

## HEROES NEEDED! LACE UP FOR HOPE!

Join Inland Valley Hope Partners for our **52<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL WALK FOR THE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS** — where every step you take brings hope to our neighbors in need.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025**  
**@ the Claremont Colleges Services**  
(101 S. Mills Ave., Claremont)  
**8:00 AM Registration Begins**  
**9:00 AM Walk Begins**



Hope Partners’ fun, family-friendly **5K Walk** raises vital funds to fight hunger and homelessness right here in the Inland Valley. When you join us, you’re helping fill empty cupboards, providing safe shelter, and giving families in crisis the resources they need to get back on their feet.

**IT'S EASY TO GET STARTED!** Online registration is now open on our website and walker registration packets are available in our office or for download at [www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](http://www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org). A form is included in this month’s newsletter for your convenience as well. **Walk Registration is \$25 for adults, \$20 for students, and free for children 12 and under, and all registered walkers will receive a free Hope Partners superhero headband!**

And because heroes deserve celebration, this Superhero-themed event will be bursting with fun for all ages:

- ★ Balloons & face painting
- ★ Free popcorn
- ★ Live music
- ★ A warm, welcoming atmosphere for individuals, families, teams, and faith groups

Become a **Fundraising Hero** by creating your own personal fundraising page! Invite friends, family, coworkers, and your community to sponsor your walk. Every dollar raised goes directly toward providing food, shelter, and hope to local families in crisis. Ask your family, friends, co-workers and faith community to support your fundraising efforts with a donation or join forces to form a walk team and multiply both your enjoyment and impact for the cause!

For more information, visit our website at [www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](http://www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org) or contact Development Coordinator Rosa Valdes at 909-622-3806, x105 or [rosav@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](mailto:rosav@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org).

Lace up your sneakers, put on your hero headband, and walk with us on **Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>** to make hunger and homelessness a thing of the past. Your steps matter. Your compassion counts.

### Calendar of Events/ Activities

*Farmers’ Market.....Every Saturday*  
*Walk for the Hungry & Homeless.....September 13, 2025*  
*Newsletter Mailing.....September 16, 2025*  
*Newsletter Mailing.....October 21, 2025*

**Call or email office for bold events (need volunteers)!**  
 909-622-3806, x108;  
[vcoordinator@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](mailto:vcoordinator@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org)  
[www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](http://www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org)

## INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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; 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 ...

Hope Partners recently completed our fiscal year, which always provides an opportunity to pause and reflect upon our activities and their impact. I thought I would take a moment to illustrate some of our highlights from FY 24-25.

**43,769 Individuals** served at our Food Pantry/  
Distribution Locations

**656,535 Meals** provided

**440 Families** received a Thanksgiving Turkey and meal

**20 Families/ 31 Individuals** received shelter and other essential supportive services in the *Our House* Family Shelter

**19 Families/ 55 individuals** moved from homelessness to housing through the assistance of the Rapid Re-Housing Program

**28 Families/ 78 individuals** avoided homelessness through the provision of one-time Rental Assistance

**77 bed nights for 28 individuals** assisted through Motel Vouchers

**111 Families and their Children** provided gifts through the Adopt-a-Family Holiday Gift Program

**More than 150 Children** received a backpack filled with school supplies

**1,659 Families** participated in the Market Match Program at our Pomona Valley Certified Farmers Market

Despite pauses in key federal funding and the conclusion of several long-term partnerships, Hope Partners continues to be a place where people can turn in their most vulnerable moments. As we begin work in this fiscal year, we remain committed to serving as a lifeline to individuals and families struggling with hunger and housing insecurity—and none of it would be possible without you. Thank you for walking alongside us and making this work possible.

Blessings!

*Kami Grosvenor*

President/CEO



### INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

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[www.InlandValleyHopePartners.org](http://www.InlandValleyHopePartners.org)

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

## Introducing Our New Development Coordinator:

### Rosa Valdes



Hi everyone! I'm Rosa Valdes, and I'm excited to join Inland Valley Hope Partners as your new Development Coordinator.

