



Desert Alliance for Community Empowerment

RANCHO HOUSING ALLIANCE
GOOD NEIGHBOR SERVICES



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

WWW.DCEZ.ORG

SEPTEMBER 2007

DACE Awarded \$225,000 to Assist Freeze Victims

Thanks to a \$75,000 grant from The California Endowment — leveraged with an additional \$150,000 from the City of Coachella — DACE is prepared to provide freeze victims with essential services, such as groceries, rent payments, and utility assistance.

A majority of freeze victims are farm workers who were laid-off after crops in Eastern Coachella Valley were destroyed by unseasonably low temperatures. Now, seven months later, the freeze's aftermath is still felt by farm worker families, who have trouble making ends meet.

Approximately 35 percent of the grant funds will apply to food and related supplies, with the remaining 65 percent applied to rent and utility assistance to qualifying families.

Agencies partnering with DACE in the delivery of these services include the Coachella Valley Unified School District, F.I.N.D. Food Bank, Inc., Hidden Harvest, Center for Employment Training, Catholic Charities and the Migrant Education Program.



On July 10th, DACE/RANCHO staff attended a fire-awareness and prevention seminar at the DACE Resource Center. The seminar is a complimentary service provided by the Riverside County Fire Department. At above left, Housing Specialist Rebecca Brown demonstrates the proper use of a fire extinguisher. At right, Business Services Coordinator Eddie Cedeno reaches for more gear.

\$900,000 EARMARKED FOR MIGRANT CAMPUS IN THERMAL

THE SAN FELIPE MIGRANT HOUSING CENTER, A 48-BED MIGRANT FARMWORKER DORMITORY AND COMMUNITY CENTER LOCATED AT 67035 HWY 86 IN THERMAL, WAS AWARDED A \$900,000 GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT. THE FACILITY WILL PROVIDE YEAR-ROUND SHELTER AND JOB TRAINING FOR INTINERANT FARMWORKERS IN THE EASTERN COACHELLA VALLEY. THE PROJECT IS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN 2008. ON AUGUST 21ST, JONES BROS. CONSTRUCTION, INC., WAS AWARDED A CONTRACT TO PROVIDE POTABLE WATER TO THE CENTER VIA A 12-INCH PIPELINE CONNECTING AT HWY 86 AND MIDDLETON ROAD.

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