

BE A SUPERHERO IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS!

Join Inland Valley Hope Partners and other community heroes for this year's

50TH ANNUAL WALK FOR THE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

8:00 AM REGISTRATION BEGINS

9:00 AM WALK BEGINS



This year's milestone 5K walk event will feature the return of our SUPERHERO theme! Walkers are encouraged, but not required, to grab their capes, tights and masks and dress as superheroes for this year's walk. Awards will be given to the groups/team(s) best exemplifying the superhero theme with their outfits.

Walk Registration will again be \$25 for adults, \$20 for students, and free for children 12 and under, and ALL REGISTERED WALKERS WILL RECEIVE A FREE HOPE PARTNERS SUPERHERO CAPE! Online registration is now open through our website and walker registration packets are available for download at www.InlandValleyHopePartners.org.

With free face-painting, live music, popcorn, balloons, booths, and more, the Walk promises to be a fun, family-friendly way to spend a Saturday morning while helping to put food on the tables and a roof over the heads of our neighbors struggling with food or housing insecurity.

We invite participants to multiply your impact by creating a fundraising page! Put out your bat-signal and get your friends, family, co-workers and others to make a donation in support of your superhero efforts to help our citizens in need. EVERY DOLLAR YOU RAISE HELPS RID OUR COMMUNITY OF THE VILLAINOUS DUO OF HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS!

Finally, thank you to Pacific Western Bank for serving as our Walk's presenting sponsor. For more information, or to request hard copies of our event flyer or other materials, visit www.InlandValleyHopePartners.org or contact Development & Volunteer Relations Associate Cirenia "CC" Cuevas at cc@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org or 909-622-3806, x108.



SEE INSIDE FOR MORE WAYS TO GET INVOLVED IN THIS YEAR'S WALK!

Calendar of Events/Activities
Farmers' Market.....Every Saturday
Adopt a Family Appointments....August/September 2023
Hunger Action Month Food Drive.....September 2023
50th Walk for the Hungry & Homeless.....September 30, 2023
Call or email office for bold events (need volunteers)!
909-622-3806, x108;
vcoordinator@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org
www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

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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; BETA, SOVA, Claremont, San Dimas and South Pomona 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 ...

It's hard to believe that in America, the wealthiest nation in the world, nearly 25% of adults are food insecure*. When we hear this staggering statistic, we may be tempted to push the problem away and conjure up stereotypical images of bare-footed, unhoused individuals in desperate need of a shower – these are the Americans facing hunger. But this picture is far from accurate. The truth is struggling families and individuals are closer than you think, many live right here in our own neighborhoods.



At Inland Valley Hope Partners, we serve an average of 3,500 children, women and men who are struggling with food insecurity each month. Yes, the individuals we serve at our food pantries do include people experiencing homelessness, but most of the people we assist look just like the elderly man you stand behind in line at the pharmacy or the young cashier who helps you with your purchases. Our food pantry clients include the senior citizen on a fixed income facing high medical expenses, the middle-aged woman with a college degree but no corresponding job, the young single mother whose minimum wage income isn't enough to support her family, and even the college student who has had to make the difficult choice to skip meals to cover his educational costs. **Their silent, invisible struggle is easily overlooked by those of us in a position to help because, to our untrained eyes, they don't "look poor", they don't "act poor". But the reality is they need our help – desperately.**

Hope Partners' local food pantries exist to help families and individuals access the food they need to live a full and healthy life. **But we can't do it alone. Today, we're asking for you to renew your support for our mission to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless.** Your gift of \$20, \$50, \$100 or more will help us meet the food and nutrition needs of our community's children and families invisibly struggling with food insecurity. Please demonstrate your commitment by visiting the donation page on our website at www.InlandValleyHopePartners.org. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Blessings!

Kami Grosvenor

President/CEO

P.S. Help us feed our neighbors invisibly struggling with hunger right here in the Inland Valley. Make your contribution **TODAY!**

* According to Urban Institute's 2022 Well-Being and Basic Needs Survey released March 2023.