Nonprofits have always been my home—I spent over 10 years working in development, events, marketing, and volunteer coordination amongst other skills, with organizations like the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, The Trevor Project, and UNITE-LA. The past five years took me into the corporate world, most recently as an Assistant Manager at an apartment building, and while I learned a ton, my heart was still in public service. So when this role opened up, it felt like the perfect way to come back to what I love most: building community and helping others.

I grew up in Southeast Los Angeles with my single mom and two sisters, an experience that shaped my passion for giving back. I earned my bachelor's degree from UC San Diego, studied abroad in Canterbury, England, and later earned my Master's in Public Administration from NYU.

Outside of work, you can usually find me painting, trying to workout, spending time with my sisters and my niece and nephew (I'm a very proud aunt!), or hanging out with my rescue cat, Henri, who's been my sidekick since 2020 (I will probably show you a picture of him without asking you). I love traveling—now with my fiancé so we can share those adventures together—trying new restaurants, and going to concerts.

I'm really looking forward to meeting more of you, hearing your stories, and working side by side to grow our impact in the community.

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## Fill a Home with Joy This Holiday Season

Holiday decorations are already popping up in stores which can only mean one thing: it's time to get started on this year's **Adopt-A-Family Program!** Last year, **111 families** were adopted by generous donors who kindly gave gifts and essentials, brightening the holiday season of no and low-income children and their families. We'd like to increase the number of families adopted for the 2025 season, but we can't do it without you!

### How You Can Help:

- **Adopt a Family:** Sponsor a family and fulfill their wish list. We provide all the details needed to make your adopted family's holiday special. Family wish lists should be ready in early October.
- **Donate:** If you are unable to adopt a family but still wish to contribute, monetary donations or gift cards are always welcome. These funds will be used to purchase gifts and essentials for families. General toy drive items are also appreciated!
- **Volunteer:** We will need volunteers to help screen families as well as organize and distribute gifts during the month of December.

To learn more about donation and volunteer opportunities, please contact Rosa Valdes at 909-622-3806, x105 or [rosav@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](mailto:rosav@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org). Let's ensure no family in our community is left without support this holiday season!

## INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

### STAFF

#### President/CEO

Kami Grosvenor, x101

[kamig@](mailto:kamig@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org)

[inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](http://inlandvalleyhopepartners.org)

#### Office/Fiscal Administrator

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[inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](http://inlandvalleyhopepartners.org)

#### Fiscal/Grants Administration Assistant

#### Development Coordinator

Rosa Valdes, x105

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[inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](http://inlandvalleyhopepartners.org)

#### Development & Volunteer Relations Associate

#### Grant Writer

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[inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](http://inlandvalleyhopepartners.org)

#### Case Manager

Karen Abram, x106

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[inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](http://inlandvalleyhopepartners.org)

#### Emergency Housing Coordinator/ Food Program Associate

Claudia Wheatley, x107

[claudian@](mailto:claudian@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org)

[inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](http://inlandvalleyhopepartners.org)

#### Food Security Program Manager

Isaac Vega, x201

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[inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](http://inlandvalleyhopepartners.org)

#### Case Manager

Kristina Alvarez, x204

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[inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](http://inlandvalleyhopepartners.org)

#### Farmers' Market Manager (contract)


Harry Brown-Hiegel,

310-621-0336

[harrytractor@ca.rr.com](mailto:harrytractor@ca.rr.com)



## Thank You for Helping to Equip Students for Success This School Year!



Thanks to the generosity of local individuals, businesses, faith groups, and community organizations, **206 children** in need are starting the school year with brand-new backpacks filled with essential supplies!

From notebooks and pens to calculators and art materials, thousands of donated items poured in during our Back-to-School Donation Drive. These gifts ensure that students have the tools they need to learn, create, and thrive — no matter their circumstances.

