

Village Walk – Making a Difference in the Lives of People Who Can Use a Hand

In these difficult times many of us are just a paycheck away from needing help. However, the good news is that we have a nice place to live and we have something, no matter how small, to share with a family that is less fortunate than we. It feels good to share a bit of what we have and it feels good to know that we are part of a community that can come together to make a real difference in people's lives. We are making it easy for you to help.

Each month, during the first week of the month, there will be drop boxes for you to place your donations. We have a list below of items we are targeting for each month. It will be fun, and probably become hard to resist buying items you find on sale. The other day I saw 4 spiral notebooks on sale for \$2 and a school calculator for \$4. You probably remember the excitement of getting school supplies for that first day of school. In September, you can help create some of those memories for a child who has gone through some tough financial times with their family.

Keep this project and SPIN in mind while you are out running errands and/or shopping. Involve your kids in this project. Giving back – no matter your own situation – is a wonderful habit to acquire.

Below is a link to SPIN (Serving People In Need) and information regarding the GAPP Program we are supporting, along with some testimonials.



How You Can Help

We will have 3 drop boxes at Village Walk available for your **new** items the first week of each month (1st – 7th).

September: New back to school items (Example: spiral notebook, pencils, pens, backpacks, folders, calculators, etc.)

October: New bath towel (if you want to add a washcloth, etc. you are welcome to do so.) Bath towels are needed.

November: New hygiene items (Example: shampoo, soap, hair brush, comb, toilet paper, etc.)

Where Will The Boxes Be?

The first week of the month, drop-off boxes will be located at Tom Goochey's garage 2905-I (during the day) and at 2915-B Fairview and 2951-B Fairview (evenings from 7-9 pm). For recorded information call (714) 545- 4293 or email: Kellie@villagewalk.org

SPIN website: www.spinoc.org **Village Walk:** www.villagewalk.org

GAPP (Guided Assistance to Permanent Placement) Housing Program

What is GAPP?

SPIN provides move-in costs (first month's rent and deposit) for permanent housing to low-income working families with children. The GAPP Housing Program is a one to two year case management program, offering supportive services such as assistance with child care costs, job development, tutoring, budgeting, counseling, workshops, car repairs related to work, as well as other services.

Who Qualifies?

- Homeless families (graduating from long-term shelter or transitional housing, or residing in a motel or living on the streets).
- Low-income families with children under the age of 18 currently in the parents' custody.
- At least one adult in the household must be working full-time (the GAPP Housing Program is not a subsidized rent program). Applicants must demonstrate the necessary financial ability to afford monthly rent.
- Resident of Orange County.
- Must be willing to participate in a one to two year case management program to achieve self-sufficiency. Includes, but not limited to, meeting with a case manager to review bills and create a budget, working towards payment of debt and an emergency fund/savings account, and the mandatory attendance of five workshops throughout the year.

Testimonials

GAPP (Guided Assistance to Permanent Housing Program) Thank You Letters

I wanted to take a moment to say thank you to SPIN and everyone involved with the program. SPIN has truly been a life changing gift. When I first heard about the program it seemed too good to be true. Luckily for me and my son, all of it was true and more. The day that I was accepted into the program my life started on a fresh, positive path. It is amazing how in just two weeks time I had a place to call my own and food in my refrigerator and a fresh start with a lot of help to back me up. There really are no words to express the gratitude for all that SPIN has done and continues to do. I know that I have a chance to succeed that I might not have had otherwise. I am truly thankful everyday for what SPIN has done for me this past year. All I can say is thank you a million times over. I can only hope that one day I will be able to positively impact someone's life the same way SPIN has impacted my life and my son's life. *Sincerely, Sarah*

The GAPP program has helped me achieve self sufficiency. I exited a shelter with a lot of knowledge and with no county assisted aid. GAPP has helped me stay off government assisted help and achieve longer term goals and gain permanent custody of my son which hadn't been in my care for almost 4yrs. I have accomplished goals I didn't think were possible. I have sustained a home for myself and my 2 children for almost a year now and have managed to keep my son in sports and spend quality time with my daughter. I have maintained a quality of life that is priceless in so many ways because of SPIN and the support my case manager have given me. *Thank you, Mary*

The GAPP program is a fantastic opportunity that has helped me to continue building a foundation and start the structure of my family's future. It has helped me to provide a stable home for Christina where she's growing and flourishing. Christina and I had a very merry and blessed Christmas in part due to the wonderful contributions that we received. It enables me to have peace of mind so I can concentrate on finding ways that would further help our future. I'm so grateful for the help I'm receiving. *Best regards, Stacey*

The GAPP program combined with my twelve step program has given me a life beyond my wildest expectations! I have my family in my life, my mom in my corner, my kids' respect, and a continuing long list of mentors and quality friends that can go on for pages which include, but not limited to the entire staff of SPIN/GAPP. I have peace of mind and a taste of sanity . . . I have a life. Today, I have 3 years clean, 3 years with a job, 3 years out of prison, 3 years with my kids, 3 years of a lot of stuff! These 3 years of stuff started when 3 years ago SPIN/GAPP took a chance on me and gave me help, counselors, encouragement, and the tools I needed to be able to climb out of my shell and be able to show myself and the world a glimpse of my potential. Today I have ambition and a purpose in life. Thank you for taking a chance on me, I appreciate everything you have done. My mother, my kids, my girlfriend, my friends, the Orange County judicial system, etc. etc. THANK YOU! You can't put a price on a "life" which is what you have given me, but what I can do to repay you is to continue in my progress and never look back...Continue, climb, and progress! *Warm Regards, Andrew*

Thank you for all of your support

