

CITY OF PALMDALE

MEDIA ALERT

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DATE: May 18, 2016

Press Conference

WHAT: Press conference to announce the 2016 Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty (CROP) CROP Walk, scheduled for Saturday, October 8 in Quartz Hill, and an informational meeting scheduled for May 24.

WHEN: **TODAY, Wednesday, May 18, 10 am**

WHERE: SAVES, 1002 East Ave. Q-12, in Palmdale.

WHO: Ilse Peetz, CROP Organizer; SAVES Coordinator Patricia Morales; local families; SAVES Staff and volunteers.

BACKGROUND: CROP Hunger Walk is a community event sponsored by Church World Service (CWS) and organized by local volunteers. CWS is made up of different denominations who work together to promote ending hunger around the world. Locally, they support the programs of SAVES, Grace Resource Center and Vincent de Paul. Their mission is to work with partners to eradicate hunger and poverty, and to promote peace and justice.

In the last 4 years the donors have made it possible to achieve our mission along four themes: Providing lasting food, water and other development programs. Respond to emergencies and mitigating their impact on vulnerable communities. Support those displaced from their homes such as immigrants and refugees and Advocate for policies that are just and fair to the communities we assist.

A percentage of what is raised will stay here in the AV to help out the 3 named organizations. The other percent goes to CWS to help end hunger around the world.

Ilse Peetz is the local representative that has been organizing the event since 2008 as a volunteer. She got involved with CWS because she was a refugee at a camp in WWII and received help through them. This is why she decided to work with this organization

and in 2008 started the first walk in the AV with only 2 walkers that year, which walked around AV hospital. Last year they had more than 100 walkers with 12 participating churches and groups. They raised \$2094.75 and split it between SAVES, Grace Resource and St. Vincent de Paul.

ABOUT SAVES: Each year, SAVES distributes hundreds of gift baskets around the Thanksgiving holiday. The baskets include items such as a 12 lb. turkey, stuffing, canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, instant mashed potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, boxed macaroni and cheese, corn muffin mix, canned pumpkin mix, gravy, broth, rolls, oatmeal, juice, fruit, pie crust mix and margarine or butter.

SAVES provides a practical and caring approach to serving people in need. The SAVES program was started in 1983 to offer assistance to individuals and families who are experiencing a temporary emergency situation.

CONTACT: SAVES: Patricia Morales – 661/267-5191

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