

Hacienda Helping Hands Awards Two Impact Grants

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Hacienda Helping Hands has awarded two impact grants to organizations providing local services: the Tri-Valley Anti-Poverty Collaborative (TVAPC) and Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley. The Tri-Valley Anti-Poverty Collaborative was given a \$5,000.00 grant in support of a regional convening to present information on local poverty issues and their solutions. Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley received a \$5,000.00 grant in support of the organization's Stepping Out and Reconnecting (SOAR) initiative. Grants were made through a Donor Advised Fund held by the East Bay Community Foundation.

"Hacienda Helping Hands is excited to be able to help provide a catalyst to make these unique projects happen," said James Paxson, Hacienda's general manager. "We believe that providing these grants will allow these efforts to succeed in ways that might not have happened without support. This is particularly relevant given the importance of the work of both of these community organizations."

Kristi Miller, Tri-Valley Anti-Poverty Collaborative Program Manager, stated, "The grant award will help to fund a community education event to help link the Tri-Valley community, and in particular businesses, to the work of the collaborative. The TVAPC has spent the last two years developing as an organization in response to the very real issues confronting those experiencing poverty in the Tri-Valley. Using a collective impact approach, what has emerged are a set of focused, collaborative efforts to address issues of poverty. Such collaboration is key given that poverty is frequently hidden from sight in areas like the Tri-Valley and creating opportunities to integrate programs and resources is one of the best means of finding and elevating those in need. The program that this grant will support is an opportunity to provide an update on community poverty information that the group developed several years ago, and to hear about what has and can be done to further local poverty reduction."

Learn more at www.TVAPC.org, and on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

SSPTV Executive Director Robert Taylor said "Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley (SSPTV) deeply appreciates the \$5,000 grant from Hacienda Helping Hands to support our SOAR (Stepping Out And Reconnecting) program for socially isolated seniors living in the Tri-Valley" notes SSPTV Executive Director. The grant will provide critical support for SSPTV's expanded outreach to seniors at risk for developing health and functionality problems due to social isolation that can occur after the loss of friends and family, or because of changes in health and mobility. The SOAR program addresses these challenges to health and independence by offering seniors professional evaluation, individual counseling, and group activities designed to encourage social interaction, foster new friendships, and support independence. Seniors who live alone are especially vulnerable to social isolation and its negative impacts. Fortunately, early intervention with appropriate services has proven effective both in preventing declines in physical and/or mental health and in preserving seniors' ability to live independently. This type of support is the impetus we need to grow the SOAR program and enhance the awareness of programs directly improving the lives of seniors in the Tri-Valley area. It is evident Hacienda Helping Hands is committed to building strong community

partnerships to better the lives of all Tri-Valley seniors."

Learn more at www.ssptv.org.