



SONOMA COUNTY

141 Stony Circle, Suite 210 Santa Rosa, CA 95401 www.capsonoma.org

#### **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.

### Thank you for investing in us!

## **Community Action Staff** Helping People. Changing Lives.



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### **MISSION**

**Community Action Partnership** of Sonoma County partners with the community to empower low income families through community engagement, health and wellness, education and financial stability strategies.

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\*\*\*\*\* VISION

**Community Action Partnership of Sonoma County strives to eliminate** poverty and invests in families through partnerships, advocacy and high impact programs.

## A Community in Action

Dear Friend,

May is Community Action Month! It has been a month of celebration and reflection for over a thousand Community Action Agencies across the nation whose mission is to address poverty in our country. As one of these agencies, Community Action Partnership provides life-changing services that build pathways to opportunity. Helping People, Changing Lives- Community

Action's motto, is exemplified by services provided at Vía Esperanza, our Family Resource Center.

Yoni, a mother of two young daughters, has always been determined to create a better future for her family. Whether managing the household alongside her husband, the family's sole breadwinner, or ensuring that her two daughters had every opportunity, she always placed the needs of her loved ones before her own. When Yoni learned of the programs and services at Vía Esperanza, she began to invest in her own education by enrolling in the English as a Second Language (ESL) and English Conversation classes provided by the Resource

Center. Yoni's journey continued as she achieved her GED and recently took the oath of citizenship, becoming a full-fledged citizen of the United States of America.

We're inspired by the people like Yoni who will not let poverty break them — who keep learning, keep working, and keep fighting to build better lives.

During Community Action month, I'd like to give you an opportunity to join us in creating a thriving Sonoma County. Help us continue to serve those who need it most as we continue to work with children and adults alike to end generational poverty. The need has never been greater. Neither has our resolve.

A remit envelope is enclosed for your convenience. You may also make your donation on our website, www.capsonoma.org.

I look forward to working together toward a thriving Sonoma County for all!

With gratitude,

Suran Coopen

Susan Cooper **Executive Director** 



# **Supporting Sonoma County Families**

# Sloan House Emergency shelter for women and their children

Harold's Home Transitional housing

Earle & Aston
Low income housing



capsonomaofficial

### **Tackling The Housing Crisis**

The housing crisis we are facing is witnessed here every day as our community members walk through our doors, or call with the hope that we can help them stay housed. About 25,000 Sonoma County residents are "housing insecure," either temporarily housed, or are experiencing homelessness, and 2,000 of the people experiencing homelessness have no shelter. We respond to the needs of Sonoma County and are doing everything we can to support families staying housed or finding their way back to stable housing through the following programs:

### Season of Sharing

Through the generosity of The San Francisco Chronicle, we are able to offer the Season of Sharing program which provides financial assistance that can be used for deposit or rental assistance for housing. This aid can mean the difference between having a roof over one's head or not.

"I was finally able to give my children something that I never had – beds of their own. The beds gave them a sense of security and alleviated a lot of stress for me, I was so full of gratitude, and my thoughts were: finally I'm going to get through this."

#### - Arthur, SOS Client

### **HCA Rental Assistance**

The HCA Family Fund was created by private funders in order to prevent families from losing their homes. Community members can receive up to three months of rental assistance or one-time security deposit assistance. This assistance is amplified by working with a financial coach who can help give clients the tools needed to remain financially secure. Every month, the fund assists 25-30 individuals and families.

"Your HCA fund has opened a door and the prospect of a brighter future, and will play a key role in shaping our future."

- Joan, HCA Client

### **Pathways Housing**

The Pathways Housing continuum for women and children helps individuals and families move from short term housing to permanent housing. As a part of their stay, clients receive guidance from caring case managers in addressing their physical, emotional and financial health so that they can achieve long term stability.

"My six month stay at Sloan House has empowered me to be who I want to be, and to achieve the lifestyle that I aspire to. I will always be eternally grateful for that "second chance." Thank You!"

- Cindy, Sloan House Resident

## **Building Community**

Community Action Agencies bring neighbors together to overcome the barriers facing their communities. The vision of Community Action's Roseland Community Building Initiative (CBI) is the development of community members' capacity to determine and implement positive change in low income communities.

Members of our Roseland CBI work with community residents, organizations, and decision makers to advocate for policies which affect their neighborhood. The Roseland CBI Resident Leaders focus on reducing youth crime by implementing strategies designed to impact neighborhood level change. In addition, they have written housing policy recommendations to advocate for quality of life improvements.



### 2019 Happenings!

May 23rd & 24th

AVANCE Graduations

Cook Middle School

August 12th
CAPFest
Lagunitas Brewery

September 12th
Once Upon A Smile
Seghesio Winery

September 21st
South Park Day & Night
Festival

October
Head Start Awareness Month

## **Developing Future Leaders**

This year, through the generous support of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, we are able to bring the Youth Civic Engagement Project to young people in our community.

This program uses the CBI model to develop the next generation of leaders through intentional leadership development, voter registration, and voter engagement practices with a specific focus on traditionally underserved populations.

Sonoma County Youth learn from local officials and stakeholders about current policy issues and how these will affect their future. Community Action is looking at innovative ways to strengthen the ability of all individuals to participate fully in their community.



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