

ACTION MATTERS

Area Christians Taking Initiative on Needs

A PERIODICAL FROM THE ACTION FOUNDATION
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Serve Day 2012

Serve Day, June 2, 2012 began as so many other mornings in June begin near the Southern California coast, cool and gloomy with little a hope of seeing the sun even as the day progressed. However, as people gathered at Community Center Park in Oxnard there was still a sense of excitement. They were looking forward to a day of using what skills and energy they had to serve others. For most of them, all they needed was someone to point them in the right direction. They were eager to help the homeless who called the surrounding area their home. Sun or no sun this day would be filled with warmth.

Glenn was at the park ready to get the day started. Since that first Serve Day many Saturdays ago, he has become an old hand at serving. Glenn is now a kind of “Servant Entrepreneur”. If he sees a home in his neighborhood needing any kind of glaring repairs and the homeowner doesn’t have the wherewithal to fix them, he’s on a mission to help fix things. There was an elderly homeowner with an old, cracking driveway and a single parent of a special needs child with rotting, peeling siding on his house. Glenn gathered together a group of friends and firefighter buddies, scheduled a few workdays and fixed the problems. He’s a man who has made service to others a way of life. Glenn never misses an “ACTION Serve Day”.

Janet and two of her children took no time to get to work at Kingdom Center in Oxnard. Janet’s hope was that she might have a chance to make long-term



relationships with some of the formerly homeless women who are now living at Kingdom Center. During a break, Janet sat and talked with one of the Ladies; she asked if she could come by and visit every now and then to see how she was doing? Janet’s reached beyond the weeds that were picked and the flowers that were planted and touched another person. Serve Day will

echo at Kingdom Center through the coming year thanks to Janet and others like her.

This was Frank’s first Serve Day and he was eager for the people to start gathering so that all the activities could begin. He had been with his church to a workday at a local mobile home park where elderly people needed assistance to keep their homes in compliance with the Mobile Park’s association maintenance guidelines. That ongoing project had begun with a Serve Day years before and the Church had decided to adopt the Mobile Home Park’s Elderly as a regular service project. He was new to Ventura County and his church, but loved how the church served the community.



And so it was all over Ventura County, God’s people gathered in Parks, Church parking lots, Schools and Mobile Home Parks with the same excitement to put their faith in

action. They all worked hard with a great deal of good humor. Even the children ran from place to place anxious for an opportunity to help. Everywhere and in everyplace there was the same buzz of activity, an air of purpose and a sense of joy. And the people who were served were grateful and full of wonder to see God’s people working together with a single heart. Serve Day 2012 – Churches and God’s people uniting to meet many different needs.

Get more information and see ACTION serving:
<http://documentary.brooks.edu/blog/>

Everyday Serving

Serve Day 2012 was incredible; it saw the church unite in service to Ventura County! Here are the numbers: 34 churches, 1500 volunteers, over 300 service projects.

What did you not finish or what new needs did you discover? Return to serve again.

Didn’t participate in Serve Day on June 2? Get your small group together, find a project on our website, and serve somebody this weekend! Every day can be serve day!

More info: <http://actionvc.org/volunteer/>

Don't Wait!

The needs in our community don't wait for the annual Serve Day. You can reach out to help people any time during the year.

There are a lot of projects all throughout Ventura County that could benefit from your time and talents. It could be a project for a small group or a craftsman.

Here are a few of those projects that are ready for volunteers right now.

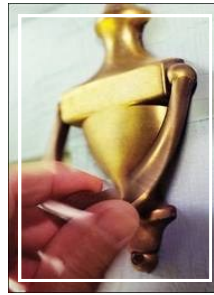
- In **Simi Valley** there is an opportunity to assist a senior woman with her electrical and plumbing issues in her mobile home.
- In **Camarillo** there is an opportunity to help a physically handicapped woman with her yard work.
- In **Oxnard** there is an opportunity to help a recently widowed senior woman remove a 35 ft. Holly Berry tree from her yard.
- In **Ventura** there is an opportunity to help a senior woman who is leading a church from her home replace her old leaky roof.
- In **Ojai** there is an opportunity to do a complete bathroom remodel for an ailing senior.
- In **Piru** there is an opportunity to help a family repair their garage and replace their screen door.

If you are interested in helping with any of these projects or in finding more projects in your area please call the ACTION office at (805)987-0300 or email Rachelle at rachelle.melia@actionvc.org.



CONTRIBUTORS:
Joyce Marcarelli, Don Cole, Rachelle Melia, Anacleto Rapping

Opportunity Knocks



We sometimes look back and languish over missed opportunities. But here is one not to miss.

A generous donor has offered to match donated funds up to \$20,000 as an encouragement for many to support Action's outreach.

So your donations to Action will be automatically doubled. Even if you think your donation might be small, it now can have a much larger impact.

We are calling this the 'Opportunity Knocks' matching grant. Don't look back and wish that you would have doubled your gifts to help so many people. Support Action now.

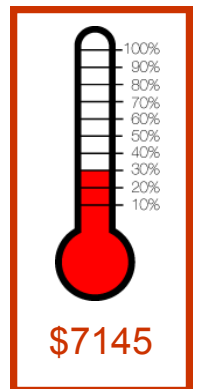
Click on this video for more explanation:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1u17TQkphqk&feature=plcp>

Reaching the Goal

We have set a financial goal and are asking for your help in reaching it. But our real goal is to serve people and these raised funds help to make that possible. It's really not about money but about people who need us.

We are making good progress, toward that goal thanks to those who share our passion. With the 'Opportunity Knocks' matching grant, your donation is automatically doubled!!



Thank you for serving people in need in our community. We have already reached over 30% of our goal and are hopeful that we will reach the full \$20,000 in the coming months!

Would you help us by joining our monthly donation support team? Now is a critical time. If just 26 people donated \$20 a month, we would fully meet our goal!

You can invest in what God is doing right here in Ventura County! Join in now by going to <http://actionvc.org/volunteer/donate/>



Action Foundation



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