

Volume 40 Issue 5

A monthly publication

FIGHT HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS ONE STEP AT A TIME



Hope Partners invites you to **BE A HERO** for our neighbors in peril by participating in the:

52ND ANNUAL WALK FOR THE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025

@ the Claremont Colleges Services (101 S. Mills Ave., Claremont)

> 8:00 AM Registration Begins 9:00 AM Walk Begins

This fun, family-friendly 5K Walk event raises critical funds to support Hope Partners' work fighting hunger and homelessness in the Inland Valley. When you walk with us, you're helping put food on the table for struggling families and providing shelter and support for neighbors experiencing or at-risk of homelessness.

This year's Walk Registration is \$25 for Adults; \$20 for Students, and Free for Children 12 and Under. All registered walkers will receive a special Hero Headband as a token of our appreciation. Plus, this year's **SUPERHERO**-themed event has something for

everyone: free popcorn, balloons, face-painting, live

music, and a welcoming atmosphere for individuals, families, teams, and faith groups alike. It's a great way to spend the morning while supporting an important cause.

Want to take it a step further? You can make an even greater impact by setting up a personal fundraising page. Invite your friends, family, coworkers, or congregation to support your walk. Every dollar you raise helps us continue providing food, shelter, and hope to those in need.

Registration links will be live and fundraising forms will be available for download on our website, www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org, by the end of July. To request hard copies of the walk forms, please contact Kami Grosvenor at 909-622-3806, x101 or kamig@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org.

Calendar of Events/ **Activities**

Farmers' Market	Every Saturday
Newsletter Mailing	August 19, 2025
Walk for the Hungry & Homeless	September 13, 2025

Call or email office for bold events (need volunteers)! 909-622-3806, x108; vcoordinator@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Chair Dr. Donna Bernard Retired School Superintendent

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INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS 1753 N. Park Avenue, Pomona, Ca 91768 909.622.3806 FAX 909.622.0484 info@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org www.lnlandValleyHopePartners.org

Administration/Housing Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 am-6:00



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; 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.

<u>Blessings ...</u>

Imagine making this choice: Pay the rent... or buy groceries. Keep the lights on... or refill your child's asthma inhaler. For thousands of families in our region, this isn't hypothetical—it's daily life. And right now, these impossible decisions are getting even harder.



At Inland Valley Hope Partners, we're experiencing a steady increase of neighbors in need of our emergency food and shelter assistance. But just as the need is rising, many of the safety nets these families rely on appear to

be unraveling. Corporate funders are tightening their charitable giving budgets for organizations such as ours. Many federal assistance programs that support organizations like Hope Partners and the families and individuals we serve are on pause—or under threat in the new government budget. Resources are shrinking. But the crisis for these families is not.

Despite these challenges, Hope Partners remains steadfast in our mission: to bring hope—and practical help—to those who need it most. Our food pantries serve more than 3,500 people every month. Our emergency housing programs offer refuge and stability for those experiencing homelessness or in jeopardy of losing their housing. And our staff and volunteers continue to show up, every day, to serve their neighbors in need with dignity and compassion.

But we can't do it without you! Will you stand with us now, when it matters most? Your gift of \$20, \$50, \$100 or more will ensure we can keep the doors open, the pantry stocked, and our neighbors safe and cared for. Please give today using the enclosed envelope or our secure website at www.InlandValleyHopePartners.org.

Your generosity doesn't just provide food and shelter—it offers something even more powerful: hope.

Blessings!

Kami Grosvenor

President/CEO

P.S. EVERY gift makes a difference! In fact, a donation of just \$50 can help feed a family of four for an entire week. THANK YOU!

A HUGE Thank You to Our Newsletter Volunteers!



It's been no secret that we have struggled with the consistency of our newsletter mailing over the last year. As we shared before, this was due in part to staffing vacancies that impacted our creation of the newsletter and recruitment of volunteers to help with its distribution. We are pleased to share that our June newsletter mailing had the largest group of volunteers we've seen since before the pandemic! This hard-working group, some of whom are pictured above, was so efficient that we were able to finish preparing the 1,750 newsletters for mailing in a single day! This used to be the norm, but has not happened in years—a true blessing for us here at Hope Partners! Thank you to all the volunteers who turned out in support of this effort!

We can still use your help to get the Hope Partners newsletter out each month! Our regular mailing days are the 3rd Tuesday of every month, beginning at 9:30 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!

Help Us Update Our Mailing List!

Are you receiving duplicate mail? Notice an incorrect name or address? Prefer email instead of printed updates? **Let us know!** Keeping our records current helps us reduce waste, save on postage, and make sure you're getting the information you want— how you want it.

To update your info:

Call: 909-622-3806 (select Administration) Email: <u>info@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org</u> Mail: PO Box 2572 Pomona, CA 91769-2572 Attn: Mailing List Update

Thank you for helping us make every dollar count!

Thank you Upland-Foothill Kiwanis Club!



A huge thank you to our friends at the Upland-Foothill Kiwanis Club for once again supporting the work of Hope Partners through their annual grants program. Above, Ted Powl (right) accepts the check on our behalf during a recent club meeting.

INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

STAFF

President/CEO Kami Grosvenor, x101 <u>kamig@</u> inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Office/Fiscal Administrator Yvonne West, x102 <u>yvonnew@</u> inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Fiscal/Grants Administration Assistant Bryce Gardner, x112 <u>bryceg@</u> inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Development & Communication Coordinator

Development & Volunteer Relations Associate

Grant Writer Kay Brand, x104 <u>kayb@</u> inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Case Manager Karen Abram, x106 <u>karena@</u> inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Emergency Housing Coordinator/ Food Program Associate Claudia Wheetley, x107 <u>claudian@</u>

inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Food Security Program Manager Isaac Vega, x201 <u>isaacv@</u> inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Case Manager Kristina Alvarez, x204 <u>kristinaa@</u> inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Farmers' Market Manager (contract) Harry Brown-Hiegel, 310-621-0336 harrytractor@ca.rr.com

Looking Back, Moving Forward: Highlights from Our Annual Meeting



Our newest Board Chair, Dr. Donna Bernard shows her support at Hope Partners' Annual Golf Classic.

