Feed the Need: Kern County Fair

Wednesday night was Feed the Need night at the Kern County Fair. This year CAPK was able to bring in 24,479 pounds of donated food in just six hours. That’s an additional 20,400 meals the Food Bank will be able to share in the coming weeks with thousands of Kern County residents who face food insecurity. We want to celebrate the community spirit of fairgoers and donors yesterday and extend our gratitude to Fair staff and the members of the Fair Board for their commitment to this partnership every year. If you want to help the CAPK Food Bank or our Feed Kern Now campaign, please go to capk.org and donate. Or you can put on your work boots and help us prepare, package and distribute food directly to those in need by calling the Food Bank volunteer line at (661) 662-3533.
CAPK’s Head Start team has built a major partnership with the Kern County Public Health Department to pursue a single mission: get more people vaccinated and protected against the COVID-19 virus. Twelve vaccination clinics will be held during October at Head Start locations around Kern County. These clinics are open to the community and give Head Start families, friends and the public in general a chance to get a convenient, free COVID-19 vaccination in their neighborhood. Second vaccine shots will also be available in the same locations three weeks after the first. Please share this information to your network so maximize the impact.
California's moratorium on evictions ended on Sept. 30. There is still help for renters who have struggled to pay their bills during the economic turmoil of the COVID-19 pandemic. **CAPK's Rental Assistance Program** can help pay late rent and get people back on their feet. Now is the time to **take action**. Receiving this assistance does take a reasonable amount of work from renters and landlords - who should team up to make the most of this opportunity.

The CAPK program serves residents in unincorporated Kern County, Shafter, Ridgecrest, Tehachapi, and California City. The Rental Assistance program offered by the Housing Authority of the County of Kern serves Bakersfield and other communities.

**How to get started:**

- Call CAPK's Resource and Referral line at 2-1-1 or click the appropriate button below to apply for assistance online.
- Communicate with your landlord to make sure you can complete the process quickly. This process does have deadlines.
- Have your documents - Identification, proof of income or unemployment, a copy of your lease and documentation of how far behind you are on rent - ready to go before you start your application. This will help speed up the process.

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**Cal Water Kicks for Kids!**

California Water Service Company made a big impact in a lot of young people's lives over the past week with a $10,000 gift to CAPK and several community partners who - like us - are champions of children.
They participated in the Kicks for Kids program which purchased top-quality, new shoes for 200 children who were in need of some new kicks here in Kern County. Cal Water Regional Manager Tammy Johnson got to hand out some of the shoes at our East California Head Start Center but the shoes got big smiles and high-fives all across the county!