunteer Family

Our newsletter mailing days, held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month, are just one of the many opportunities to get involved. We're always on the lookout for more hands-on-deck to help with this and other vital activities. If you're inspired to join our volunteer family, or know someone who might be, please reach out to Cirenia "CC" Cuevas, our Development and Volunteer Relations Associate, at 909-622-3806, x108 or cc@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org.

Volunteering with Inland Valley Hope Partners is more than just giving your time; it's about being part of a community that believes in hope, supports one another, and works together towards a brighter future for all.

Calendar of Events/ Activities

Farmers' Market.....*Every Saturday*
Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon.....*April 26, 2024*
Golf Classic.....*May 14, 2024*
Newsletter Mailing.....*May 21, 2024*
Annual Meeting.....*June 26, 2024*

Call or email office for bold events (need volunteers)!

909-622-3806, x108;

vcoordinator@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

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Who We Are ...

Celebrating over 50 years of commitment, Inland Valley Hope Partners serves over 75,000 men, women and children each year through "Our House" family residential shelter; and Rapid Re-Housing; BETA, SOVA, Claremont, San Dimas and South Pomona food pantries; and the Pomona Farmers' Market throughout 13 communities including Chino, Chino Hills, Claremont, Diamond Bar, La Verne, Montclair, Mt. Baldy, Ontario, Pomona, Rancho Cucamonga, San Dimas, Upland, and Walnut. The shelter houses five families for up to 90 days. The food pantries distribute five days worth of food per person to no and low income families. Clients may come once every 30 days. The Farmers Market operates every Saturday morning and accepts WIC and EBT cards. Begun in 1968 as the Pomona Council of Churches, today the non-profit is a collaboration of faith communities, businesses, community groups, and individuals who care about their neighbors.

Blessings ...

Happy Spring! We here at Inland Valley Hope Partners are enjoying these longer, brighter days and hope you are, too!

The Spring season is already bringing us many blessings through the outpouring of support we are receiving from our many community partners. In fact, there are so many wonderful things going on that we often can't mention it all here in our newsletter. But we do our best to make sure everything gets shared on our social media pages. I encourage you to connect with us on Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram and LinkedIn to stay informed. You can find us at:



Inland-Valley-Hope-Partners



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Inland Valley Hope Partners

We hope to continue our relationship with you there!

Blessings!

Kami Grosvenor

President/CEO

Thank you LA Regional Food Bank!

The team at Hope Partners was devastated last Fall when our large refrigerated box truck was stolen with our newly donated electric pallet jack inside. The truck was recovered, but sadly the pallet jack was never found. Last month, the **LA Regional Food Bank** generously donated another electric pallet jack to our Food Security Program! The equipment makes it so much easier for our team to load and unload pallets of food from our truck and move the pallets throughout our facilities! THANK YOU for this blessing!

INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

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ADMINISTRATION/HOUSING
OFFICE HOURS:
Monday - Thursday 8:00 am-6:00

Our House Shelter Client Success Story: A Journey of Resilience and Hope

This month we would like to feature the story of Evelyn*, a mother with a resolve of steel, and her 17-year-old son, who together braved the storms of life and found a beacon of hope in Inland Valley Hope Partners.

Four months ago, with the weight of the world on her shoulders, Evelyn stepped into the Hope Partners housing department. Her eyes, weary from the hardships of life, sparkled with a glimmer of hope as she sought assistance. The streets had been both her home and battlefield, where she protected her son from the harsh realities they faced. Coming from Alabama, they carried not just their few belongings but a heavy past marred by trauma and the echoes of verbal and mental abuse.

Life on the move, from one temporary shelter to another, took its toll, especially on her son, who battled the invisible scars of PTSD. The challenges were daunting, with Evelyn's son's mental health at the forefront, coupled with the Herculean task of providing and caring for him in the most unstable of environments.

But hope flickered in the darkness when Evelyn and her son found refuge at the *Our House* Family Shelter, a sanctuary that offered more than just a roof. It was here that Evelyn made the pivotal decision to enroll her son in home schooling, ensuring his education continued unimpeded, providing him with the support he needed to heal and grow.

The journey didn't stop there; Evelyn's relentless spirit saw her son enter the Job Corps Program in LA County, a stepping stone towards a brighter future. Despite her own fears and the daunting task of re-entering the workforce after a long hiatus, Evelyn persevered and entered the Los Angeles County GAIN program to rebuild her employment history. Her time at the shelter was transformative, providing her with the resources and tools she needs to boldly pursue a better life for her and her son.

As Evelyn prepares to embark on a new chapter in Long Beach, with a stable home and renewed confidence, her gratitude towards Hope Partners is boundless. The assistance she received was more than just aid; it was a lifeline that pulled her from the depths of despair and set her on the path to reclaiming her life and dignity.

