

Giving Thanks Together: Hope Partners' Annual Thanksgiving Meal Giveaway

This Thanksgiving, our community once again came together to share the spirit of generosity and kindness through our annual Thanksgiving Giveaway. Thanks to the incredible support of our friends at **Life Bible Fellowship Church**, **Claremont United Church of Christ**, and **LA Regional Food Bank**, we were able to provide Thanksgiving turkeys (or a gift card for a turkey) and sides to more than **440 local families** in need. This year's give-away took place at our Sova location on Thursday, November 21st and our Beta location beginning Monday, November 25th.

The Thanksgiving Meal Giveaway helps ensure that no one in our community has to face this traditional holiday without a meal to share with their loved ones. Inland Valley Hope Partners would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our generous sponsors, volunteers, and partners who made this event possible. Their contributions, both big and small, ensured that every meal box was distributed with love and care. Your support helped us to extend our reach and touch even more lives this holiday season. **Thank you!**



Tackle Hunger With The Souper Bowl Of Caring

You can score a huge win for our community by huddling up with your faith community, school, service club, family, or friends to participate in this year's **Souper Bowl of Caring!** Tackle Hunger by coordinating a canned food and/or fundraising drive in the weeks leading up to and immediately following the **Big Game – Sunday, February 9th**.

The Souper Bowl of Caring is a national movement to fight hunger and in communities around the time of the Super Bowl. For more information, inspirational ideas, and promotional materials, visit www.TackleHunger.org to set up your Souper Bowl event. Your collected items/ funds go a long way toward filling our food pantries!

Calendar of Events/ Activities

Farmers' Market.....Every Saturday
Newsletter Mailing.....January 21, 2025
Souper Bowl of Caring.....February 9, 2025

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 ...

In 2024, YOUR contributions of time, talent and treasure to the mission of Inland Valley Hope Partners have helped our agency:

- House **21 homeless families (39 individuals)** in the Our House Temporary Shelter, providing them with room, board and vital services to move them forward from homelessness into a place of their own. The shelter provided some **2,923 bed nights** this calendar year
- Move **17 families** from homelessness to safe and stable housing through the Rapid Re-Housing Program
- Support **39 families** with emergency rental assistance to prevent additional families from experiencing homelessness
- Issue 13 motel vouchers, providing **35 individuals with 106 nights of respite** from living on the street or other place not meant for human habitation
- Feed a total of **49,672 children, women and men** with emergency, staple foods to soothe their hungry stomachs—that's enough food for a total of **745,080** meals distributed by our Food Security Program during the calendar year
- Extend the food budgets of more than **7,000 low-income families** to include more fresh produce through the Market Match program offered at our Pomona Valley Certified Farmers' Market
- Provide nearly **300 students** with a backpack full of school supplies
- Facilitate the "adoption" of **more than 100 families** through our Adopt-A-Family Holiday Gift Program helping to bring a happy holiday to a family that might otherwise have had none



We thank you for your commitment and service to our mission of feeding the hungry and sheltering the homeless here in the Inland Valley. We look forward to your continued support to serve our neighbors in need in 2025!

Blessings!

Kami Grosvenor

President/CEO

INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

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

Our House Shelter Yard Gets A Face Lift

Thanks to the hard work and generosity of the **Claremont Rotary Club** and friends, the yard at Hope Partners' *Our House* Family Shelter is looking like a million bucks! The yard beautification project was truly a labor of love initiated and funded by the Rotary Club. John Howland reached out to Hope Partners last Spring looking for a project the club could tackle for us, and they more than delivered when the weather began to cool. The club recruited additional volunteer assistance from the **Claremont High School Interact Club** and the **Claremont Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints** and had a work party on the morning of Saturday, November 16th. The group pulled up the old

dilapidated playground lining and mulch, laid down a fresh barrier lining, installed a new sandbox and toddler swing before topping the whole yard area with new mulch. The look and functionality of the yard is now vastly improved for the children and families who do and will call the *Our House* Family Shelter home. From the bottom of hearts, **thank you!**



Hope Partners Receives Valuable Grant Funding

Great things have been happening for Hope Partners! November brought impactful grant awards from three local foundations in support of our Food Security Program. Special thanks to our new partner **Rosendin Foundation** for a \$10,000 award and our long-time partners **San Manuel Band of Mission Indians** and the **Price Foundation Inc.**, for their \$25,000 and \$10,000 grant awards respectively. Combined, this grant funding will allow Hope Partners to provide some **108,000 meals** to hungry families.



Sara Barnes of the Rosendin Foundation presents Kami Grosvenor (and daughter Kallie) with a check for Hope Partners.

INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

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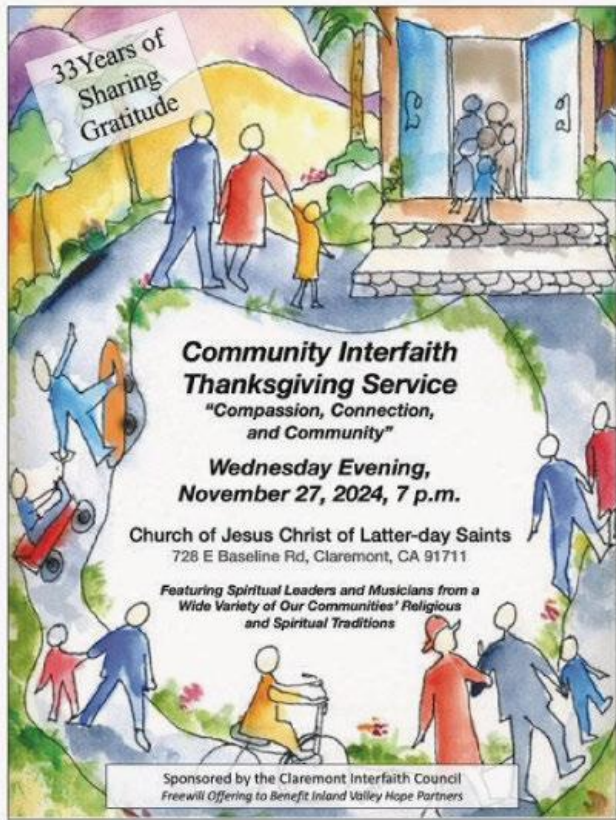
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Farmers' Market Manager (contract)

