

MEET EACH NEED WITH DIGNITY



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***** MEDIA ALERT*****

For Immediate Release

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PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

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MEND – MEET EACH NEED WITH DIGNITY JOINS THE GLOBAL #GIVINGTUESDAY MOVEMENT ON DECEMBER 1ST

WHAT: Occurring this year on December 1, #GivingTuesday is held annually on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving and is widely recognized as the start of the holiday giving season.

MEND invites all community members to donate funds to support the agency's effort in providing services (including food, healthcare, clothing, adult education, youth services and job training) to approximately 37,000 clients. Community members can also participate in [#GivingTuesday](https://www.givingtuesday.com) by donating canned food, a holiday gift for kids ages 10-14, a new blanket and volunteering at our MEND Center.

WHERE: MEND Center - 10641 N. San Fernando Rd, Pacoima (corner San Fernando Road and Pierce Streets – enter parking lot on Pierce) or online at www.mendpoverty.org.

WHEN: Tuesday, December 1st, 2015 (all day).

WHY: To inspire people to take action to improve their local communities by giving back during the holiday season.

Photo/video opportunities at the MEND Center will include individuals receiving services from MEND's Foodbank, Clothing Center and MEND's Medical, Dental and Eye Care Clinics. Volunteers will also be on site serving in the aforementioned MEND departments.

ABOUT MEND

[MEND-- Meet Each Need with Dignity](#), serves an average of 37,000 and as many as 48,000 poverty-level clients each month, while remarkably keeping operating costs to less than 6%. MEND takes a holistic approach to relieve the effects of poverty by providing basic human needs while giving their clients the education and training, that fosters self-reliance. Named California Nonprofit of the Year in 2012 by the Governor's Office, MEND is one of the largest, most efficient and most comprehensive poverty-relief organizations in the Los Angeles region.

Born as a volunteer-powered organization four decades ago in a garage, today MEND benefits from the assistance of approximately 5000 volunteers (and only 34 paid staffers) to implement its vast array of programs that provide food; clothing; job training; medical, dental and vision care; classes for adults in English as a Second Language, literacy, and computer training; an after school program for kids; showers and other services for the homeless; and a Holiday Basket Program for 1200 pre-screened families in need. In 2014, 193,057 volunteer hours were provided, equating to 106 full-time employees.

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