



Feed Kern Now

Community Action Partnership of Kern has launched the Feed Kern Now campaign to fund construction of an expansion to the **CAPK Food Bank**.

The Food Bank is Kern County's central food intake and distribution hub. In 2020 it distributed more than 33 million pounds of food to Kern County residents. State and federal commodity contracts, grocery stores, grants, non-profit food networks and generous donations by local individuals and food producers supply the Food Bank. Food went out to every corner of Kern County through a network of other smaller food banks, gleaners organizations, churches, non-profit agencies and volunteer groups.

But we face challenges. The 20,000-square-foot CAPK Food Bank is operating beyond capacity. Plans for an expansion are underway. Significant donations from the City of Bakersfield, County of Kern and Congress helped us launch the effort. Learn more about how you can help the Feed Kern Now effort by clicking on the button to read our 2021 Case for Support.



[Learn about the Feed Kern Now](#)

Health Net makes an impact on Hunger



HealthNet has made a major donation to the CAPK Food Bank to help address a critical part of the food distribution web - transportation. Food Bank delivers food to every corner of Kern County's 8,000 square miles and we use refrigerated trucks like the one pictured here to do it. Health Net donated \$130,000 to purchase a new truck to expand CAPK's ability to get healthy food into the neighborhoods that need it.

"This truck will help CAPK Food Bank and more

than 150 other community partners deliver fresh produce, dairy products and meat to the more than 250,000 people facing food insecurity in every corner of Kern County. We saw dramatic increases in the need for emergency food in 2020 and that need has continued well into 2021. Health Net's grant to CAPK is a powerful gift to the entire county that will help the communities we serve rebound from the COVID-19 pandemic," said CAPK CEO Jeremy Tobias.

"With decades of experience caring for California's most vulnerable residents, our goal is to work hand-in-hand with our community partners like CAPK to ensure we're serving those who depend on the healthcare safety net the most," said Brian Ternan, President and CEO of Health Net Inc., and California Health and Wellness. "Together, we will continue to create and expand new models – including healthy nutrition campaigns, food pharmacy pilots and food RX programs – all designed to improve nutrition and health outcomes for those most at risk."

Early Head Start Partnership

The CAPK Early Head Start program partners with several other organizations, including Garden Pathways, to provide early childhood education to families across Kern County. Here is what one Head Start parent had to say about the impact of these partnerships.



"In such a short amount of time this program has helped my family so much. I knew my son was falling behind developmentally but I wasn't sure where to begin or who could help us. My Family Advocate Ms. Karen did not hesitate to jump in and help find what we needed. Not only did she guide us and provide us with resources, but she also continued to check on us and make sure we are okay. Being a working single mother of twins has its challenges but this program eases so much stress and anxiety knowing that you have someone in your corner. The Parents on a Mission class also lets you feel like you're not alone and makes you feel like

many others are feeling exactly like you do. It's amazing how just having the right resources can change your life." - Bobi Sessions

Homebased Head Start Paves the Way

Our Homebased Head Start program offers childhood education and development assistance for families in their own home. The goal is to work alongside parents to serve the needs of their children and to support parents as they work to achieve their own goals. We're excited to share this story of success.

Frances Igbinoba has been in the Homebased program for one year. Her daughter, Idia, was born 6 weeks premature. Homebase educators have been working with the family and Idia just turned 1 year old and is thriving. Frances was recently promoted in her job from Neuro Rehabilitation Specialist to a Residential Treatment Coordinator. She now develops and monitors individual residential patient treatment programs. Frances and her husband, Esosa, are working to buy a house for their four children, so this new job is a blessing to their family.