Harry Brown-Hiegel,
310-621-0336

h.brownhiegel@ca.rr.com

Thank You to the Claremont Interfaith Council



We are incredibly grateful to the **Claremont Interfaith Council** for once again having Inland Valley Hope Partners as the recipient of the freewill offering during this year's Thanksgiving service.

The event, taking place at the Claremont Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, on Wednesday, November 27th, was well-attended, providing an amazing opportunity for the community to join together in shared gratitude and respect for our sacred traditions. The free-will offering **raised over \$700** which will go a long way in helping us continue our mission to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless. On behalf of our entire team, we would like to extend our sincerest thanks to the Interfaith Council and everyone who contributed. Together, we are creating a stronger, more compassionate community.

Housing Client Success Story

Emilia's* story begins like many others, with a life that seemed to be on track until circumstances spiraled out of control. A history of domestic violence, substance abuse, the loss of her job, and family challenges overwhelmed her, and before she knew it, she found herself sleeping in her car, moving from one motel to another. Her finances exhausted and feeling hopeless, she was caught in a desperate situation—one she never thought she would find herself in.

Despite her hardships, Emilia remained hopeful, determined to find a way forward to a better life. Thanks to a referral from VOA (Volunteers of America), Emilia became eligible for a bed in Hope Partners' *Our House* Family Shelter Program. When Emilia sat down for her interview with our case manager Karen Abram, she could hardly believe the relief she felt. "It came just in time," she said, reflecting on how long she had been waiting for a break. For months, she had been holding onto the belief that help would eventually come, and now it had.

Emilia moved into the shelter in late Autumn and got straight to work utilizing the resources, guidance, and encouragement from our team to begin to rebuild her life. She quickly secured a new job that pays good wages. Most recently, she has been able to purchase a used car which makes it much easier for her to get to and from that job. For her, this is just the beginning of what promises to be a bright future. Despite the long and difficult journey, Emilia's determination and the support of Hope Partners have helped her regain control over her life and she is confidently searching for her next step – an apartment to call her own. She now stands at the threshold of a fresh start, and with that, the possibility of permanent stability and success.

Emilia's journey is proof that, no matter how challenging the circumstances, a new chance is always within reach. At Hope Partners, we are proud to have been part of her journey and wish her nothing but success as she continues onward toward a brighter, more secure future.

God bless you, Emilia, and stay safe. The team at Hope Partners is cheering you on every step of the way.

*Name changed.

Thank You to our Adopt-A-Family Donors!

Once again our community is showing up BIG in support of our families as part of the 2024 Adopt-A-Family Holiday Program! The program is ongoing at the time of this newsletter writing, but we are so excited to share news from this year's program in the next edition of the newsletter. Stay Tuned!



Needed: Small Appliances and Kitchen Supplies!

Please help us re-stock the kitchen in the *Our House* Family Shelter by donating new or gently used kitchen supplies and small kitchen appliances. Many of the items our shelter residents rely on wear out quickly due to heavy, daily use. Some specific items we are in urgent need of include:

- Cooking utensils (spoons, spatulas, ladles)
- Pots and pans
- Cutlery sets (knives, forks, spoons)
- Dishware (plates, bowls, cups)
- Blenders, toasters, and other small kitchen appliances
- Storage containers (for food storage)
- Cleaning supplies (dish soap, sponges, cleaning cloths)

If you are interested in donating, please drop off items at our Housing Office (1753 N. Park Ave., Pomona) between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday - Thursday. Thank you in advance!

November Donors

Partners (\$1,000.00 to \$1,000,000.00)

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(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Other Ways to Give

Do you designate your **Ralphs rewards**? Please consider designating them to 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 help you access your company's matching gifts program. Nordstrom, Macy's, Bank of America, ADP, The Home Depot, Starbucks, Verizon, H&R Block, and the Walt Disney Corporation are just a few employers with donation matching programs. Ask your employer about matching your gift TODAY!



Host a Facebook Fundraiser:

1. Go onto your Facebook page and click Fundraisers in the left menu of your News Feed
2. Click Raise Money, Select Nonprofit/Charity, and Select us as Inland Valley Council of Churches, dba Inland Valley Hope Partners
3. Choose a cover photo and fill in the fundraiser details then click Create.

Once you have done this, your job is over. See your friends and family raise money for your cause without the hassle of collecting money! Once your fundraiser is over, Facebook will then send Hope Partners a payment in your honor!



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(CONTINUED)

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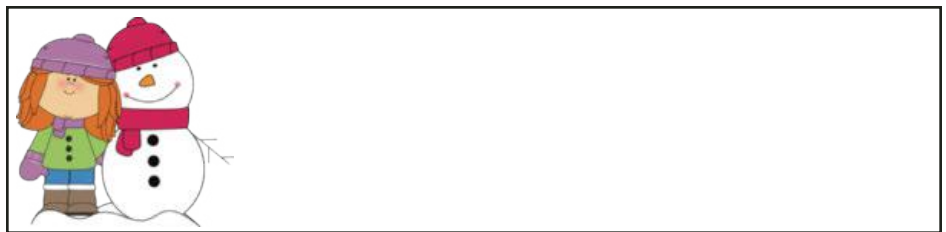
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