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

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

Hope Partners and CP4I Celebrate the Grand Opening of the Evergreen Market Pantry

Board members, staff, and other community supporters of Inland Valley Hope Partners and Community Partners 4 Innovation (CP4I) descended on Lopez Urban Farm on the morning of Tuesday, June 27th to celebrate the ribbon-cutting of the Evergreen Market Pantry. The event featured brief remarks by the leadership of both CP4I and Hope Partners as well as a speech by the man responsible for bringing these two organizations together, Randy Bekendam of Amy's Farm. Naturally, the event's program concluded with the formal ribbon-cutting and then guests were given the opportunity to see the unique collaboration at work. Thank you to all in attendance!



This new collaborative food distribution site at Lopez Urban Farm combines what these two agencies do best: traditional food assistance and fresh produce from an urban farm. The Evergreen Market Pantry provides the community with access to reliable and nutritious food options. The pantry is currently open on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m. Lopez Urban Farm is located at 1034 W. Mission Blvd. in Pomona.



Clockwise from top left: Randy Bekendam and Stephen Yorba address the crowd gathered for the event; the Evergreen Market painted by local artists; Kami Grosvenor expresses her excitement about this new collaborative effort to serve the Pomona community.

Thank You CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP!

Hope Partners is so grateful to our friends at CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP for their generous donation of backpacks and school supplies! Their team organized a collection, stuffed the backpacks full of school supplies, and delivered them to us ready to distribute to students in need. These backpacks will be combined with other donations still pouring in to our offices and distributed to children and teens in early August.



INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

STAFF

President/CEO

Kami Grosvenor, x101

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

inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Office/Fiscal Administrator

Yvonne West, x102

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

inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Fiscal/Grants Administration Assistant

Bryce Gardner, x112

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

inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Director of Development & Communication

Development & Volunteer Relations Associate

Cirenia Cuevas (CC), x108

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

inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Grant Writer

Kay Brand, x104

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

inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Case Manager

Karen Abram, x106

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

inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Case Manager

Kevin Davison, x204

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

inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Food Security Program Manager

Isaac Vega, x201

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

inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Food Security Program Associate

Claudia Wheatley, x301

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

inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Food Security Program Associate/Driver

Ron Crampton x200

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

inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

Farmers' Market Manager (contract)

Harry Brown-Hiegel,

310-621-0336

h.brownhiegel@ca.rr.com

Check it out! Alternative Ways to Support The ***WALK FOR THE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS!***



Hope Partners is offering our supporters three additional and **POW**-erful ways to participate in this year's superhero ***WALK FOR THE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS***.

PRESENT A COMMUNITY FAIR BOOTH - This year's event will feature a brand new community fair area for our walkers to enjoy. Community groups are invited to sponsor a booth to showcase their brand or services. This is a great opportunity for fellow non-profits, faith communities, service clubs, schools, and even businesses to market themselves to those in attendance. Space is **free**, but all booths **must** include an activity or craft for children in attendance to enjoy. Sales of any item on-site will not be permitted at this time.

SPONSOR A ROUTE SIGN - A route sign is a 2 X 3' sign featuring your own customized message that will be displayed along the route of the 5K Walk for the Hungry and Homeless. Market your Business! Cheer on your Walk Team! Priced at **only \$250**, a route sign is a wonderful way to draw attention to your message and support the children and families Hope Partners serves. Your donation will help provide **10** local families with enough staple foods to sustain them for about a week!

HOST A HUNGER ACTION MONTH FOOD DRIVE - Did you know that September is Hunger Action Month? Hope Partners has created the perfect Food Drive calendar to help you **BE A SUPERHERO** in the fight against hunger and homelessness for the whole month leading up to the Walk. It's easy! Simply organize a food drive following the themes outlined below and then bring your collected food items with you to the Walk for the Hungry and Homeless on Saturday, September 30th!

September 3 - 9 = **GREEN WEEK**

Focus your food drive efforts on all things green! Veggies, both canned and fresh from your garden, are healthful additions to the foods offered at Inland Valley Hope Partners' food pantries.

September 17 - 23 = **YELLOW WEEK**

Mac-n-Cheese, pasta, cereals, oatmeal, rice, corn and other foods make for great yellow week food drive contributions.

