Aera Energy, Assembly member Rudy Salas, Chevron and the United Way made a major impact on hundreds of CAPK Head Start students on Nov. 5. Staff and volunteers from these awesome community partners got together to box up piles of brand-new winter coats at the Aera Energy offices early Friday morning. Then Head Start staff from all over Kern County drove in to pick up the jackets and transport them to their new owners. The best part for all the partners was stopping by Cleo Foran Head Start Center in downtown Bakersfield to deliver some coats in person. Thanks so much to everyone who made this day a special treat for our Head Start students and families. This gift that last all winter!
Assemblyman Rudy Salas helps load boxes of coats into a Head Start center vehicle at the Aera Energy pick-up site.

Kern County Library Bookmobile has New Hours

The Kern County Library's StoryTours, the temporary bookmobile service powered by CAPK and the Virginia and Alfred Harrell Foundation, is launching new routes on November 15. These schedules will extend through February 2021. Bookmobile routes visit library locations, schools, Head Start Centers, and parks across Kern County. Visitors to the bookmobile receive a FREE book for their home library at every visit (while supplies last). Families can stop by the bookmobile to register for a Kern County Library card, check out books, return books, sign up for reading challenges, and more!

Check out the new StoryTours stops and hours!

Mondays – East Kern
10:30 – 11am – Mojave Library
11:15am – 12pm – Mojave HS
1 – 2pm – California City Library
3 – 3:30pm – Boron Park

Tuesdays – East Bakersfield
9:30 – 10am – Baker Library
10:30 – 11:15am – Heritage Park
12:15 – 1pm – Northeast Library
1:15 – 1:45pm – Sterling Head Start
2:15 – 3pm – Pete Parra Head Start
3:15 – 3:45pm – Friendship Hours
4 – 5pm – David Nelson Pocket Park

Wednesdays – West Kern
9:45 – 10:45am – Wonderful Academy
11:15am – 12pm – Lost Hills Elementary
12:45 – 1:15pm – Elk Hills Elementary

A Culture of Improvement
Community Action Partnership of Kern works hard to meet the needs of families and individuals in the areas we service across California. Doing that work well means we have to constantly work to expand our knowledge, hone our skills and work to give all our clients access to the 16 life-changing services we provide.

Last week CalCAPA Executive Director David Knight and Director of Training & Technical Assistance Lawrence Hiner presented a dynamic training on Results-Oriented Management and Accountability that called out the best from CAPK Leaders. CalCAPA represents CAPK and all our sister Community Action Agencies across the state. Leaders left the training excited to build on our agency’s strong foundation, collect powerful data about how we serve clients and use that to serve those communities even better.

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**Weatherization Day**

Community Action Partnership of Kern's Energy program offers families struggling with utility costs a powerful tool to reduce those expenses: the Weatherization Program. Many low-income families spend more than 1/3 of their income on their utility bills. Our Weatherization teams assess where their homes are leaking energy, replace windows, doors, air-conditioning units, appliances and add insulation that can save them hundreds of dollars a month. CAPK celebrated this program on Oct. 29 with a Weatherization Day event. Thanks go to Bakersfield Mayor Karen Goh and representatives from the offices of Assemblyman Rudy Salas, Assemblyman Vince Fong, Senator Shannon Grove and Senator Melissa Hurtado for helping us mark this important event.
Mayor Goh (above) talks with CAPK CEO Jeremy Tobias and CAPK Chief Financial Officer Tracy Webster during the CAPK Weatherization Day event.

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19th Street Staff Appreciation Day

CAPK staff are the key to our ability to help our clients overcome the circumstances of poverty. That’s why Friday, October 29 was a doubly special day. As CAPK Energy was celebrating Weatherization Day in the front courtyard of its offices on 19th Street, the leaders of all the CAPK programs located at the 19th Street site were setting up for a Halloween-themed Staff Appreciation Day out back. Energy, 2-1-1, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and Housing Assistance teams went all out to have fun during the lunchtime event. And they ROCKed (Paper, Scissored) their way to some fun prizes in the Halloween costume contest. Thank You 19th Street Staff for all your hard work!
The Kiwanis Club of Kern hosted its inaugural Cornhole Tournament on Saturday, Oct. 30 at Stramler Park in Bakersfield. Community Action Partnership of Kern was happy to be there to support our partners and throw a few beanbags at our very own cornhole board. Thanks to the Kiwanis for letting CAPK be a part of the fun!