

Feeding the Hungry and Sheltering the Homeless since 1968



Volume 29 Issue 2

A monthly publication

February 2015

Save the Date for the 19th Annual Golf Classic

Help the children and families Inland Valley Hope Partners serves by joining us for this year's Golf Classic at the Sierra Lakes Golf Club in Fontana on May 14, 2015. Proceeds from this year's event 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. Original Tommy's Burgers will be around for lunch, soon followed by the tournament's 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.

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 an individual golfer, foursome, or would simply like to join us for dinner, make sure to reserve your spot today! Sponsorships of all levels are also still available. For more information, or to access the Registration and Sponsorship forms, visit the Annual Golf Classic page on the Hope Partners' website (www.InlandValleyHopePartners.org) or contact Kami Newman, Director of Development and Communication, at 909-622-3806 x. #105.

We hope to see you May 14th for a day on the links, some good competition, and the knowledge that your contribution will help feed the hungry and shelter to homeless.



Calendar of Events/Activities

Food Drive.....	February 21 & 22, 2015
Volunteer Orientation.....	February 28, 2015
Constantine Garden.....	March 7, 2015
Newsletter Mailing.....	March 10, 2015
Volunteer Orientation.....	March 11, 2015
Food Drive.....	March 14 & 15, 2015
Volunteer Orientation.....	March 28, 2015
Golf Tournament.....	May 14, 2015
Walk for the Hungry.....	October 11, 2015

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

909.622.3806, #108;

vcoordinator@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

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Who We Are ...

Celebrating over 45 years of commitment, Inland Valley Hope Partners serves over 80,000 men, women and children each year through "Our House" family residential shelter; 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 eight 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

We are blessed once again to share some great news: The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation and the Rose Hills Foundation have granted us funding to hire a full time volunteer coordinator for the next two years. The volunteer coordinator will be overseeing all aspects of the volunteer program at Inland Valley Hope Partners, including the Food Pantries, Our House Shelter, Gleaning Hope Program, Farmers' Market, Constantine Garden, Food Drives and Special Events.



The volunteer coordinator will be a great asset for our programs and our volunteers, enabling Hope Partners to more successfully communicate our appreciation to the hundreds of men and women who volunteer their time and talent to help those we serve. Volunteers are the backbone of our organization, and without them, we simply would not be able to carry out half of our services to those in need in the community. Our volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds, but they all come together with the common goal of helping the hungry and the homeless.

We will also be showing our appreciation for our volunteers by hosting the annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon in April. The exact date for this event has yet to be determined, but we will be announcing it very soon.

Again, thank you to all of our volunteers and to both the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation and the Rose Hills Foundation for your continued support and faith in the work of Inland Valley Hope Partners.

Blessings ,

Wytske G. Visser

President/CEO



Inland Valley Hope Partners is currently accepting applications for the volunteer coordinator position. If interested, please contact us at info@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org for more information.

Pacific Western Bank Hosts Food Drive

This month, Pacific Western Bank will be holding their fourth annual food drive benefiting Inland Valley Hope Partners. Eight local branches will be collecting non-perishable food and monetary donations at their locations throughout the month of February. We would like to thank the Claremont, Corona, Glendora, Irwindale, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Redlands, and Upland locations for participating in this annual event.



Farmers' Market Update

Open Every Saturday Rain or Shine on the corner of Garey and Pearl

Winter crops offer some great culinary treats that rarely get much attention. The Farmers' Market will be demonstrating and sampling different kinds of slaw and ways to prepare beets during February.

The Farmers' Market will also offer chocolate covered strawberries on Valentine's Day. Bring your Valentine and enjoy a **FREE** treat.



Volunteers Needed for Upcoming Food Drives



Hope Partners will be holding at least one food drive per month at local grocery stores throughout our service area in 2015. The first will take place on the weekend of February 21st and 22nd at the Albertsons in Chino Hills (Grand Ave. and Peyton) and the second on March 14th and 15th at the Albertsons in Diamond Bar (Diamond Bar Blvd.).

Volunteers and Team Leaders are needed each day of the drives from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to pass out information about Hope Partners and collect donations. If interested, please contact us at vcoordinator@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org or 909-622-3806 x. #108.

Please note: NEW volunteers (those who have never before volunteered with Hope Partners) must attend a Volunteer Orientation prior to volunteering at the Food Drive or any other Hope Partners' program or event.

Our House Shelter Success Story

Reginald & Felicienne – Things seemed pretty bleak for this couple when they arrived at Inland Valley Hope Partners. They had lost their employment, their car and their home when Reginald was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. For nearly a year, Reginald and Felicienne struggled just to pull together enough money to stay in motels and get Reginald to his regular chemo therapy and radiation treatments. In the midst of their turmoil, they were further burdened with caring for their 2 year old granddaughter unexpectedly. Although Reginald and Felicienne had lost nearly everything, the one thing they never lost was hope.

Reginald and Felicienne were determined to bring solutions to their circumstances and became the perfect candidates to follow the suggestions and referrals given to them. In less than 2 months, the couple has accomplished what once seemed impossible. They attained income when Reginald was approved for SSI and Felicienne, a licensed correctional drug and alcohol counselor, was given a provision allowing her to be his Home Health Care Provider. They now have a car and were able to obtain affordable housing through a voucher with one of our partner agencies. With the blessing of Bridges to Home, the couple was given all the necessary furnishings to move in to their apartment in late January. Although they are still walking through Reginald's health crisis, they have the stability in their living and financial situations to enable them to focus their energies on getting him well. **WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU REGINALD AND FELICIENNE**, and we wish you the best.



