

Time for Change Foundation head motivated by 'Heroes' experience

By **Anthony Victoria** - December 24, 2015



Courtesy Photo: Time for Change Foundation executive director Kim Carter (center) with several other finalists during the 2015 CNN Heroes event in New York City on Nov. 17.

Time for Change Foundation's (TFCF) executive director Kim Carter walked into New York City's American Museum of Natural History feeling empowered. She was being honored by CNN for her philanthropic work for helping formerly incarcerated and homeless women transition into better living situations.

After the ceremony concluded, the 52-year-old returned to San Bernardino determined. She is now striving to expand her organization's work throughout the Inland region.

"The experience was unbelievable. It was highly motivational and empowering," said Carter.

"I've never experienced anything at that level that is related to the work we are doing here. I know I have a lot of plans to do things; I just lack access to resources. But I'm always pushing to get things done."

At the Nov. 17 event (which was later televised by CNN on Dec. 6), Carter and nine others were feted. The winner—Maggie Doyne, who assists impoverished women and children in Nepal—received a \$100,000 top prize. For their efforts, Carter and the other eight finalists were awarded \$10,000. Upon returning to the Inland Empire, Carter found out she received more financial assistance—this time from Subaru.

"What the CEO of Subaru did was donate \$50,000 to each organization as a cash match," she explained. "We are asking the community and our supporters to make a donation. Thus far we have raised \$24,000."

Among other goals is overseeing the potential expansion of the Phoenix Square affordable housing project on North 'F' Street in downtown San Bernardino—a plan that has been in the works for over three years. Carter's goal is to use the vacant space next to the property, as well as the abandoned GTE building nearby to provide more housing units and services for clients.

"The Phoenix square represents the rising of the ashes," Carter said. "Why can't we have quality housing for low income people? Who said low income mothers don't want clean and safe places to live? Who said they were going to tear it all up and not appreciate it? It's been a lie. This has given people a better choice."

In 2016, Carter seeks to take the opportunity and added level of credibility to influence more people.

"I am no longer in a position to be pushing myself, fighting to do this and that. Those days are over," Carter said in a booming voice. "We have established ourselves; we are tried and tested. We will find cities and locations that want what we have to offer."



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Carter says despite the spotlight being on her for several weeks, there is more work to be done by her, the TFCF team, and their clients.

"I see the value in these women," Carter emphasized. "This person I'm helping through school and care for her children could be the next president. That's we try to do."

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