



13460 Van Nuys Boulevard • Pacoima, CA 91331 • (818) 896-0246 • (818) 897-2443 • FAX (818) 897-5642

Celebrating 36 Years of Service

January 22, 2007

Have you made a New Year's resolution yet?

My resolution is usually something like, "I will start saving for a down payment on my new house" or "I will take those cooking classes I've always wanted." Often, though, it's hard to keep those resolutions.

Many of our neighbors here in the San Fernando Valley have a different kind of New Year's resolution: *to not starve to death.*

In this time of prosperity, when many of us have enjoyed both income raises and huge increases in the value of our property, many of our neighbors have been experiencing quite a different phenomenon.

Did you know that **one out of four people** in the San Fernando Valley lives far below the poverty level? It could be the family "living" just a block away from you.

Imagine families unable to feed themselves or their children...living in overcrowded, dilapidated quarters...their children suffering from curable diseases gone untreated...elderly widows who lack even a roof over their heads, hiding in the blackness of their misery. This is a sad reality for many people, but there is hope—and it lies with kind supporters like you.

This year, why not commit to a **monthly pledge to MEND as your New Year's resolution?** Your regular contributions will help individuals in desperate need **month after month.** And, if you choose our convenient plan that charges your Visa or MasterCard every month, it's a resolution you can easily keep!

With your help, MEND can provide the following to our needy neighbors:

- Rush emergency food and clothing to starving and displaced families
- Offer valuable job training that empowers individuals and their families
- Provide crucial medical care that saves lives
- Create support groups that provide a warm environment where people can be heard
- Educate clients in ESL, computer literacy, and other skills necessary to succeed in life
- Help children get a good start in life with after-school programs that enrich their imaginations and keep them off the street

Monthly pledges from our kind supporters have given thousands of people life-saving emergency treatment and assistance, and helped them learn the skills necessary to get out of poverty.

Angelica is one of those people. She is a mother of four whose husband was laid off from his job not too long ago. So far, neither Angelica nor her husband has been able to find new jobs that pay enough to help

them afford childcare for their preschoolers. In the meantime, Angelica has been coming in to receive emergency food and clothing for herself and her family. She has utilized MEND's Medical Clinic when she and her children were sick. She also enrolled in MEND's English as a Second Language program to equip her with the skills to find a good job. To give something back, Angelica volunteers every week at MEND's Clothing Center...and every month, Angelica receives a box of food and bag of clothing she needs for her family. MEND must be there for people like Angelica **month after month—and that is why monthly pledges are so very important.**

In addition to providing a better future for thousands of people here in the Valley, the gift you send today will help MEND open its second facility in February—allowing us to serve even more needy families, and ensuring effective service delivery in this time of transition.

I hope we can count on you to offer a New Year's resolution of hope and happiness to hungry, needy, and desperate people here in the San Fernando Valley. Your monthly donation will go a long way in helping to eradicate poverty and suffering for people like Angelica—because they have basic, desperate needs that don't go away *month after month.*

Simply fill out the form included with the envelope enclosed to support MEND on a monthly basis this year. Thousands of hungry, homeless and destitute neighbors are waiting for your kind support.

Sincerely,

Arin Vahanian
MEND Volunteer

P.S. In addition to being tax deductible, your monthly pledge will make a big difference in the lives of our most vulnerable neighbors who need food, clothing, medical care, and other forms of basic support **month after month.** Please make your pledge today!

Yes! I want to make a pledge to help MEND Poverty by my continued support!

\$25
 \$50
 \$100
 Other Amt _____

Please select from one of the following:

I would like to make a monthly pledge One time gift

Remember: MEND maximizes your contribution by utilizing volunteer labor and donated supplies whenever possible!

I would like to charge Amount: \$ _____
 Visa or Master Card

Credit Card # _____ Exp Date _____

Signature _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Name (Please Print) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Day Ph _____

All donations to MEND are tax-deductible. Thank you for your support!

For information about this appeal, call (818) 896-0246

- THIS IS NOT AN ENDORSEMENT - FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION ONLY -

INFORMATION CARD NO. V1171
Issued Pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code, Chapter IV, Article 4, Philanthropy

MEND, INC. (HEEY EACH HEED WITH DIGNITY)
13460 Van Nuys Boulevard, Pacoima, CA 91331
Person in charge of appeal: Jorge Jimenez
Telephone number: (818) 896-0246

Activity: A General Appeal for Donations through June 30, 2007
Solicitation Dates: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Purpose: Net proceeds to support English and computer classes, medical and dental services, job training and placement, and the Christmas Basket Program

Previous Activity: 2005-2006 activity collected a total of \$683,021, of which \$24,954 (2.8%) were expenses and \$658,067 was donated to charity.

DOOR-TO-DOOR SOLICITATION RESTRICTED TO THE HOURS OF 8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
The Information Card used to display or present to all prospective donors.

This issued: 8/29/2006

Candidate registered with the Los Angeles Police Commission
Charitable Solicitation Section, Commission Investigator Division
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