



WELCOME TO
LifeLine CDC
we're so glad you're here

HEY, I WANT TO BE PART OF THAT!

A conversation to remember

Two weeks ago, I sat beside a lovely high school student at the City Council meeting. I asked her why she was there, and after telling me her reason, she asked for mine. I told her about LifeLine and what we do and that we hope to open more community centers. I told her that I was there because the city would decide that night if they would let us use the **McNamara Community Center in South Merced.**

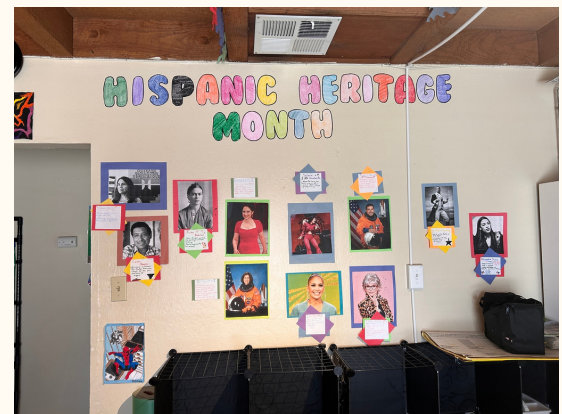
Her eyes lit up! She loved what I told her about LifeLine, she said she lives in South Merced and would love to have a place she can go to, and she wants to volunteer. So we exchanged info, and I hope to have her join us soon.



YES, we have been approved!

UC Merced Interns are making a difference!

We are enjoying our College Corps Interns! They bring creativity energy and set great examples for our community members to move forward.





UPDATES



SOME STATS:

- 22 sites (schools, churches, nonprofits) had the opportunity to learn about physical activities and receive a set of sports equipment, thanks to the Merced County Health Department.
- \$500,000+ dollars came back into our communities through our staff helping lower-income families get their taxes done for free.
- 15-20 children attend our center daily to complete homework, learn new skills, and have fun in a safe environment.
- Hundreds of people got help with resumes, applications, job searches etc.
- 5 youths completed a 4-week class to learn about being ready to look for your first job.
- Over 2,000 families entered our community centers to look for resources in 2023.

One of our community members worked hard to get custody of her 3 grandchildren. The kids were living in difficult situations and sometimes in a car. Now, they have a bed for themselves, a stable home life, and resources to succeed in school and in life. Our staff did an amazing job helping make this happen.

I, Monika, got to be with 60+ state employees to teach Asset Based Community Development to folks who are passionate about community engagement. Learning to see people as created in the image of God and moving away from the labels we give people was eye opening for them.



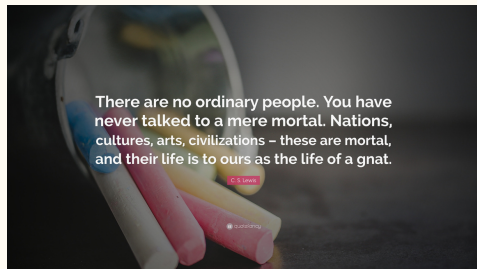
A visit from the Probation Department, we are thankful for their partnership to ensure that our young people don't ever have to be in their system.



Our PACT (Probation/Parole and Community Team) where people being released have an opportunity to learn about resources.



This little girl is all grown up and connected back with us. "I remember when I went there it was so fun miss everyone"



There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal. Nations, cultures, arts, civilizations - these are mortal, and their life is to ours as the life of a gnat.

We had an amazing year and a difficult year

- Staff members struggled with sickness and losses.
- Monika's husband had a major heart attack this fall (he recovered well).
- Monika also went back to school to work on her MA in Leadership.
- Last year, we were still determining what would happen in Winton since the owner had to sell our building. A local community member wanted to keep LifeLine in Winton and purchased the building, and we pay him rent. What a great partnership!
- While we love the many volunteers, we need good staff to run the centers. We are blessed with amazing, dedicated people who care for the communities, but living costs have increased, and we are trying to help the community and ensure our staff is cared for.
- I (Monika), have more opportunities to speak, teach and coach and enjoy helping people rethink from a hand-out to a hand-up.
- We are thankful for hundreds of people who were served with dignity.



What is to come?

- The Christmas with Dignity Store is starting again.
- We will open McNamara Community and continue conversations in the Pioneer School District and Atwater (depending on resources).
- We will host the VITA program again.
- We will encourage training for our staff (they all have taken some classes at Merced College!).
- We will continue our work at Rivera Elementary School.
- Monika will do more coaching and training for others.
- Our board is expanding, and if you are passionate about our work, join us!
- We plan to increase our budget to \$350,000 for 2024.
- We want to continue to love people and point them towards God.



\$1,000 A DAY

is about what it costs us to run LifeLine!



Your partnership has been vital to make this happen!
THANK YOU

209.201.2905. lifeline@lifelinecdc.org
731 E Yosemite Ave Ste B # 165, Merced CA 95340

WWW.LIFELINECDC.ORG
[HTTPS://WWW.APLOS.COM/AWS/GIVE/LIFELINECDC](https://www.aplos.com/aws/give/lifelinecdc)