

Feeding the Hungry and Sheltering the Homeless since 1968



Volume 27 Issue 6

A monthly publication

July 2013



SAMARITAN COUNSELING CENTER



Thanks for Celebrating With Us!

Inland Valley Hope Partners and Samaritan Counseling Center celebrated our 85 years of combined service to the community on June 27th. We want to thank all who attended and made this event the celebration it should be.



We would like to thank our sponsors, San Dimas Community Hospital, Vince Goymerac DDS, Ted and Carol Powl, Joyce and Terry Yarborough, Albertson's, Brandt Family Winery, Dale Brothers Brewing, Impressions Catering, Magdaleno's, Pepsi, and Pine Haven Café for contributing cash donations, food and beverages (*turn to page 5 to see in-kind donations and raffle, silent and live auction items sponsors*).

Additional thanks go to Ted Powl, board member of both organizations, for doing a fantastic job as the evening's MC.

This event showed unity towards the disenfranchised families both Hope Partners and Samaritan Counseling serve. Samaritan Center provides counseling on an ability-pay-sliding scale, and believes in healing, hope and forgiveness. Hope Partners provides food, shelter and supportive services, and believes in the empowerment of people in need.

We thank you for allowing us to have served the community for this long, and we are confident that this support will allow us to continue providing our services for many years to come.



www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Calendar of Events

- El Rancho Restaurant Claremont.....July 21
- Constantine Garden.....Aug 3
- Newsletter Mailing.....Aug 13
- Food Drives.....Aug 16, 17
- Walk Coordinator Meetings.....Aug-Sep
- Constantine Garden.....Sept 7
- Walk for the Hungry.....Oct 20
- Golf Tournament.....May 8, 2014

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

909.622.3806, x223;

vcoordinator@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

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INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

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Food Security Program Associates

Claudia Yerena, 909-622-7278

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Farmer's Market Manager (contract)

Harry Brown-Hiegel, 310-621-0336



Who We Are ...

Celebrating 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.....

Wow, time flies. Another year flew by (we are on a fiscal year, so our year ended this past Sunday, June 30).

In June we were blessed to be able to serve **6 hardworking families** in the shelter, even with the staff changes. One of the little ones had his 2nd birthday, and a faithful volunteer and her daughters brought gifts, and a special birthday cookie (as big as a pizza!). THANK YOU!

We are blessed through random acts of kindness: at the 3Way Thrift Store (Montclair) a customer overheard one of our shelter clients tell her daughters they could only pick clothes and shoes, not toys. By the time our Mom came to the register, the toy had been paid for as well as the clothes and shoes they bought! THANK YOU!

At the four food pantries we were able to serve almost **4,000 children and their families**, thanks to our great staff (Isaac and Claudia) and volunteers, and thanks to donations through food drives, as well as through the LA Regional Food Bank. THANK YOU!

And then the weekly Saturday morning Farmer's market (at Pearl/Garey in Pomona); and the Constantine Orchard & Gardens, which has produced so far this summer **893 pounds!** of vegetables for the shelter and food pantries. THANK YOU, Harry (Market) and Tim (Garden).

I feel particularly blessed with the faithful and dedicated support of the members of the Board of Directors; I'm looking forward to another exciting and fruitful year. We said goodbye to three members this past year (Josh Johnson, Andrew Dick and Rev. Ivory Brown). THANK YOU for your service. But we also added three new members in June (*you can read about them on page 4*); THANK YOU for your willingness to step up. And Mike, Sharonda, Stephanie, Mike and Ted committed to another year of board leadership. THANK YOU!

Blessings on a wonderful summer!

Wytske G. Visser



A Big Thank You To...

The Relay for Life of Pomona



Helping the hungry is by no means an individual effort. **Thanks to the kind donations of the Relay for Life of Pomona (held on Saturday, June 22nd at the Pomona Fairplex), our Sova food pantry is now stocked with more water, canned goods, and milk.**

If you have any food donations, please contact Isaac Vega at 909-986-0533 (isaacv@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org) or Fran Robertson, at 909-622-3806, x231 (franr@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org)

Summer's Here!



As many parents in our community are well aware, school bells across America rang for the final time; for some this month, for some in June. For most students, this is a sound of freedom. For those children living in the Inland Valley who rely on free or reduced lunch during the school year, summer can mean bare cupboards and empty stomachs. Inland Valley Hope Partners serves over 80,000 local residents each year, almost half of whom are children.

This is a real and heartbreaking issue that continues to affect children from varying social and economic backgrounds. Summers should be filled with swimming pools, sports in the park, laughter with friends and lazy afternoons of reading or playing board games. No child should have to worry about whether or not food will be available.

With your support, Inland Valley Hope Partners can provide reassurance, a critical ingredient for a hungry family. When school meals go on hiatus, our emergency food services and dedicated volunteers work hard to make sure the shelves of our clients are stocked. You can help us keep the pantries full, and hungry kids eating.

Hundreds of children in our service area will need your assistance this summer. With the help of your donations of cash, non-perishable food, school supplies, children's books, and hygiene items, Inland Valley Hope Partners is able to provide critical food and shelter support services to these children and their families. Thank you for your partnership, which helps young bodies and minds develop to their full potential. **THANK YOU!!**

Get Walking for the Hungry!

Join us in the **40th Annual Walk for the Hungry**, a 5K Walk around the Claremont Colleges to raise money and awareness for local and global hunger!

