



California and Kern County are moving slowly toward reopening and Community Action Partnership of Kern will be there working with our partners and those we serve to help individuals and families rebuilt their financial futures. CAPK has been on the front line of the COVID-19 Pandemic response over the past year and our work will continue in the months and years ahead.

### [CAPK and Senator Alex Padilla Talk California Recovery](#)

The American Rescue Plan is estimated to bring \$314 million dollars to Kern County and lift thousands of San Joaquin Valley children out of poverty. CAPK CEO Jeremy Tobias was a featured speaker during a discussion, with U.S. Senator Alex Padilla, about the impact those funds could have in our communities. This quote from Jeremy, reported by The Bakersfield Californian, says it all; “The American Rescue Plan means hope for children and low income families throughout Kern County. Through expanded partnerships and funding, the goal of lifting children out of poverty can be realized.”



Watch the

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## ABC23 TV Senior Food Drive



March was a great month for ABC23 TV and CAPK as we teamed up to highlight food-insecurity, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on seniors and other vulnerable populations and to raise funds and collect food for the CAPK Food Bank's efforts to make healthy, sustaining food available to those facing hunger. ABC23 journalists reported on these topics throughout the month and the television station organized food drives at sites across Kern County. The effort raised \$1,560 and collected 3,948 pounds of food from generous donors - creating 12,390 meals for our clients. Thanks go out to the staff at ABC23 and supporters like Assemblyman Vince Fong, Bakersfield Mayor Karen Goh, Raji Brar, the Kern County Fire Department, Reyna Olaguez, Arleana Waller and a host of other community leaders who came out to support CAPK and encourage participation.

Check out this [Video](#) about the Food Drive

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## May is Community Action Month

May is National Community Action Month - celebrating the national network of more than 1,000 poverty-fighting agencies that are committed to "Helping People...Changing Lives." CAPK is gearing up to celebrate our impact in Kern County and, on May 7, our 56th Anniversary serving those in need. Help us celebrate by sharing stories and photos of CAPK in Action with CAPK Outreach and Advocacy Coordinator James Burger at [jburger@capk.org](mailto:jburger@capk.org).



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## Tax Day Approaches - CAPK VITA working to bring benefits to Kern



Tax Day is May 17 and CAPK's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program is working hard to connect low and middle-income residents with no-cost tax returns and Earned Income Tax Credit benefits. ITIN holders are eligible for EITC this year. There have also been increases to the amount individuals can claim this year and VITA can provide families with hundreds or even thousands of dollars they can use to stabilize their finances.

### How to Connect with VITA

**What you need:** Bring an official ID, your Social Security information, proof of health insurance, all income documents, records of any stimulus payments received, and direct deposit information.

**How to get there:** VITA is offering all services to walk-in clients on a first-come, first-served basis to maximize the number of people we can help. Tell anyone who is looking for assistance to come to the VITA offices at 300 19th Street in Bakersfield.

#### **VITA Hours April 12-16:**

Monday - 9:30 am to 5 pm, Tues-Thur - 11:30 am to 6:30 pm, Friday - 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

#### **VITA Hours April 19 and Later:**

Monday-Thursday: 10:30 am to 4:30 pm, Friday - 10 am to 2 pm.

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**We continue to encourage everyone to educate themselves about COVID-19 vaccinations and sign up for your shot as soon as you are eligible. Please use the resources below to learn more.**



**Together  
we can end  
the pandemic.**

Schedule your Vaccination  
Here

More Vaccination  
Locations

View the CAPK COVID-19 Information  
Page

