## Feeding the Hungry and Sheltering the Homeless since 1968



Volume 37 Issue 4

# A monthly publication

August 2022

# Don't Miss this Year's Walk for the Hungry and Homeless!



5k Walk & Run 🛳

Saturday, October 1st, 2022 8:00 am Registration — 9:00 am Walk Begins Claremont Colleges Services, 101 S. Mills Ave., Claremont

walkers will receive an event baseball cap.

Are you looking to do something good for the community? Then look no further! You can help us raise money to put food on the tables of our hungry neighbors and a roof over the heads of those struggling with homelessness by joining us for our 49th Annual Walk for the Hungry and Homeless.

Saturday, October 1, 2022 8:00 am Registration - 9:00 am Walk Begins. The Claremont College Services 101 S. Mills Ave. Claremont, CA 91711

We are trying something new by introducing registration donations this year. Registration is \$25 for adults, \$20 for students, and free for children 12 and under. All registered

The Walk for the Hungry and Homeless will feature a showcase of our Farmers' Market, food trucks, free popcorn, balloons, face-painting, live music, and lots of fun for the entire family.

Multiply your impact by creating a fundraising page. Grab your friends, family, co-workers, and faith communities and fundraise to help those struggling with hunger and homelessness here in our backyard! Every dollar you raise helps to put food on the tables of our hungry neighbors and a roof over the heads of those struggling with homelessness.

We're thrilled to be back in person for the this year's Walk for the Hungry and Homeless! We hope you can join us for this wonderful occasion and help support those in need in our community. You can register to walk and create your fundraising page at <a href="https://www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org">www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org</a>. For more information, visit our website or contact the Development Department at 909-622-3806,

x105, or Autumnw@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org.



# Calendar of Events/ Activities

Farmers' Market......Every Saturday

49th Annual Walk for the Hungry and Homeless...October 1, 2022

Giving Tuesday......November 29, 2022

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**

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Ehmandah Ramsey She Stories

# 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 pm



## 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,

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.

Temperatures are quickly rising in SoCal announcing the start of summer. At Inland

Valley Hope Partners, summertime doesn't just equal an increase in heat, but also an increase in the need for our vital food and shelter services.

Unfortunately, record-high inflation is hurting so many low-income families, making it hard for them to pay rent, buy gas, and provide food for their family. In fact, asking rent in San Bernardino County increased by 13.7% between 2020 and 2021; Los Angeles County by 6.2%. And rental rates continue to be on the rise! In fact, this year Hope Partners provided homeless prevention rental assistance to 128 families, and on average rents were up \$200 from the previous year. Food



prices have also skyrocketed, with groceries costing families 9.4% more in April 2022 than in April 2021. With these statistics, it is easy to see why **Hope Partners is experiencing an increase in the number of families seeking assistance at our food pantries and housing department.** Sadly, it's our low-income neighbors who feel rising prices the most because they spend a far greater share of their income on these necessities.

Thankfully, Inland Valley Hope Partners is here to ensure these families in need have food to eat and a roof over their heads. But our agency is not immune to the current financial challenges: rising fuel costs, growing food costs, and supply chain issues coupled with the community's rising need for assistance brings an increased price tag to provide these essential services. We need your help to continue our relief efforts to children and their families during this difficult season. Please help us provide a safety net for families by making a contribution today using the enclosed envelope or by visiting our website at <a href="https://www.lnlandValleyHopePartners.org">www.lnlandValleyHopePartners.org</a>. Your gift helps strengthen families and provides them the opportunity to become self-sufficient again.

Thank you in advance for your continued support and dedication to the children and families who depend upon Inland Valley Hope Partners.

Blessings!

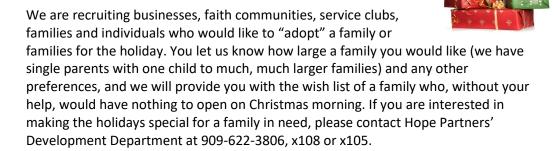
Kami Grosvenor

President/CEO

P.S. Help us keep families fed and in their homes this summer. Make your contribution TODAY!

