

# KCAO CHANGING LIVES

ACTION ORGANIZATION

## VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

Volume 2

JUNE 2011

Issue 6

### MISSION STATEMENT

To advocate, educate and provide a wide range of quality services that empower, promote self-sufficiency, preserve dignity and improve the quality of life for the individuals and communities of Kings County.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### PRIVATE SECTOR

Tim Bowers  
Elsie Bowlby  
Eddie Brieno  
Jess Garcia  
Raymond Macareno

#### PUBLIC SECTOR

Tony Barba  
Dan Chin  
Raymond Lerma  
John Murray  
Melissa Whitten

#### TARGET AREA

Reynaldo C. Gutierrez  
Alicia Jacobo  
Sal D. Lopez  
Jess Martinez  
Eugene Patterson

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR FOR  
QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS, PLEASE  
CONTACT 559-589-6068

### Home Garden Receives a Much Needed Makeover!!

Just a stone's throw southeast of Hanford lies a small community known as Home Garden. With 41% of the population below the poverty line, Home Garden has long suffered from neglect, lacking the most basic of neighborhood luxuries such as curbs, gutters and sidewalks. In 2009 the community suffered another setback when it was forced to shut down Gardenside Elementary, making Lakeside the only operating school for the children of Home Garden and threatening their chance at a CalTrans Safe Route to School grant.

Saturday, May 7th, 2011 was nationally known as Join Hands Day, a day geared toward bringing generations together to serve the community. Savino Perico, who organized the day of service, was joined by 54 volunteers who gave up a part of their weekend to come together and help beautify the often overlooked neighborhood. Volunteers were split into 3 groups, with Veronica Valadez leading the street clean up team which picked up trash along 10th Avenue and Orchard Street. While Nathan Nielsen and his team of volunteers got their hands dirty in the Community Garden. The younger volunteers were asked to draw out their vision of a neighborhood park to assist the Home Garden Service District in obtaining funds to build what will be Home Garden's only park.

To find out more about National Days of Service or for more volunteer opportunities, contact Savino Perico at (559)589-6068



### STANDOUT VOLUNTEER



This month's standout volunteer is Linda Boam who came from CSET. Linda has been donating her time at the Home Garden Opportunity Center, teaming up with Nathan Nielsen to continue to improve and expand the community garden. Linda's skills have been extremely beneficial to HGOC from her help in the garden, to the attention and care she gives to the youth who spend their days at the HGOC. Linda has also contributed to the many events that take place at the HGOC such as the Spring Easter Egg Hunt and Christmas Toy Giveaway. KCAO **THANKS** Linda Boam for her tireless efforts and dedication by selecting her as June's Standout Volunteer!!

# VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

## HOW TO VOLUNTEER

The process to volunteer at KCAO is simple. All volunteers must fill out a volunteer application packet, participate in 1 on 1 screening, and attend a volunteer orientation. After the volunteer application is turned in, the Community Relations Coordinator will contact the volunteer for a 1 on 1 screening and then schedule the volunteer for an orientation. If you have any questions please contact Savino Perico at 559-589-6068

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Preschool Support

Youth Leader Volunteer

Food Bank Specialist

Day of Caring 8/5/11

64 Crisis Line Training

Date Entry & Data Researcher

## Quote of The Month

"You make a living by what you get.  
You make a life by what you give."

-Winston Churchill

TOTAL HOURS 2011  
43,755

IF INTERESTED IN ANY OF THE ABOVE  
OPPORTUNITIES PLEASE CALL  
559-589-6068

## VOLUNTEER POWER

A short story on making a difference...



One morning a man walked along a beach covered with thousands of Starfish that had washed up during a storm. Now they lay dying in the sun. He saw a young girl picking up the starfish one by one and tossing them back into the sea. As he approached her, he couldn't help but ask, "Why bother? There are too many of them. You won't make much of a difference." The girl picked up another starfish and tossed it into the water. Then she turned to the man and said, "I made a difference to that one."

With summer upon us, many have started to think up ways to beat the heat and stave off boredom as the days grow longer and lounging in a hammock all day starts to lose its appeal. A simple way to break the monotony would be to change the life of someone in need right here in your community. Whether it be spending your days in the new food bank, mentoring youth at the opportunity center, or making yourself available 1 night a week to answer crisis calls, you have the opportunity to enrich the lives of others while gaining valuable skills and revered memories you can carry with you into the new school year, your next job interview or wherever the path you set may take you. So although it may be tempting to spend your summer sleeping in all morning, watching rerun after rerun of old reality shows and occasionally taking in a movie, why not spend some of your summer days donating your time to a few of the many, many people who could use a helping hand? Make a difference, become a volunteer!

For more information contact: Savino Perico 559-589-6068



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 7 to 10 – KINGS FAIR (STOP BY OUR BOOTH IN THE EXHIBIT HALL!)

July 8 - MOVIE NIGHT AT HIDDEN VALLEY PARK, HANFORD

July 8 - MOVIE NIGHT AT HERITAGE PARK, LEMOORE

July 25 – RESTAURANT CHARITY DAY AT FIGARO'S

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH & MARKETING DEPARTMENT AT  
559-415-7205