Evelyn's story is a powerful reminder of the resilience of the human spirit and the transformative impact of compassion and support. It is a testament to the mission of Inland Valley Hope Partners, not just to help those in need but to empower them to rise above their circumstances and forge a new beginning. As Evelyn and her son look forward to their new life, Hope Partners continues to stand by them, cheering them on, inspired by their journey and the indomitable spirit of a mother's love.

*Name changed.



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Tee-Off for a Cause at the 2024 Golf Classic

It's not too late to claim your spot for Hope Partners' 27th Annual Golf Classic! Taking place at the Sierra Lakes Golf Club in Fontana on **Tuesday, May 14th**, proceeds will again help provide food, shelter and other supportive services to thousands of local children and their families. A huge thank you to our friends at **Banc of California**, formerly Pacific Western Bank for serving as **Title Sponsor** for the 2024 event.

A foursome of golf is only \$1,000 (\$300 for an individual golfer), plus we have sponsorship opportunities available at nearly every level for the 2024 event! Register TODAY using our secure website. For more information on the many ways you can participate in this fun annual event, access our Golf Page at www.InlandValleyHopePartners.org or contact Misa Martinez at 909-622-3806, x105 or misam@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org.

Enjoy a fun day on the course while helping a worthy cause. We hope to see you at this year's Annual Golf Classic!



You're Invited to Hope Partners' Annual Meeting

All supporters are invited to join Inland Valley Hope Partners for this year's Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 26th at 4 p.m. The meeting will take place in the Fellowship Hall at First Christian Church Pomona (1751 N. Park Ave.) During the meeting, Hope Partners will elect the new Board of Director officers and members as well as give a state of the agency. Please RSVP to Kami Grosvenor at 909-622-3806, x101 or kamig@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org.



Other Ways to Give

Do you designate your **Ralphs rewards**? Please consider designating them to Inland Valley Hope Partners. That way you can help us feed the hungry by buying your own groceries! Simply visit www.ralphs.com. Once logged into your Ralphs account, you can search for INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS either by name or by our Non-Profit Organization number **WG044** and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address, and a rewards card.

Matching gifts is a form of corporate philanthropy which allows companies to match their employees' donations to nonprofits. Companies will match their employees' donations at a 1:1, 2:1, or even 3:1 ratio, effectively maximizing the impact of a single eligible donation. Your HR Dept. will typically be able to assist you access your company's matching gifts program.



Spreading Easter Cheer Thanks to Bank of America

As the Easter season comes to a close, we at Inland Valley Hope Partners want to extend our deepest gratitude to a longtime supporter – **Bank of America!** Their incredible generosity truly brought the spirit of Easter to the families we serve.

This year, Bank of America went above and beyond with a heartwarming donation of **over 100 Easter baskets**. Filled to the brim with festive treats and delightful surprises, these baskets brought a wave of joy and normalcy to countless families residing in our shelter and rapid re-housing programs.

For many families facing temporary setbacks, holidays can be a time of heightened stress and uncertainty. Bank of America's thoughtful contribution ensured that these families didn't miss out on the magic of Easter. The overflowing baskets became more than just treats – they were a symbol of hope, a reminder that brighter days are ahead. The smiles on the children's faces and the appreciation in the parents' eyes were truly heartwarming.



We are incredibly grateful for Bank of America's unwavering commitment to Inland Valley Hope Partners' mission. Their ongoing support goes far beyond seasonal gestures. They understand the critical role we play in providing shelter, essential services, and most importantly, hope to families in need. Their generosity allows us to create not just brighter moments, but a brighter path forward for the families we serve. With the continued support and the dedication of partners like Bank of America, we can empower our clients with the tools and resources they need to build a stable and fulfilling future.

Once again, a heartfelt thank you to Bank of America for their incredible Easter basket donation and their unwavering dedication to the well-being of our community.



Enjoy FREE Admission to This Year's LA County Fair While Supporting Inland Valley Hope Partners!

The **LA County Fair** is once again giving back to the local community during the 2024 Fair Season with its Food Drive Thursdays Promotion. Hope Partners is honored to be a recipient of the canned food items donated at the Fair on Thursday, May 9th.

How Does It Work?

Bring in 5 cans of food (per person) to the Fair entrance between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. and receive free Fair admission for that day (Thursday, May 9th). The canned food collected will then be donated to Inland Valley Hope Partners and other worthy food relief organizations in the area.

Last year, the food drive at the Fair generated so much food that our Hope Partners truck was filled with pallets from front to back! With your help, we can replicate this success and ensure the 3,500 plus individuals who visit our food pantries each month receive the food they so desperately need. A huge thank you to our friends at the LA County Fair for sponsoring this generous community support each year!

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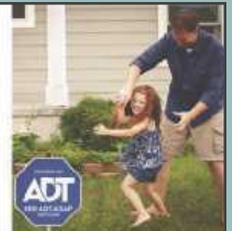


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