

# COMMUNICATOR

COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP OF ORANGE COUNTY



## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF CHANGING LIVES

Spring 2015

# 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

In 1965, community leaders came together to provide low-income residents with the power and tools to grow economic opportunities and solve community problems. Since then, Community Action Partnership of Orange County has continued to embody that spirit of hope to improve our community and make Orange County a better place to live. With each milestone, we have grown to meet the increasing needs of Orange County. For the past 50 years, we have been ending hunger and poverty by helping people help themselves and each other build vibrant communities that create pathways out of poverty.



To help people move out of poverty, CAPOC built community centers, launched youth and adult employment programs, emergency food and nutrition programs, mobile health services, utility assistance, weatherization, afterschool and day care programs, transportation programs for seniors and the disabled, emergency housing, Farm 2 Families, Headstart, Legal Aid Society, Neighborhood Youth Corps, Community Technology Partnership, First Things First, Backpacks for Success and Community Mentor Partnership.



Poverty is still with us today. Millions of OC residents struggle to find decent paying jobs or work low-wage jobs that leave families without the resources to lead a healthy life. Decades of research has shown us that our services alleviate the symptoms of poverty in low-income communities by giving individuals the tools needed to succeed. We are dedicated to directing resources to helping kids succeed, providing financial stability, and working with leaders to create jobs, and return prosperity to communities left behind in the new economy. Our continued commitment to the poor will open more opportunities for Americans and strengthen our society and economy for the future.



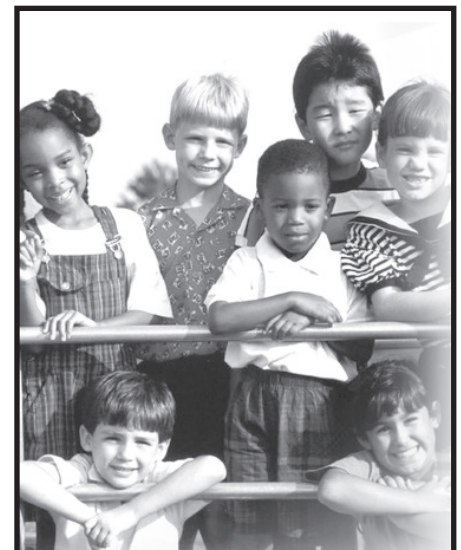
When families work through our programs, they develop greater confidence and motivation to manage setbacks in their lives. At Community Action Partnership, the answer lies in empowering people to recognize and make use of their own unique strengths and resources in order to improve their lives. Changing lives starts here.

**CURRENTLY @ CAPOC**

**EVENTS**  
You can join in our 50th Anniversary celebration! Check out page 2 for more details

**DONATE**  
This is not work that we can do alone. Visit [www.capoc.org/getinvolved](http://www.capoc.org/getinvolved) to find out how you can help today!

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# Events

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

On Saturday, May 2, 2015, Community Action Partnership will be presenting our 50th Anniversary Black Tie Celebration Gala at Balboa Bay Resort. This elegant affair will celebrate five decades of community change and provide a road map to transforming low-income communities in the next decade for a stronger Orange County. The evening will bring together donors, board members, volunteers, and the community to kick off this milestone celebration. The program will glimpse at CAPOC's vibrant history and culture of helping people and changing lives. We will be celebrating this glamorous affair with a gourmet dinner, cocktail reception, music of our time, and live & silent auctions.



CAPOC will be honoring the following corporations, community partners, and outstanding individuals at the Gala for their work in making Orange County a better place to live:

### CORPORATE HONOREES

*Orange County United Way  
Pacific Life Foundation  
Sisters of St. Joseph Health Ministries & Affiliates*

### COMMUNITY SPIRIT HONOREES

*Dan McQuaid, OneOC  
Senator Janet Nguyen  
NAACP of Orange County*

### OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL HONOREES

*Senator Lou Correa (Ret.)  
Cástulo de la Rocha, AltaMed  
Douglas Bystry, Clearinghouse CDFI*

TICKETS: \$125  
[www.changinglivesoc.org](http://www.changinglivesoc.org)

## OC BLACK HISTORY PARADE

This February, CAPOC participated in the 35th annual Black History Parade & Cultural Fair. As the parade kicked off, dozens of our clients, community leaders, volunteers, staff, and board members could be seen marching along Anaheim Boulevard in celebration of our 50th year. We were proud to be part of a community event that acknowledges unity amongst all Orange County residents. Together, we are Community Action.

## OC BREWS & BITES MUSIC FEST

We are excited to host the first ever OC Brews & Bites Music Fest coming to the Anaheim Packing House, downtown Anaheim's new premier destination, on April 11th from 1-5pm! The festival will showcase local beer and restaurant tastings, accompanied by the musical talents of Cubensis and The Outriders. Tickets are only \$50 and 100% of proceeds from the Festival will support CAPOC and our OC Food Bank's efforts to eliminate hunger and poverty in Orange County.