September 10 - 16 = **RED WEEK**

Contribute tomatoes (paste or fresh), spaghetti sauce, ketchup, apple sauce, raisins and other foods with a red hue to your food drive collection.

September 24 - 30 = **PURPLE WEEK**

Purple Stands for Protein! Contribute peanut butter, tuna, canned chicken, spam and other proteins to help feed local children and their families.

For more information on any of these opportunities, please visit our website at www.InlandValleyHopePartners.org or contact Kami Grosvenor at 909.622.3806, x101 or kamig@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org.

Other Ways to Give

Do you designate your **Ralphs rewards**? Please consider designating them to Inland Valley 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 assist you access your company's matching gifts program.



Farewell (For Now) to Our Friends at Amy's Farm



Like so many in the community, Inland Valley Hope Partners was heartbroken when our friends at Amy's Farm shared the news they would be closing this Summer. The farm's operators and supporters have worked so hard to preserve their land, but sadly, the land has been sold by the owner.

The history of collaboration between Amy's Farm and Inland Valley Hope Partners is long: Amy's Farm regularly sold its chemical-free fruits and vegetables at our weekly Pomona Valley Certified Farmers' Market for many years, and when our friends at the Constantine Family Garden and Orchard closed, farmer Randy Bekendam invited us to continue our urban farming efforts on an unused portion of their land. Since September of 2015, the *Hope Partners' Garden at Amy's Farm* collaboration has provided our food pantry clients with more than 75,000 lbs of fresh, locally grown produce! That's a monumental achievement in helping the families we serve increase their access to healthy fruits and vegetables and hopefully improve their health outcomes. Farmer Randy also served as a member of the Hope Partners'



Photos Courtesy of Amy's Farm. Thank you and good luck to our friends at Amy's Farm: Farmer Randy Bekendam (left), his daughter Amy Owen, her husband Brad Owen, and their family (pictured above).

Board of Directors from 2015 – 2022 and helped our agency build partnerships with local urban farming projects at Urban Mission and Lopez Elementary School.

The closing of Amy's Farm is a huge loss for the community, but farmer Randy shares that he still has hope for the future, though he admits that he is unsure of what the future will be. We are hopeful he and his crew will be able to keep with their mission to cultivate, educate, and preserve and find land elsewhere in the community so we can once again partner to feed our neighbors who are most in need. Thank you to Randy, Amy, Brad, and the entire family for your friendship and partnership to Hope Partners and those we serve!



Thank you also to the many volunteers who generously donated their time in support of the Hope Partners' Garden at Amy's Farm over the last eight years!

June Donors

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Planned gifts provide a meaningful way of making a significant impact toward the future sustainability of Inland Valley Hope Partners while maximizing your philanthropic and financial goals. Planned giving takes many forms, including bequests, gifts of life insurance, and charitable remainder trusts.

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



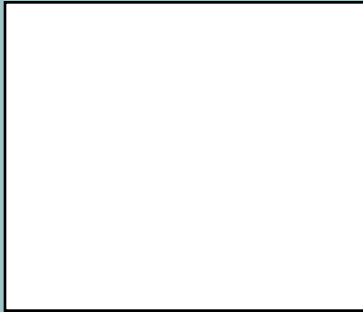
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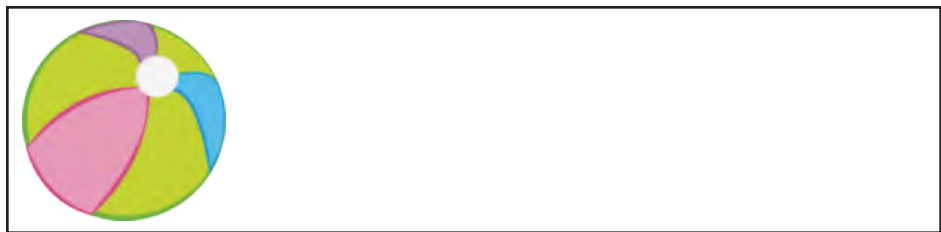




PO BOX 2572, Pomona, CA 91769-2572
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