Service, Shade and Visioning

CAPK has had a lot going on in past couple weeks and we’re happy to share some of the fun and achievements with you.

Safe Camping Site Launched

The new Kern County Safe Camping area near the M Street Navigation Center is now hosting clients from vulnerable populations who have been experiencing homelessness. More than 40 safe camping spots are now open and available to these individuals as an alternative to other public and private locations where they have created temporary homes. Each space has a tent, sleeping bag, room to store possessions and a shade cover. Residents are provided three daily meals, restrooms, showers and they can choose to access health care, mental health and social services on site. While there is a little more structure than they would experience outside the Safe Camping site, individuals and families still have more autonomy than in a formal homeless center environment. CAPK is operating this Safe Camping site in partnership with Kern County with the shared goal of building relationships with individuals and helping them take the first steps toward a future that includes permanent housing.
The public came out to the Friendship House Community Center on Wednesday, June 22, to talk about how the City of Bakersfield should develop, grow and change during the next 20 years. There was a strong showing from southeast Bakersfield and the MLK CommUNITY Initiative - and a lot of pride in Bakersfield. But community members envisioned a better community with road improvements, affordable housing, better transit services, community amenities and more attention and support for under-served communities like southeast Bakersfield. The visioning meeting was part of the City of Bakersfield's 2045 Rise effort and the public is encouraged to join in the effort to plan for community's future by engaging in the ongoing process or filling out a survey available through the link below.

Take the Survey
Here
Volunteers continue to amaze us with their generous gift of time, commitment, grit and community spirit. This heroic group of volunteers responded last week to a call for help from the CAPK Food Bank Senior Food program and spent hours on Saturday, May 18 filling 30 pound boxes of food for Kern County seniors. Their hard work broke the previous record by creating 855 boxes - packing 17.5 pallets of food for delivery!

Special thanks to the young visionaries from TYM4C - Transitional Youth Motivating 4 Change - and CAPK board members Maritza Jimenez and Janea Benton.
Community Action Partnership of Kern is continuing to take applications for a unique small-business grant designed to help businesses recover from the impacts of COVID-19. Check out the flyer and reach out to CAPK at info@capk.org to see if you are eligible for this $2,500 boost to the financial future of your business!

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must have (0-4) full-time equivalent employees
- Been operational prior to December 2019 and have a physical presence in the County of Kern
- Be currently active and operating or with a clear plan to reopen.
- Have less than ($50,000) in revenues in the 2019 taxable year.
- Complete a (1) page application and e-mail it to info@capk.org.

More information is available at: www.americasjobcenterofkern.com