

**For Immediate Release**



**CONTACT:** Rick Ramos, BKRHC Executive Director, [rick.amos@bkrhc.org](mailto:rick.amos@bkrhc.org)

## **BKRHC to Host Homeless Persons Memorial Vigil**

*Homeless Persons Memorial Vigil – Thursday, December 21, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.*

**BAKERSFIELD, CA** – Bakersfield’s third annual Homeless Persons Memorial Vigil will be held on Thursday, December 21, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the Historic Union Cemetery. The Bakersfield-Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative (BKRHC), together with member agencies and community partners, invites the public to gather in memory of people experiencing homelessness who passed away in 2023.

“The Homeless Persons Memorial Vigil provides each of us an opportunity to reflect on life, the important work performed by our homeless service providers, as well as our City, County, and community partners, and most importantly, honor those lives lost tragically because of homelessness,” said Rick Ramos, Executive Director of the BKRHC. “It allows for us to commemorate those lives and to come together in unity.”

**WHO:** The Public, those experiencing homelessness, advocates, shelters, faith-based organizations, healthcare providers, and local and state representatives.

**WHAT:** To remember the lives of those who have died while experiencing homelessness through prayer, reflection, music, and personal remembrance, followed by a release of doves.

**WHERE:** Historic Union Cemetery, Sunrise Section, 730 E. Potomac Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93307. (The Sunrise Section is located on the corner of S. Baker Street and Potomac Avenue.) With special thanks to the Historic Union Cemetery Board of Trustees for their support.

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 21, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

###

ABOUT THE BAKERSFIELD-KERN REGIONAL HOMELESS COLLABORATIVE

The Bakersfield-Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative (BKRHC) is an independent nonprofit organization composed of individuals, organizations and public agencies working to address homelessness in our community. Through collaborative planning and action, BKRHC works to reduce the impacts of homelessness and build a future where every person in Kern County has a permanent place to call home.