Feeding the Hungry and Sheltering the Homeless since 1968



Volume 40 Issue 2

A monthly publication

March/April 2025

Par for the Course, Par for the Cause: Join Us on the Green!

Inland Valley Hope Partners invites you to join us on the links for a day of fun and philanthropy as part of our **28**th **Annual Golf Classic**. This year's event will take place on **Tuesday, May 13**th **at the Sierra Lakes Golf Course** in Fontana, and all proceeds will help Hope Partners provide food, shelter and supportive services to thousands of local children and their families.

The tournament will kick-off with registration/check-in at 11:00 a.m. Participants are welcome to hit a bucket of balls on the driving range, participate in our putting contest and grab some yummy lunch before the tournament begins with a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. Closest to the Pin,



Longest Drive and Hole-in-One contests will be conducted on the course with prizes to be presented at the evening's award dinner.

Make your plans to join us TODAY! Foursomes are \$1,000 and individual golfers are \$300 each including cart. Even if you don't play golf, you can still join us! The awards dinner, starting at approximately 6 p.m., will feature delicious food and opportunities to win fabulous auction and raffle prizes. Plus, it all benefits the hungry and homeless in our community.

Whether you're a sponsor, individual golfer, foursome, or would simply like to join us for dinner, make sure to reserve your spot! To access the Golf Brochure/Registration form, please visit www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org and click on the Annual Golf Classic tab. For more information, contact Kami Grosvenor at 909-622-3806, x101 or kamig@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org.

We hope to see you May 13th for a day on the course, some good competition, and hopefully lots of fun!



Calendar of Events/ Activities

Call or email office for bold events (need volunteers)! 909-622-3806, x108;

 $\underline{vcoordinator@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org}$

www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

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

HOPE PARTNERS

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 and San Dimas 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 ...

As most of you are aware, the federal government has issued a pause in national funding, creating a level of uncertainty for many nonprofits, including us here at Inland Valley Hope Partners. The longer this delay continues, the more it may impact our ability to provide the vital services that so many rely on.

At Hope Partners, we are proud to offer emergency food and shelter services to individuals and families facing hardship in our community. While we've worked hard to



diversify our sources of revenue over the last few years, government grants from the Emergency Food and Shelter Grant, Community Development Block Grant, and HUD Continuum of Care Grant Programs and others still account for about a quarter of our agency's funding. While funding from these sources may be a bit uncertain at this moment, what *is certain* is the community's need for our essential services.

Our commitment to our mission remains strong, but we cannot do it alone. That's where your continued support becomes even more vital. While we remain hopeful that these government issues will be resolved soon, we understand that we must be prepared for all scenarios to ensure that our programs continue without disruption. As a loyal donor and supporter of our work, you have helped us make a real difference in the lives of countless individuals and families. Today, we humbly ask for your continued generosity to help bridge the gap during this uncertain time. Your contribution will directly support our ability to maintain services and care for those in urgent need, regardless of the challenges we face.

We are deeply grateful for your past support, and we hope we can count on you again as we navigate this period of uncertainty. Together, we can ensure that our community's most vulnerable individuals and families receive the critical care and resources they need, no matter what.

If you would like to make a donation, please use the enclosed envelope or make your donation at our secure website at www.lnlandValleyHopePartners.org.

Thank you in advance for your unwavering support.

Blessings!

Kami Grosvenor

President/CEO

Our Community Is Amazing

We are so blessed to have incredible community partners who are always eager to support Inland Valley Hope Partners' work and those we serve. This edition, we wanted to highlight the work of a few local faith communities for their generous support:





(Above)
Volunteers from
Life Bible
Fellowship
Church cut back
tree branches at
our Sova
Program Center
in Ontario; (Left)
Six boxes teeming
with bags for the
homeless were
delivered by our
friends from
Claremont UCC.

Life Bible Fellowship Church of **Upland** once again partnered with Hope Partners for its annual Community Impact Day in March. A team of volunteers descended on our Sova Food Security Program Center and helped make a significant difference in our operations and the local community. The volunteers weeded and trimmed the plants lining our walkways, ensuring safe, accessible, and beautiful spaces for the families and individuals we serve. They also took on the task of sorting and bagging bulk food items to be distributed to those in need. Their hard work and generosity is very much appreciated.

We also wanted to give credit to the youth at two local churches: Pilgrim Congregational Church and Claremont United Church of Christ for putting together what one of the

churches lovingly referred to as "Blessing Bags" for the

homeless and others we serve. The youth sourced items and packed the bags with snacks, socks, hygiene items, and other useful items that would be a blessing to an individual struggling with food and housing instability.

Thank you for being so supportive!



You may have noticed a delay in our newsletters over the last few months. This is due to staffing vacancies in our development department which coordinates both the creation of the monthly newsletter and recruitment of

volunteers to help with its distribution. We are working to get these positions filled and hope to get back on schedule very soon!

Our e-editions of the newsletter have been much more timely, so if interested in receiving our monthly newsletters in your email inbox, please drop us a line at info@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org. Additionally, you can volunteer to help with the monthly newsletter. Our regular mailing days are the 3rd Tuesday of every month, beginning at 9 a.m. Let us know you're coming and assist for an hour or until the mailing is completely done! For the newsletter volunteering opportunity, please contact us at vcoordinator@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org. We welcome your assistance! Thank you, again, for your patience and support as we work to catch up on our newsletters!

INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

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Housing Client Success Story

This month's *Our House* Family Shelter success story is a testament to the power of collaboration among service agencies to help clients struggling with food and housing insecurity achieve their goals. Marguerite* and her daughter's story with Hope Partners begins at one of the most challenging points in their lives. They were homeless, displaced, and struggling to navigate a system that felt overwhelming and complicated. But thanks to the incredible partnership between Inland Valley Hope Partners and Union Station, Marguerite's family is finding hope, healing, and the promise of a brighter future.

It was only the beginning of 2025 when Marguerite and her daughter came to the *Our House* Shelter through a referral from Union Station. Although they had been accepted into the Pasadena-based non-profit's Rapid Re-Housing Program, their case manager had been unable to secure Marquerite's family a spot in their interim housing program. We were happy to step in and provide this family with the shelter and respite they needed as they pursued their next steps.

From the moment they walked through our doors, Marguerite's anxiety was palpable. She voiced concerns about the complicated process of receiving housing assistance, sharing her frustration with how difficult it was to make sense of the system. She had been through so much — trauma, struggles with domestic violence, and the overwhelming stress of trying to provide for her daughter while facing so many barriers. But, Marguerite, with the positive steps that had already been taken, had a little kernel of hope.

Once in our program, Marguerite was able to stabilize her daughter and school and enrolled in the county's GAIN employment program which provides employment assistance and paid work experience, a critical support for Marguerite who had long gaps in her employment history. Though it's been a challenge, Marquerite is determined to make progress and improve her family's situation.

During her time at the shelter, Marguerite has not only focused on her own growth but has also shown kindness and support to other families. Now, with stable employment and the resources afforded to her, she has begun her housing search. With the help of Hope Partners and Union Station, Marguerite is well on her way to achieving her goal of stable housing. She is grateful for the assistance and hopeful for a brighter future for her and her daughter.

We at Hope Partners are proud to support Marguerite on her journey and look forward to seeing her family thrive in their new beginning

*Name changed.



A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Volunteers This April

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month, and here at Inland Valley Hope Partners, we want to take a moment to express just how deeply we value you—our incredible volunteers! With a tiny, but dedicated staff, it is your unwavering support that allows us to fulfill our mission of feeding the hungry and sheltering the homeless.

When a mother walks into one of our food pantries seeking nourishment for her family, it's often a volunteer who greets her with a smile and a helping hand. And when she receives housing assistance from one of our Housing Programs, it is often thanks to our volunteer receptionists who first answered and screened her call for eligibility.

Whether you're serving on our board, supporting our housing program, working in the pantries, assisting at the farmers' market, folding newsletters, hosting a food drive, or contributing in countless other ways—you are a vital part of our team. Your time, energy, and commitment make all the difference in the lives of those we serve.

From the bottom of our hearts, **THANK YOU** for everything you do! Your generosity and dedication enable Inland Valley Hope Partners to continue making a real impact in our community. We are so grateful to have you as part of our mission.

Spring Clean, Spring Hope: Your Decluttering Can Help Families in Need

As the weather warms up, and we dive into our annual spring cleaning, it's the perfect time to refresh our homes—and our hearts! At Hope Partners, we want to remind you that as you clear out the clutter, there's a meaningful way to give back to our community. Through our local thrift store partners, your unwanted items can directly support our mission to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless. We're proud to work with three incredible local partners that are dedicated to helping those in need:



(Pomona)

Acts Thrift Store is a vital partner in supporting our mission. When you donate items, they're directly contributing to the lives of families in need. Acts records your donations and credits Hope Partners, allowing us to issue vouchers to families and individuals. These vouchers enable them to purchase the items they need from Acts at no cost, thanks to your generosity. On top of that, Acts also donates a portion of its proceeds to our cause, making every purchase from their store a win-win!

Visit Acts at 232 E. Foothill Blvd. in Pomona or call them at (909) 491-3199 for more info.



A Lot of Good is truly living up to its name! This store has been a fantastic partner, providing Hope Partners with numerous vouchers for our clients. Not only that, but they've gone above and beyond, hosting fundraising events, promoting our work on social media, and even making direct financial donations to our cause. Every donation you make to A Lot of Good is a step towards helping those in need.

Check out A Lot of Good at 1980 W. Foothill Blvd. in Upland or reach out at (909) 233-7830.

Economy Shop

CLAREMONT -

(Claremont)

For decades, The Economy Shop has been a cornerstone in our efforts to support low-income families. Through their generous contributions, they've raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to help us provide food, shelter, and essential services to our neighbors in need. Their ongoing partnership is a testament to the power of community support.

Visit The Economy Shop at 325 W 1st St, Claremont, CA 91711, or contact them at (909) 626-7334.

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 you employer about matching your gift TODAY!



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Planned gifts provide a meaningful way of making an impact on Hope Partners' future while maximizing your philanthropic and financial goals.

For more information on planned giving opportunities, give us a call at 909-622-3806.

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