Gleaning Hope is Back!

If you have fruit trees that are overflowing with fruit, please contact Hope Partners to share your bounty with families in need. We will send volunteers to pick the fruit and deliver it to our food pantries for distribution to those we serve. We are currently working with Urban Mission and Damien High School Students to conduct the gleans.



Contact Maria Zuleta
909-622-3806 x. #104
Mariaz@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

40th Walk for the Hungry Pictures

You may now access your pictures from the 40th Walk for the Hungry! To access your photos, go to Flickr and search "inlandvalley.hopepartners" then select People under the search option at the top. We hope to see you for the 41st Walk for the Hungry on Sunday, October 11, 2015 at the Claremont Consortium!



A handful of walkers from the 2014 St. Paul's Lutheran Church Team.

The Constantine Family Garden and Orchard Reaches Milestone

This month marks the third anniversary of the founding of the Constantine Family Garden and Orchard. Since February 2012, three summer crops and two winter crops have been donated to the four food pantries and the family shelter supported by Inland Valley Hope Partners. None of this would have been possible without the help of many volunteers from local churches, the University of La Verne, the Claremont Colleges, Cal Poly Pomona, and Damien High School, and individual volunteers. In April 2014, we received \$500 worth of garden products from the Kellogg Company. Thank you to all of our friends and supporters!

Our clients appreciate receiving fresh organic produce year round. Summer vegetables include tomatoes, summer squash, cucumbers, melons, and others. Winter vegetables are lettuce, broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower.

The winter 2015 crop is now being harvested, and we will plant summer crops in April. We look forward to seeing volunteers in the garden for work days on the first Saturday of every month. For more information about the garden and volunteering, please contact the volunteer coordinator at 909-622-3806 x. #108 or vcoordinator@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org.



GARDEN STATS

Did you know that the Constantine Garden is operated solely by volunteers for the purpose of providing the hungry and homeless families we serve with fresh fruit and produce to eat? Here are some stats on what the Garden produced in 2013 and 2014.

	<u>Winter Crops</u>	<u>Summer Crops</u>	<u>Total Yielded</u>	<u>Volunteer Service</u>
2013	750 lbs.	3,332 lbs.	4,082 lbs.	272 volunteers donated 755 hours of service
2014	806 lbs.	3,576 lbs.	4,382 lbs.	293 volunteers donated 763 hours of service



We are now offering our loyal volunteers and donors the opportunity to purchase Hope Partners apparel at a **low, low cost!** These Polo Shirts, Windbreakers and Pullover Jackets feature our logo and are perfect to wear while volunteering or out in the community.

If interested in purchasing a shirt or jacket, please contact the Development Department. Proceeds from the apparel sale will help Inland Valley Hope Partners feed the hungry and shelter the homeless.



Jackets/ Pullovers \$10 each

Available Sizes:

Jackets: Mens L, XL, 2X, 3X

V-Neck Pullover: Mens M, L, XL, 2X



Polos \$5 each

Available sizes:

Pique Polo: Mens XL, 2XL

Nylon Polo: Mens

Contact:

Kami Newman 909-622-3806 x. #105
kamin@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Maria Zuleta 909-622-3806 x. #104
mariaz@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Other Clever Ways to Give...

Do you designate your grocery store rewards? Please consider designating them to Inland Valley Hope Partners. That way you can help us feed the hungry by buying your own groceries!

Want an easy way to help? Go to goodsearch.com and set up your browser's search engine with Goodsearch. Designate us as your charity of choice and we'll receive 1¢ for every search you make. Easy. Also, their Goodshop feature donates a percentage back for online purchases through major retailers and GoodDining does the same for restaurants!

Have a car in the driveway you don't use, or a boat? Put it to use! Donate it to us through Cars 4 Causes and turn that eyesore into emergency food or shelter for clients in our community. Please keep and send us a copy of the receipt!

If you're not doing so already, follow us on Facebook (Inland Valley Hope Partners) and Twitter (@HopePartners). We will keep you informed about our latest efforts and current volunteer opportunities.



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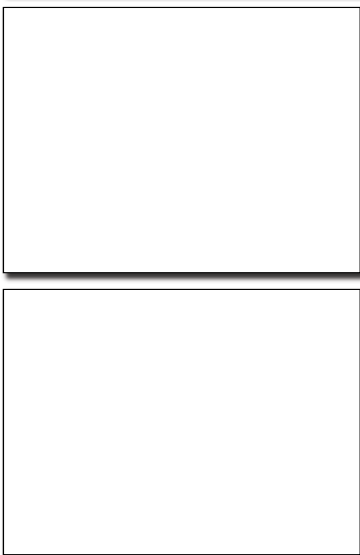
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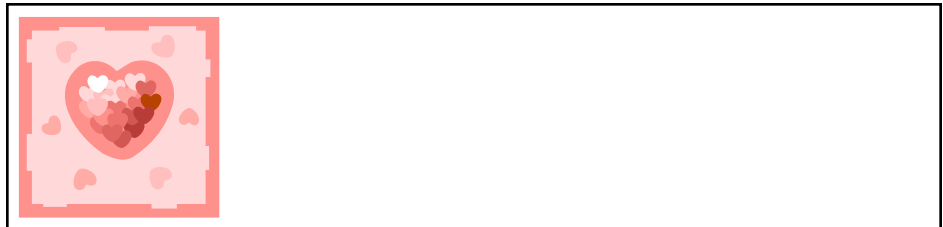
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