

\*\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*\*

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## ACCESSCAL TO STIMULATE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, GIVE BACK TO ANAHEIM FOR $11^{\mathrm{TH}}$ ANNUAL NATIONAL ARAB AMERICAN SERVICE DAY

Local volunteers from diverse backgrounds to give back through a neighborhood park beautification project

**ANAHEIM, Calif. (May 11, 2015)** – Approximately 60 local residents will join more than 2000 volunteers across 10 states on Saturday, May 16 as volunteers for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual National Arab American Service Day (NAASD). Hosted by <u>Access California Services (AccessCal)</u>, in partnership with the city of Anaheim Community Services Department Parks Division and Neighborhood Services, volunteers will help beautify Palm Lane Park in Anaheim.

WHO: AccessCal, an Anaheim-based nonprofit providing health and human services to over 11,000 Arab-

and Muslim-Americans, refugees and immigrants annually

Little Arabia District

The AccessCal Arab Youth Collective

Network for Arab American Professionals Orange County, NAAPOC

Representatives from the city of Anaheim

Local community members

WHAT: To help stimulate community and civic engagement among communities, volunteers will join efforts

to beautify a local park by sanding and painting bleachers and trash can barrels, mulching a

playground and trees, and conducting a trash pickup.

WHERE: Palm Lane Park, 1595 West Palais Road in Anaheim

WHEN: Saturday, May 16, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

WHY: The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual National Arab American Service Day (NAASD) is about fostering a culture of

leadership and community engagement through service and volunteerism. Under its motto, "Serving Communities, Connecting People," NAASD brings together diverse groups and individuals for one shared goal: Responding creatively to their community's needs. A project of the National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC), NAASD has engaged more than 9,000 volunteers and

provided over 36,000 hours of service to improve communities across the nation.

HOW: For more information or to register to volunteer, please call AccessCal at 714-917-0440.

## **About Access California Services**

Founded in 1998, Access California Services (AccessCal) is a culturally and linguistically sensitive health and human services nonprofit organization, which provides social and economic services to local Arab- and Muslim-Americans, refugees, and immigrants; however, AccessCal is nonsectarian. Anyone who needs support in the community will receive it regardless of race, religion or ethnicity. In 2014, AccessCal served over 11,000 community members, providing close to 30,000 units of service. Services include: Vocational English training, case management and advocacy in 16 languages, citizenship and immigration services, employment and tax services, emergency financial assistance, educational services, healthcare access services, counseling and support, community service and civic engagement, refugee services, and refugee health assessments.

## **About National Arab American Service Day (NAASD)**

National Arab American Service Day (NAASD), a project of the National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC), brings together thousands of volunteers from acrpss the country to give back to their communities through service. Since 2005, NAASD has fostered a culture of leadership and community engagement through volunteerism and by building bridges with our diverse neighbors. Over the past decade, a total of more than 9,000 volunteers have provided over 36,000 hours of service to improve their communities. With the moto "Serving Communities, Connecting People," NAASD is truly representative of the Arab American community and the commitment to giving back.

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