



LifeLine News

EMPOWERING UNDER-RESOURCED NEIGHBORHOODS TO THRIVE



WE ARE SO THANKFUL!

How is it possible that 322 days just went by in a blink of an eye? Can we find 322 things to be thankful for? Here are just a few things we are thankful to help with:

- When we are able to help a young man move forward after years of incarceration, walking with him as he gets the tools and support he needs to change his life.
- When a senior citizen gets their social security.
- When kids learn new skills and live with a brighter future.
- When we can walk with someone through recovery from addiction.
- When seniors come together and feel honored and valued.
- When we get to partner with Rivera Elementary School to help with tutoring 1st graders and start a school garden.
- When we see young people explore the outdoors and go camping for the first time.
- When BHRS (Mental Health) comes and teaches tools for resilience.
- When our kids can graduate with a GED and are proud of the 'cord' they have earned.
- When people grow in their faith.

BY MONIKA GRASLEY

We are trying to find ways to 'measure' positive life change.

As staff, we did an exercise to determine what it takes to move out of poverty. The results were so amazing! The team pointed out that what is most needed is: support, love, relationships, forgiveness, mental health, kindness, and walking with someone!

That really humbled me!

Often when agencies, government groups, and churches talk about how to help people move forward we think jobs, education, housing, transportation etc.

What is really needed is human support that walks with the person to move forward.

It is in the context of relationships that we change, it is when we see someone else move forward that we start thinking about change in our lives. As we find ways to 'measure' life change, we always want to ensure that relationships stay at the center!

Be present in all things and thankful for all things.

MAYA ANGELOU

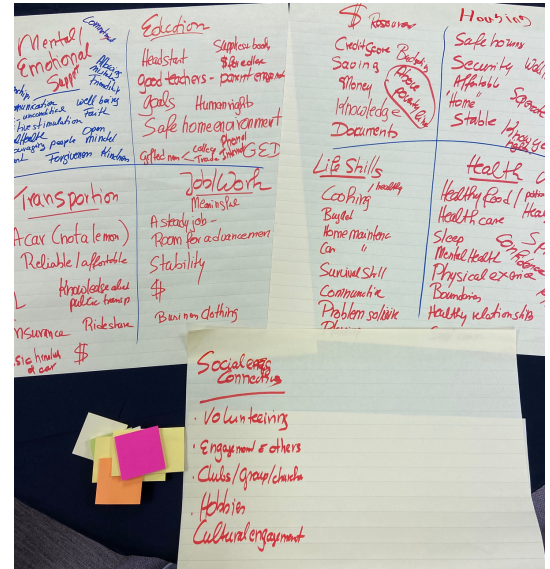
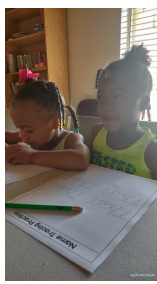
I am also thankful for the people I get to work with:

- Our staff is AMAZING! Their dedication to the community is such an inspiration to me and I am so thankful to have them. Each one of them brings gifts and talents and their personal story to empower others to move out of poverty.
- Our 4 young people who each spent 200 hours with us. They are between 16-21 and have gifts and energy and a heart to serve and creative ideas. They get to use their skills and gifts to help others.
- Our 3 UC Merced College Corps who are spend in a year with us. They have so much joy and enthusiasm to engage with community. They help at the centers as well as work at Rivera Elementary School.
- Our 4 SerJobs - seniors who have years of experience, knowledge and wisdom and now learn from the younger generation computer skills etc.
- The many volunteers, each bringing with them their passions and skills to be a blessing in the community.

THANKSGIVING 2022

WHY?

- LifeLine started 15 years ago to build bridges between cultures and socio-economic barriers in Merced County. We wanted to be part of empowering under-resourced neighborhoods to thrive by asking some questions:
 - **What are the gifts, abilities, and passions already present in the community and in each person?** Because we know that every person is created in the image of God.
 - **How can we partner with you to accomplish your goals?** Because we know that change needs to come from the inside and together we co-create our preferred futures.
 - **Who can we collaborate with to avoid duplicating services?** Because we know that we cannot do it alone.
- Together we break down the barriers that keep us in isolation and poverty.
- Together we see people move forward in life and accomplish their dreams.
- Together we see our humanity as one and work together to celebrate life to the fullest.
- Together we are able to make a dent in poverty through relationships and access to resources.
- Together we walk with each other to help each other grow.



How can you be part of this journey?

- Share your skills and gifts with our communities. Prepare to have your life changed!
- Join us on our **\$50/month challenge to cover one day in the life of LifeLine**. Our Budget is \$270,000, some of that comes in grants, but we prefer the participation of many donors.
- Pray for our work and our partnership with others.
- Future plans:
 - We need to move our Winton Community Center (property being sold) help us find a new place.
 - We want to expand to another community.



*As we enter the Holiday Season - thank you for your partnership.
We cannot do it without you!*



You can give to LifeLine CDC via check:
LifeLine CDC 731 E Yosemite Ave Ste B # 165, Merced CA 95340
or via our Aplos link: <https://www.aplos.com/aws/give/LifeLineCDC>
Want to learn more: 209-201-2905 or lifeline@lifelinecdc.org