

Woman with a Heart for Bakersfield

Cynthia Giumarra



Cynthia Giumarra has a heart for seeing women live their lives to the full measure God has designed for them. Cynthia embraces, with deep empathy, women who may otherwise be forgotten. Her fortitude and earnest power of prayer touches the lives of the hurting with significance.

Director of Women's Ministries at Canyon Hills

Assembly of God Church, Cynthia serves and creates opportunities for volunteers to serve women through diverse means. Her efforts include mentoring and counseling women and girls, leading Bible studies and group activities for women, and supporting women impacted by abuse.

Cynthia is passionate about advancing awareness of human trafficking and working to stop it. "My heart was broken two years ago when my eyes were opened to this issue." During the past two years, Cynthia has helped increase awareness of human trafficking and through Canyon Hills Women's Ministries has helped raise over \$120,000 to fight human trafficking. "In 2012, a fire was ignited in me for this cause. I have just begun to fight and intend to do all God calls me to do to help rescue as many women and girls as possible from this unspeakable abuse." Cynthia serves on the Kern Coalition Against Human Trafficking.

Cynthia provides both hands-on and behind-the-scenes support to many nonprofits, including those that deal with drug abuse, unexpected pregnancies, teen pregnancies, family care, and homelessness. She is an alumna of Leadership California, an organization dedicated to the development and advancement of women leaders in business, and has served on the boards of Bakersfield Museum of Art, Joshua Tree Girl Scout Council, and Kern Leadership Alliance.

Believing prayer changes things, on a weekly basis Cynthia meets with a small group of women to pray for the community. They primarily focus on government officials, those in law enforcement, the judiciary and media, as well as social workers and the children in foster care.

Cynthia feels she has been blessed in every possible way and is at a time and place in her life where she can answer the calls to help people in need. As a Christian, she believes that not only does she have a responsibility to help, but more significantly, has the privilege to serve and give to the people in her community as much as possible of the time and gifts that God has given her to benefit others.

An Indiana native who has lived in California since 1982, Cynthia practiced law in Texas, Louisiana, and California for over twenty years before retiring as Assistant General Counsel for Chevron. She worked as a speech therapist in Florida for one year.

Cynthia holds a bachelor of arts in speech and hearing therapy, a juris doctor from South Texas College of Law, and a ministerial license from Canyon Hills Bible College.

Cynthia has been married to her husband, Sal, for 18 years and they share two wonderful grandchildren from Sal's children who are grown and live outside California. Cynthia is caregiver to her father and brother who both live at Glenwood Gardens.