# It's Never Too Early to Start Your Holiday Shopping! Help Us Bring Joy to Local Children in Need

The Summer weather is far from being gone, but here at Inland Valley Hope Partners we are already busy preparing for this year's Holiday Season! Beginning this month, we are accepting applications for the 2022 Adopt a Family Program. This annual holiday gift giving program is designed to make the season more joyous for local families in need by pairing them with angels in the community who can help.



Finally, if you know of a family that needs assistance this holiday season, please let them know that we are accepting applications **by appointment ONLY** Tuesdays in August and September. Certain limitations apply, and spots are limited. To schedule an appointment, families must call 909-622-3806, x109. No Walk-ins, No Exceptions.

# Get Your Fresh Produce at the Pomona 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, specifically low-income families. The Market takes place **every Saturday** (rain or shine) at the corner of Pearl and Garey in Pomona from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Our Farmers' Market is **unique** not only in that we are working to bring more and more vendors who are growing chemical-free produce, but also we are one of the few area farmers' markets that accept federal nutrition assistance benefits (i.e., CalFresh, WIC, Senior WIC) as a form of payment. We are also the only local market (within 15 miles) to offer the Market Match program. Provided through a partnership with Hunger Action LA, this program provides customers an extra \$5 when they spend at least \$10 of their federal nutrition assistance dollars to purchase healthy produce at the farmers' market. By being able to use their WIC, EBT or other federal nutrition assistance in conjunction with the Market Match program at the Pomona Valley Certified Farmers' Market, low-income families and individuals are able to stretch their limited food budget to include more healthy, locally grown food items. Items available for purchase include fruits, vegetables, bread, tamales, flowers and much more!

Volunteers are always needed for special events as well as ongoing operations at the Farmers' Market! If interested, please contact Cirenia Cuevas at <a href="mailto:cc@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org">cc@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org</a> or (909) 622-3806, ex. 108.

## INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS

#### **STAFF**

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### Food Security Program Associate/Driver

Ron Crampton x200 Ronc@ inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

# Farmers' Market Manager (contract)

(contract)
Harry Brown-Hiegel,
310-621-0336
h.brownhiegel@ca.rr.com

# **May & June Donors**

# Partner (\$1,000.00 to \$1,000,000.00)

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# Contributors (\$100.00 to 249.99)

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Elizabeth Maxey, Jonathan
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& Ann Sparks

Tim Constantine By: The Cheeryble Foundation

#### In Memory Of

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By: Marilyn Brunger

Horace J Corigliano
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Maggie Nolan-Wheelan By: Kathleen Nolan

Doug MacKenzie

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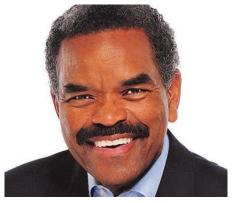
By: Elisabeth Walker

Mrs. Veronica Corigliano By: Kathleen Nolan

Tim Constantine By: Thomas & Christine Ilgen, Genevieve Morales, Colleen M Scurry

# **New Faces to Hope Partners Board of Directors**

Hope Partners marked the conclusion of the 2021/22 Fiscal Year with our Annual Meeting in June. 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 them to you:



Hope Partners new Chairman of the board, Ron Bolding from Pilgrim Place

Ron Bolding is our new Board Chair. He has been with the board of Inland Valley Hope Partners since 2019 and serves as the CEO of Pilgrim Place. His previous position as President and CEO of Inter Valley Health Plan was for 12 years and he temporarily retired in 2018. After graduating college, Ron entered the US Navy serving 28 years and retiring with the rank of Navy Captain. Ron has been an active community advocate for seniors as well as for homeless veterans and is an active member of Purpose Church. He and his wife Eliza

have reside in Claremont. He is

excited to expand his involvement not just with the agency, but also with the communities we serve.