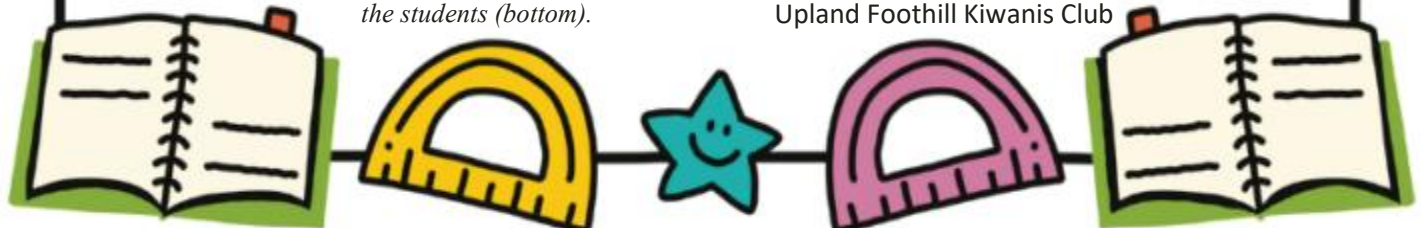
To our donors and volunteers: **Thank You!** Your generosity has given these students more than supplies — you've given them confidence, hope, and the knowledge that their community believes in their future. **This year's donors included:**



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Pomona Valley Hospital  
Sharon Komoto  
St. John's Episcopal Church - La Verne  
University of La Verne  
Upland Foothill Kiwanis Club



*Our friends from University of La Verne brought two trucks full of supplies collected on campus (top); Pomona Host Lions Club also brought a large selection of backpacks and lunch boxes for the students (bottom).*



# Every Step and Every Can Counts!

September is Hunger Action Month, and with the **Walk for the Hungry and Homeless** right around the corner, Hope Partners is offering another powerful way to fight hunger here in our local community.

The **Be A Hero Food Drive Calendar** is a fun, easy way to involve your family, friends, coworkers, and community groups in collecting much-needed food for our neighbors in need. Each week focuses on a color theme to make giving both simple and creative! Print the calendar, hang it up, establish a collection station and share the info so everyone can join the fight against hunger and homelessness.

## August 17 - 23 = GREEN WEEK

Stock our shelves with veggies — canned or fresh from your garden. Nutritious and versatile, they're a staple for our food pantries.

## August 24 - 30 = RED WEEK

Think tomato paste or fresh tomatoes, spaghetti sauce, ketchup, applesauce, raisins, and any other delicious red-hued foods.

## August 31 - September 6 = YELLOW WEEK

Contribute sunshine-colored favorites like mac-n-cheese, pasta, cereals, oatmeal, rice, and corn.

## September 7 - 13 = PURPLE WEEK

Purple stands for Protein! Bring peanut butter, tuna, canned chicken, Spam, or other protein-packed foods to help nourish local families.

Once your food is collected, drop it by one of our local food pantry locations or bring it with you to the **Walk for the Hungry and Homeless** on **Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**!

For more information, or to download a copy of the **Be A Hero Food Drive Calendar**, please visit our website at [www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](http://www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org) or contact Rosa Valdes, Development Coordinator, at 909.622.3806, x105 or [rosav@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](mailto:rosav@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org).



## 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](http://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!



# July Donors

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Upland Christian Church  
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## Contributors (\$100.00 to \$249.99)

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The Kroger Co.

## In Memory Of

Mary Ball Williams  
*By: Elisabeth Walker*

Mary V. Ball  
*By: Elisabeth Walker*

Harry Brunger  
*By: Marilyn Brunger*

Claremont 8th Street Book Club Member Ginger Elliott  
*By: Penelope Garris, Brandy Ibarra and Rhonda Heldman Raider*

Larry Hixon  
*By: Sheryn Scott*

Janice Homey Allen  
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*By: Elvia Hagerty*

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*By: John & Brenda Hill*

Herb Purnell  
*By: Paul and Anna Beth Cargill*

Linda Vogel  
*By: Dwight Vogel*

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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Sharon Komoto

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Thank  
you!