March 7, 2022

Community Action Partnership of Kern in Action

Celebrating Services to the Community

Community Action Partnership of Kern is rushing out of February and accelerating into March with events that highlight some of the fun and important work we're doing. Catch up on last week's Read Across America Celebrations, the Homeless Point in Time Count, 211 Day and more!

Read Across America Week!

Last week CAPK's Head Start team celebrated Read Across America Week. CAPK leaders and community volunteers spread out around Kern County spreading the love of reading with thousands of our Head Start Early Education students.
This all culminated on Friday, March 4, with a Kick Off book pick up at CAPK's offices followed by a hybrid reading event where celebrity readers presented videos of themselves reading to students or showed up in person to share their favorite book with our students!

CAPK Chief Program Officer Traco Matthews and Head Start Director Yolanda Gonzales read to Head Start students!

Earned Income Tax Credit Day

CAPK celebrated 211 Day in February to acknowledge the powerful impact that our 211 Resource and Referral call center has on the lives of thousands of San Joaquin Valley residents. The staff of our call center work 24-7 every day of the year to answer calls from people facing need in our communities. They direct callers to more than 1,500 social safety net services that can help with food, transportation, health services, mental health resources, family support and a host of other needs. Thanks so much to our 211 team for all the work you do.

Point In Time Count

The Annual Kern County Point in Time Count of our homeless population is a crucial step in assessing the crisis that so many individuals and families are facing in our neighborhoods. It's the first step to building the support and programs needed to overcome that need and find people permanent homes. CAPK staff - including Chief Program Officer Traco Matthews - went out early in the morning of Feb. 24 to meet and count unsheltered homeless individuals. Its also a mission of care and recognition to see people where they are and let them know they matter.

Bank of America Donates to CAPK Food Bank

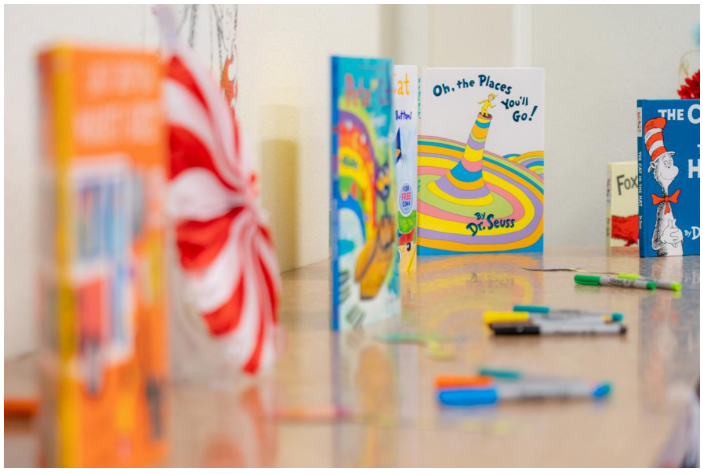
Bank of America donated $25,000 to support the CAPK Food Bank as were recover from the holiday season and prepare for a busy spring and summer.
“Community Action Partnership of Kern is honored to have Bank of America standing with us as we strive to expand the powerful, positive impact of our Food Bank to every corner of Kern County and beyond. We are constantly working to build new partnerships and services that will feed more people and help them overcome the debilitating social, economic and educational effects of hunger. This strong support from Bank of America brings us closer to that goal,” said CAPK Chief Executive Officer Jeremy Tobias.
Bank of America also donated thousands of masks and other PPE items to help Kern County make it's way through the Omicron surge of the COVID-19 pandemic.
“As the pandemic continues to impact Kern County, hunger relief organizations are experiencing increased demand and higher costs to meet the needs of individuals and families,” said Karen Zuber, President, Bank of America Bakersfield. “Our commitment to help strengthen the communities we live in and serve is unwavering, which is why we are investing in the health, safety and wellbeing of our teammates while also providing funds to help local organizations support our neighbors and fight food insecurity.”

Thank you Bank of America!!!

More Read Across America Photos

Students enjoy a book adventure with Leslie Mitchell, Head Start Assistant Director of Education, on Read Across America Day.

CAPK Governing Board member Fred Plane reads to children at Harvey Hall Head Start Center and makes some new friends!



CAPK Chief Executive Officer Jeremy Tobias gets some help reading Pete the Cat to the children at Harvey Hall Head Start Center on Read Across America Day.