Where: Claremont University Consortium,
101 S. Mills Avenue,
Claremont

When: Sunday, **October 20, 2013 @ 12:00 PM**



Each dollar raised buys 5 lbs. of food!



For more info, contact:
Fran Robertson at
909.622.3806 x231 or
FranR@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

To register online right now, visit:
www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Get ahead on Back to School Giving



Hope Partners serves over 1,000 households a month at our food security locations and our emergency shelter. These households have children who start a new school year each August/September, often without proper school supplies. How can you help? Host a school supply drive at your faith community or place of employment during the months of July and August. Remember, education is priceless!

Backpacks

Highlighters

Pens

No. 2 Pencils

Three-Ring Binders

Markers

Colored Pencils

Loose-Leaf & Copy Paper

Lunch boxes & bags

Hand Sanitizer

**Spiral Notebooks
Planners**

Index Cards

Calculators

Pocket folders

Glue sticks

Erasers

Rulers

Pocket dictionary

Facial tissue

Contact: Fran at FranR@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Meet Three Members of Our 2013-2014 Board of Directors

The Inland Valley Council of Churches (dba Inland Valley Hope Partners) 2013-2014 Board of Directors and Officers were elected in June. Please join us in welcoming three new board members: Blanca Arellano Adams, Tim Constantine, and Mercy Pedraza.



Blanca Arellano Adams

Blanca Arellano Adams graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz in 1990 with a major in Economics. She went on to work for the California Association of NonProfits as a Marketing Assistant ; and in 1991 became the Chief Administrative Officer of the Pomona Economic Development Corp.; in 1994 she moved to the Inland Valley Economic Development Corp. as the CEO. In 2001 Blanca became a Real Estate Consultant, for Keller Williams Realty, where she currently still works.

Blanca served on numerous Boards, including Junior Chamber of Commerce, Project Sister, Girl Scouts, United Way and Christmas In April. She is a recent graduate of Water of Life Christian Church School of Ministry, and serves as a Sunday School teacher. She married Ray Adams in 2001, and they have a daughter Amanda, 4 1/2 years old. Blanca and her family live in Rancho Cucamonga.

Tim Constantine

A native southern Californian, Tim Constantine grew up in La Verne and San Dimas. He taught high school for 34 years and his interest in gardening originated in high school, when he worked in the summer at Paul Gaines nursery in San Dimas. It was furthered during Peace Corps service in Brazil, where he and his wife Peggy planted gardens at elementary schools in their town. He and Peggy live in Claremont; their son David resides in Washington, DC.



Tim's association with Hope Partners began in 2009, when he and his mother volunteered at the San Dimas Pantry where he still works. He founded the Constantine Family Garden and Orchard in February, 2012. Now the garden yields hundreds of pounds of fruit and vegetables that are donated to Hope Partners' four food pantries and family shelter. As his gardening schedule permits, Tim enjoys fly fishing and cycling with the Claremont Senior Bike Group. Tim and Peggy are active members of the Claremont United Church of Christ, where he serves on the Board of Stewardship and Finance.

The Constantine Family Garden and Orchard combines Tim's love of gardening with his belief that in America, no one should go hungry.

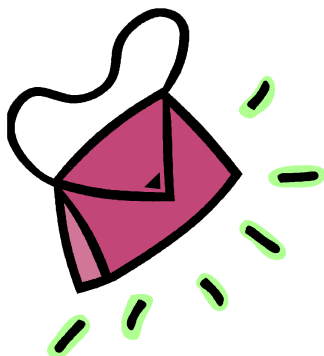


Maria "Mercy" Pedraza

Mercy has been a resident of the Inland Empire her entire life. She attended local schools including Pomona High School and Mount San Antonio College. Mercy has been in the banking industry for 36 years. Employers include PFF Bank & Trust and most recently US Bank. Currently, Mercy is a Vice President and Branch Manager of the US Bank Branch in Rancho Cucamonga. Mercy has been a past member of various local clubs throughout her career. These include Soroptimist International Pomona/Claremont, Pomona Rotary, Past President of the La Verne/San Dimas Kiwanis Club and a former board member of the San Dimas Chamber of Commerce. Mercy is married to Andy and they have two grown children and one grandson.

Shop for Our Cause at Macy's!

August 24, 2013



Macy's has provided Hope Partners with **shopping passes to sell for \$5 each**. By purchasing a shopping pass to the event, customers provide a contribution that goes **completely to our cause**. Additionally, they will enjoy a day of spectacular discounts, entertainment, special events and a chance to win a **\$500 shopping spree**.

This exclusive shopping pass includes 25% or 10% off regular, sale and clearance purchases all day. This is an exceptional fundraising offer for Hope Partners and our donors.

To purchase a ticket, contact Fran at franr@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org or 909-622-3806 x231. We look forward to seeing you on **August 24, 2013!**

Our Supporters

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evening

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If you're not doing it 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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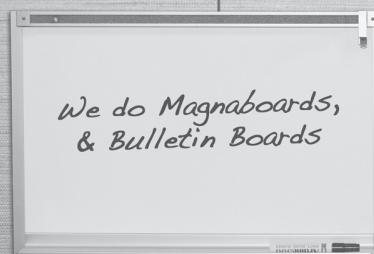
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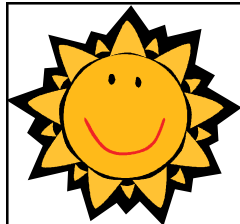
**Emily Steinheimer at
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(In-Kind Donations for May)