



## Our Mission:

To empower individuals of all abilities to take charge of their own learning and lives, making it possible for them to be competent, caring and contributing members of society; and to provide learning opportunities for families, professionals, and communities to support those efforts.

## In the Spotlight! Giving Back to Our Community!

On November 9<sup>th</sup>, TAS clients, Carlos and Brad, and their job coaches, Tony and Peter volunteered their time to support the San Gabriel community by unloading, bagging, and organizing food for the much needed drive-thru food bank event organized by Rick Khan at the Mosque of San Gabriel. Our crew joined forces with other community members to unload the truckload of onions, cereal, bread, pies, etc.

Cars were lined up for more than five blocks waiting to receive the food that volunteers had just put together. Over 120 cars and over 150 people were welcomed with warm smiles while volunteers loaded bags of food into the trunk of each car.

*“We run this operation every second Tuesday of each month from 2:00 pm to 4:30-4:45pm,”* explained Rick. *“Since COVID hit, this operation has helped thousands of people in our community with food and other essential goods.”*

This experience helped Carlos and Brad understand the meaning and impact of volunteering and how they have the power to make a difference in the lives of others.



On Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, IRL and South Pasadena Kiwanis Club co-sponsored an event with Children’s Hunger Fund at Almansor Academy. 500 boxes of food were packed for needy children in Los Angeles by IRL Managing Director Shawn Prokopec, members of South Pasadena Kiwanis Club, students from South Pasadena High School Key Club and South Pasadena Middle School Builders Club, and students from Ramona Convent and All Souls World Language School in Alhambra. A special thanks to South Pasadena/San Marino YMCA, All Souls World Language School, and Total Education Solutions for collecting food for the event and to all of the donors who helped support this day of service. If you would like information regarding Children’s Hunger Fund, please scan the QR Code....



Children's Hunger Fund

## Grants

Pasadena Community Foundation (PCF) has generously awarded a \$20,942 grant to begin a vocational training and employment program at Westmoreland Academy and supported by Transitional and Adult Services Job Developer. This will be a unique collaborative program with the hopes of also partnering with Pasadena Community College. PCF has granted awards to Westmoreland for the last three years and Managing Director Shawn Prokopec will attend the 2021 Local Heroes Virtual Luncheon on Thursday, October 28th to accept the award.



Early Education also received grants from Community Care Licensing, Options for Learning, and CA Department of Social Services totaling \$21,171. This funding will help offset the losses due to COVID and support Early Ed's program needs.

## Support From Our Partners!

A huge thank you to Northgate Market for once again supporting our students, clients, and families at Thanksgiving time. IRL received 50 turkey vouchers to support our annual Thanksgiving Feast for Almansor Academy and Westmoreland Academy students and Transition and Adult Services clients.



In addition, 26 families received a voucher to ensure that they have a turkey for the upcoming holiday.

## Save the Date! 2nd Annual Online Auction - December 1-6, 2021!

IRL is having our second annual Online Silent Auction December 1-6, 2021 to raise money to complete the Westmoreland Academy's Sensory Playground. Started several years ago, the playground has gone through several revisions to make it safe for our students. Last year we raised \$7,330, however we need \$15,000 more to reach our goal due to the increased cost of products. We are accepting sponsorships, monetary donations, and items for the silent auction, such as jewelry, gift cards, wine, events, private vacation rentals, etc. Please contact Gabriel Vazquez at (213) 607-4342 or email [gvazquez@redesignlearning.org](mailto:gvazquez@redesignlearning.org) to donate or become a sponsor!



To help support our work throughout IRL as we start the new school year, please consider donating through our secure donation link on our website ([www.redesignlearning.org](http://www.redesignlearning.org)).

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