

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Uncommon Good Receives Grant from Inland Empire United Way for \$15,000**

Claremont, CA August 11, 2017—Uncommon Good is pleased to announce it has received a \$15,000 grant from Inland Empire United Way. These funds will support the Connect to College/CAUSA program.

Connect to College/CAUSA (CCC) is a year-round college access program, serving low-income, at-risk local youth in grades 4 through 12. 100% of CCC students graduate from high school and attend college. Program services include one-to-one mentoring, group mentoring, cross-age mentoring, tutoring, and enrichment courses (including computer coding, writing, math, music, and more). Students also benefit from educational field trips, college tours, and intensive college preparation (SAT courses and assistance with college and financial aid applications, etc.) Students gain leadership and real world work skills through an urban farming enterprise. In addition to the services offered directly to students, CCC embraces the entire family. Parents receive leadership training, engage in program planning, host a women's conference and an Iron Chef contest. All participating families have access to the fresh vegetables and fruits grown on the 16 urban farm plots and 44 fruit gleaning locations throughout the region. Parents of CCC students are employed through this urban farming enterprise and through the on-site produce market which is open to the public.

"Uncommon Good has been changing lives for the better for 17 years. We have watched shy, uncertain students blossom into outstanding students and leaders who now attend college and are planning their careers in science, medicine, education, and a whole host of wonderful fields," Executive Director Nancy Mintie.

A vital part of Inland Empire United Way's mission is partnering with other results-oriented nonprofits in the region that are equally dedicated to improving the lives and futures of low-income families and their children in the areas of Education, Health, and Financial Stability in the Inland Empire. Each year, a volunteer review team—comprised of local donors and community representatives—conducts a diligent review of programs to determine the best investment of United Way's dollars.

"We are honored to partner with Uncommon Good, supporting their efforts to improve the well-being of students in need in our community," said Lorraine Williams, Director of Community Programs at Inland Empire United Way. "They have a demonstrated track record and we look forward to seeing many more lives changed this coming year."

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### **About Uncommon Good**

Uncommon Good's mission is to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty by nurturing transformational leaders within low-income, underserved communities. To fulfill this mission, Uncommon Good empowers young people and their families to gain the education, and the leadership, self-advocacy, and civic engagement skills necessary for making lasting change. Uncommon Good's goals are attained through intertwined, community-supported programs in education and health. [www.uncommongood.org](http://www.uncommongood.org)

### **About Inland Empire United Way**

Inland Empire United Way is committed to improving the lives and futures of children and families in need by investing in Education, Health, and Financial Stability. We are proud that contributions given local, stay local and an impressive 88% of every dollar is invested in direct program activities. By partnering with a network of local nonprofit organizations, United Way delivers critical services to our community, connects individuals in crisis with need resources through 2-1-1, and increases the power of local charities by providing dedicated volunteers. [www.ieuw.org](http://www.ieuw.org)