Hope Partners marked the conclusion of the 2024-25 Fiscal Year with our Annual Meeting on June 25th. The meeting was open to all partners in our mission to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless and included a brief report on the agency's recent accomplishments, financial health and upcoming goals.

New Board officers and members were also elected at the meeting. Hope Partners would like to take this opportunity to introduce a few of them to you:

Dr. Donna Bernard was elected Hope Partners' new Board Chair. She has been a member of our board since 2019 and is a retired inner-city school superintendent. Donna is also an active member of one of our founding and still supportive congregations, Claremont United Church of Christ. She joined the Hope Partners Board in 2019 after helping our development team plan our successful 50th Anniversary Gala fundraiser. Her dear friend and former Hope Partners Board Chair, Tim Constantine, recruited her on the agency's behalf.

We also elected **James Butler** and **Vickie Manning** as new members of the Hope Partners' Board. James is a retired professor from Fuller Theological Seminary. He is active with his

church, Claremont Presbyterian Church (another founding and still supportive congregation) and has volunteered his time in support of our Sova Food Security Program, Inland Communities Organizing Network (ICON), Claremont Homeless Advocacy Program (CHAP), the Friends of Sabeel North America (FOSNA), and as a member of the board at Pilgrim Place. Vickie Manning is a life-long resident of Pomona and is semi-retired from her role as a controller for Coronado Stone Manufacturing. She regularly visits our Pomona Valley Certified Farmers' Market and is a congregate and former Trustee of Purpose Church.

Donna is taking over as chair from **Ron Bolding**, who has served as Chair since 2022. Although Ron has finished his term as Chair, he will continue to serve on the board as Immediate Past Chair. Under Ron's leadership, Hope Partners completed the renovation of the *Our House* Family Shelter and faced many challenges including the closing of our partners at Amy's Farm. His wisdom and leadership has been a real strength for the organization.

Thank you to all who attended the Annual Meeting and our deepest gratitude to all our Board Members for your service.



Get Your Fresh Produce at Hope Partners' Weekly Farmers' Market

Inland Valley Hope Partners sponsors the year-round Pomona Valley Certified Farmers' Market to bring fresh, nutritious fruits and produce grown by local family farmers to residents of the Pomona Valley. Although our market is designed to serve the needs of low-income families, the market is for **EVERYONE** and takes place **every Saturday** (rain or shine) in the parking lot of Purpose Church at the corner of Pearl and Garey in Pomona from 9:00

a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Items regularly available for purchase include fruits, vegetables, bread, tamales, flowers, and much more!

Also, coming this August, add a little spice to

your Saturday with our **annual salsa competition**! Create your best salsa, showcase your salsa making skills, or just come to taste and enjoy the creations made with fresh, locally grown produce. If interested, please contact our Market Manager, Harry Brown-Hiegel, at 310-621-0336 or <u>harrytractor@ca.rr.com</u>.



Back-to-School Drive: Thank You and Please Keep It Coming!

A big thank you to everyone who has already started bringing in school supplies—your generosity is helping to ensure local children are ready to succeed as they head back to class.

But our work isn't done yet—we still need your help! You can support Inland Valley Hope Partners' mission by hosting a school supply drive or simply adding a few extra items to your own back-to-school shopping list. These much-needed supplies will benefit the low-income children we serve through our food pantries and housing programs.

Basic Items Needed Include:

- #2 Pencils and Pens
- Spiral Notebooks
- Folders with Pockets
- 3-Ring Binders
- Crayons / Colored Pencils
- Calculators
- Planners
- Highlighters
- Backpacks
- Copy Paper
- Index Cards
- Rulers
- Scissors
- Pencil Cases/Pouches
- Loose-Leaf Notebook Paper (College Ruled)
- Glue Sticks and Bottled Glue

With many local schools starting in early August, supplies are needed by late July, if possible. Donations can be dropped off at our administration office: 1753 N. Park Ave., Pomona, Monday through Thursday. Please call or email to schedule your delivery at 909-622-3806 or info@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org.

Together, let's send every child back to school with confidence—and the supplies they need to thrive!

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 <u>www.ralphs.com</u>. 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!







June Donors

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

Bank of America Charitable Foundation Maria Lai Morgan Stanley Gift Fund

<u>Associates (\$500.00 to</u> <u>\$999.99)</u>

Jacob, Jr. & Ann Bach Claremont Presbyterian Church Claremont United Methodist Church CrossPoint Christian Reformed Church Louis & Joy Shaup

Pace Setters (\$250.00 to \$499.99)

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<u>Contributors (\$100.00 to</u> \$249.99)

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Mary V. Ball By: Elisabeth Walker

Harry Brunger By: Marilyn Brunger

Buie Kindle By: Sandra Kindle

Doug Mackenzie By: Barbara MacKenzie

> Linda Vogel By: Dwight Vogel

In Honor Of

Sue Maloney for her work in helping the homeless By: Brian & Nancy Mulligan



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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Gift-In-Kind Donations for June

Admin/Our House

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<u>Claremont</u>

City of Claremont Good Shepherd Church, Claremont Pilgrim Place Rock of the Foothills Lutheran Church San Dimas Carolyn Gomm Compassion Church of The Foothills House of Joy Julie Draayom San Dimas Senior Bingo San Dimas Senior Citizen Club

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