



August 2018 Featured Agency of the Month

Community Action Partnership of Kern



The Community Action Partnership of Kern was established in 1965 to help fight President Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty in the Southern San Joaquin Valley of California. It is our mission to "provide and advocate for resources that will empower members of the communities we serve to be self-sufficient."

To accomplish that mission Community Action Partnership of Kern (CAPK) operates 11 anti-poverty programs that help more than 100,000 people in the San Joaquin Valley build strong, safe families, educate their children, keep their homes cool in summer and feed themselves and those they love. CAPK has been administering the MCAP program since 1999. It is the only AP program in California that allows migrant families to enroll in the program in any of the six entry counties (Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Tulare and Fresno) and once enrolled have their childcare services follow them as they move throughout the State following agricultural work.

MCAP provides childcare vouchers that allow parents to choose the best child-care option for their family. CAPK currently provides childcare reimbursements to over 200 independent contracted childcare providers for services rendered to approximately 850 children per month. CAPK operates MCAP offices at each of the six entry counties with the main office located in Kern County.

CAPK is the Head Start and Early Head Start provider for Kern County.

CAPK also provides healthy food, education and breastfeeding support to women and their children through the Women, Infants and Children program.

The CAPK Food Bank distributed more than 12.4 million pounds of food to Kern County residents in 2017.

Our East Kern Family Resource center provides basic needs to at-risk Mojave Desert families.

The 2-1-1 line refers hundreds of thousands of Kern County residents to social services.

Our Energy program helps low-income residents pay for utility bills and appliances.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program helps more than 7,000 residents bring in more than \$10 million in tax returns and credits annually.

And our youth centers in Shafter and southwest Bakersfield that help youth and teens expand their horizons and resist the influence of drugs and gangs!