### FEATURED BREWERIES:

*Angel City Brewery  
Backstreet Brewery  
Barley Forge Brewing Co.  
Beach City Brewery  
Bootlegger's Brewery  
Einstök Icelandic Craft Ale  
Four Sons Brewing  
Golden Road Brewing  
Jagerhaus  
Lagunitas Brewing Co  
Lightning Brewery  
Pizza Port Brewing Co.*



### FEATURED CULINARY VENDORS:

*Barley Forge Kitchen  
Blake's Place BBQ  
The Butcher's Block  
The Olde Ship British Pub  
Prego Ristorante  
Smoqued BBQ  
Taco Asylum  
Tempo Urban Kitchen  
Tommy Bahama's Island Grille  
Zcafe*

TICKETS: \$50  
[www.ocfoodbank.org/brewsandbites](http://www.ocfoodbank.org/brewsandbites)



# FRUITS & VEGGIES

CAPOC hosted a clean-up day at the Miracle Garden in Stanton's Tina/Pacific neighborhood. This community-driven garden is home to a number of individual plots as well as communal growing spaces where members grow fruits, vegetables, herbs, and flowers for their families to enjoy. The garden is pesticide and herbicide free and a number of the gardeners employ seed-saving techniques, supporting a rich yearly harvest.



Working together for just a couple of hours weeding and pruning, we were able to get an impressive amount of beautification and preparation done so that new seeds could be planted.

For more information about the Miracle Garden (or other gardens CAPOC assists with) and how you can get your hands dirty at a future work day, contact Sonora Ortiz at [sortiz@capoc.org](mailto:sortiz@capoc.org).

# Helping People & Changing Lives

Walter, a member of our Energy & Environmental Services Department outreach staff, was out conducting a home assessment for an 87 year old woman who had no heat in her mobile home for 5 years. Our weatherization program works with low-income Orange County residents to fix minor home repairs and reduce energy consumption. We were able to replace her heater allowing her to live comfortably through the winter. When Walter received a heartfelt holiday card and a personal call where she was crying and thanking us so much for everything we had done, he knew he made a difference and changed her life for the better.

## Impact of Tax Filing Services

New Data Show Volunteer Tax Preparation Provides a Significant Benefit to Lower-Income Taxpayers.



Recently, the CFED (Corporation for Federal Development) released its new breakdown of national IRS data on last year's

tax season, which shows that volunteers helped over 3.2 million taxpayers get \$3.89 billion in tax refunds in 2014. Since filing an accurate tax return is critical to obtaining mortgages, small business loans, college financial aid and even citizenship, the efforts of volunteers help millions. CAPOC aims to help Orange County residents save and build wealth, stay out of poverty, and create a more prosperous future through community-based tax assistance.

CAPOC's two family resource centers, Anaheim Independencia and El Modena, are providing free 2015 tax filing services for eligible low-income people. Appointments are required; please contact:

Anaheim Independencia: (714) 826-9070  
10841 Garza Ave., Anaheim CA 92804

El Modena: (714) 532-3595  
18672 E. Center St, Orange CA 92869

# Free Shoes for Low-Income Children



Community Action Partnership of Orange County was selected as an official partner of "Payless Gives Shoes 4 Kids," which allowed us to provide 150 pairs of shoes to children in need.

A group of children served by CAPOC participated in a shoe-shopping trip at a Payless ShoeSource store in Anaheim on Saturday, January 10th. The children enjoyed shopping for and selecting their own pair of free new shoes. For many kids accustomed to used and hand-me-down shoes, this was their first pair of new shoes. "Looking around at the excited children upon receiving new shoes for the first time, I knew we were giving these children the steps needed to reach a brighter tomorrow" said Maribel Reyes, Director of CAPOC's Anaheim Independencia Family Resource Center.





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### OUR PROMISE

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

## How can **YOU** transform lives?

Everyday, lives are being changed thanks to the support and generosity of people like you. Check out these great opportunities and see how you can make a difference in fighting hunger and poverty in Orange County.

### MAKE A DONATION

With your financial support, CAPOC can help reinvest in our community by providing basic needs and resources to low-income households.

To make a donation contact Doug Vogel at [Dvogel@capoc.org](mailto:Dvogel@capoc.org) or call (714) 897-6670 ext. 3151 or visit [www.capoc.org/getinvolved](http://www.capoc.org/getinvolved)

### VOLUNTEER

We are looking for individual and group volunteers to help us pack food boxes.

For more information contact Andre Gaithe at [agaithe@capoc.org](mailto:agaithe@capoc.org) or call (714) 897-6670 ext. 3493

## CAPOC's

# IMPACT IN NUMBERS

With your support, we raised **\$1.6 million** that produced the following results to make a difference in 2015:

-Our OC Food Bank distributed **20,717,405** pounds of food to nearly **400** partners that served **194,914** low-income children, families, seniors, veterans, and individuals with disabilities

-We reached **249,023** low-income children and their families through our nutrition and physical education programs

-**3,170** seniors were provided with services to help them maintain their independence and access to needed services

-We provided minor home repairs and weatherized **1,527** low-income homes that helped the poor reduce their utility bills

-**1,860** youth received backpacks filled with school supplies at the start of the school year

-**12** students received their GED through our ACCESS program at our El Modena Resource Center