



Every Corner of Every Campus

INTERVARSITY NURSES *The unlikely largest chapter in the area*

I moved to Bakersfield in 2017 to replant InterVarsity in the Area. I asked Jesus for direction and heard "start with nursing students." This seemed like a strange place to start because though I had been on staff for 18 years, I had rarely worked with them. However, 3 days later, I was visiting churches and sensed that I needed to introduce myself to a woman a few rows behind me. I discovered that she was a Nursing Professor and had been praying for years for a way to reach students with the gospel. That week we launched the first ever, InterVarsity Nursing ministry in Bakersfield. It started out as 5 students in 2017 and in 2022 it was 72 nursing students, 8 nurses, 12 volunteers and 3 professors. Nursing students are eager to join. As often as I start another group more students come: desiring a supportive community, learn about holistic care and to discover who Jesus really is. The biggest constraint on growing the chapter is leadership to have more small groups. We have a **\$15,000 grant** and are seeking a PT or FT staff member to continue to grow this ministry and expand its impact.

- Paul Benthin, South Valley Area Director



OUR TEAM

Paul: Seasoned Area Director with 18 years of experience and a deep passion to reach the lost and develop staff.

Destiny: Black & Latina woman, full time artist with a passion for K-Pop and seeing students grasp the fullness of Jesus.

Silbano: Formerly incarcerated Latino man with a passion for evangelism and helping others experience breakthrough.



WE'RE HIRING!
Contact Paul Benthin

intervarsitysouthvalley.org 702.301.8717

paul.benthin@intervarsity.org

OUR VISION



There are 12 colleges and 60,000 college students within a 2 hour radius of Bakersfield. We currently have ministry on 5 of those campuses.

NURSING STUDENTS



90% of the nursing students are Latina women. Many of them are single moms and are pursuing this career to improve their family's economic future. Many of them have no religious background or are nominally Catholic. There are 600 Nursing Students in Bakersfield and we are only reaching 12% of them.

OUR LOCATION



- Bakersfield, CA Population: 500,000
- Central Valley in California: 1.5 hours to the beach, 1.5 to the mountains and 2 hours to Los Angeles & LAX airport
- Ethnically and economically diverse
- Big city with a small town feel
- Housing is very affordable