We are welcoming **Ehmandah Ramsey** of SheStories to Hope Partners' Board. Ehmandah Ramsey is a passionate Life Coach, ETA Certified Speaker, Business Coach, Entrepreneur, founder of SheStories and host of "Hey Suga" Podcast. With over 15 years' experience, Ehmandah has provided life guidance and spiritual care for the community, residential treatment facilities and corporations. We are excited to see what fresh insights and expertise she will bring to the governance of Inland Valley Hope Partners.



New board member, Ehmandah Ramsey of Shestories



Former Chairman, Mark Ramsey thanking former board member Randy Bekendam for his years of service on the board.

We would like to thank **Randy Bekendam** from Amy's Farm for his 7 years of service on the board of directors. Randy served on the Healthy Living Committee and has donated thousands of pounds of produce to our food pantries to ensure that our clients receive fresh and organic items. Hope Partners will continue to work closely with Randy and Amy's Farm.

Ron took over as chair from **Mark Ramsey** who served as Chairman since 2019. Mark finished his term as Chairman but will continue to serve on the board as Immediate Past Chair. Under Mark's leadership, Hope Partners completed the 1st portion of the Our House Shelter construction project and weathered the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

## **Success Story**



Natasha\* came to Inland Valley Hope Partners in April after struggling for years with domestic violence and other dysfunctional family issues that had led to her estrangement from her family. She had two kittens who meant the world to her, and we were able to help her find a suitable long-term foster home for them so she could move into the Our House Family Shelter. Also, Natasha's move-in to the shelter was just in the nick of time because she quickly became very ill and even required hospitalization. Fortunately, she had the "Our House Shelter" to come home to and begin her recovery. After several weeks, Natasha became physically well again and began meeting with her Clinebell counselor. Her counselor helped

her work through her PTSD from the domestic violence and other emotional traumas and even helped her reconnect with her adult children. She has also become friends with the kitten foster home and has decided to rent a room from her here in Pomona. Natasha is on cloud 9, especially about reconnecting with her family. She says everything has begun to work out better than she hoped. She started to believe in herself again and is so grateful for the assistance Hope Partners has given her to get her life back even better than before. **We continue to wish her all the best with her new journey.** 

\*Names changed.

# 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 <a href="www.ralphs.com">www.ralphs.com</a>. 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.

Do you shop on Amazon? Through the **AmazonSmile** program, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to Inland Valley Hope Partners or another charitable organization of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support Inland Valley Hope Partners by starting your shopping at <a href="mailto:smile.amazon.com">smile.amazon.com</a>.

AmazonSmile Charity Lists is a new and meaningful way for you to donate items directly to Hope Partners. Items such as non-perishable food, hygiene products, back to school supplies and baby items will serve families in need. How to shop AmazonSmile Charity Lists:

- 1. Visit smile.amazon.com/charitylists
- 2. Sign in with your <u>Amazon.com</u> credentials (customers who are not already signed-up for AmazonSmile will receive a prompt to do so).
- 3. Shop Inland Valley Hope Partners Charity List.
- 4. Select and donate items from the list.
- 5. Ship to the Inland Valley Hope Partners.

#### Host a Facebook Fundraiser:

- 1. Go onto your Facebook page and click Fundraisers in the left menu of your News Feed
- 2. Click Raise Money, Select Nonprofit/Charity, and Select us as Inland Valley Council of Churches, dba Inland Valley Hope Partners
- 3. Choose a cover photo and fill in the fundraiser details then click Create.

  Once you have done this, your job is over. See your friends and family raise money for your cause without the hassle of collecting money! Once your fundraiser is over, Facebook will then send Hope Partners a check in your honor!



You shop. Amazon gives.





**Matching gifts**, 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.



PO BOX 2572, Pomona, CA 91769-2572 Voice: 909.622.3806 \* Fax: 909.622.0484 E-mail: info@InlandValleyHopePartners.org Website: www.InlandValleyHopePartners.org

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# Gift in Kind Donations for May & June

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Holy Name of Mary
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Cal Poly Pomona WBB
Christina Coudourides
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La Verne Church of the Brethren
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Purpose Church
Tri City Mental Health

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#### **Urban Mission**

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