

SPECIAL EDITION

Opening Kern Oasis

A community-focused look at the goal of creating a welcoming future program facility for Kern County families, Loved Ones, and caregivers.

2026 Program Facility Special Edition

Original caregiver education, advocacy updates and community resources for Kern County.

THE COMMUNITY NEED

A place designed around dignity, safety and meaningful connection



Kern County caregivers need a range of options - information, respite, education, community support and places where older adults and adults with disabilities can spend meaningful time in a safe environment. Kern Oasis is a long-term vision to

Important

The facility described in this edition is a planning concept. It is not currently open or operating as a licensed care program.

Practical steps

- Create a welcoming environment that respects each person as an individual.
- Give caregivers another source of connection, education and future respite options.
- Design spaces that support mobility, calm routines, social engagement and safety.
- Build partnerships with local professionals, agencies, donors and community organizations.
- Develop services responsibly, including any required licensing, staffing and operating standards.

THE VISION

What a thoughtful care environment could include



The specific site and program model will depend on funding, licensing, community input and professional planning. The concepts below describe the type of environment Kern Oasis hopes to pursue.

Practical steps

- Easy, safe arrival and departure areas for families and transportation providers.
- Flexible activity areas for music, art, games, meals, education and social connection.
- Quiet rooms for rest and lower-stimulation activities.
- Accessible restrooms, clear walking paths and thoughtful lighting.
- Secure outdoor space for fresh air, gardening and supervised activities.
- Space for caregiver meetings, education, support groups and community partners.

Designed with caregivers, not just for caregivers

Community listening, professional guidance and caregiver input should shape the final model.

FUNDRAISING PRIORITIES

What community support can help make possible

A responsible facility launch requires more than a building. Fundraising and partnerships may ultimately support multiple phases of planning, setup and sustainable operations.

Practical steps

- Site acquisition, lease costs or renovation planning.
- Accessibility, life-safety and code-related improvements.
- Furniture, activity equipment, technology and program materials.
- Professional planning, licensing support and insurance.
- Recruiting, training and onboarding qualified staff if and when operations begin.
- A prudent startup and operating reserve so services can be launched responsibly.

Transparency matters

Specific budgets, timelines and service commitments should be published only after they are verified and formally approved.

COMMUNITY ACTION

There is a role for more than donors



A strong local care network is built through relationships. Financial gifts matter, but introductions, volunteer skills, in-kind support and public awareness can also move the vision forward.

Practical steps

- Introduce Kern Oasis to local businesses, foundations and civic organizations.
- Volunteer professional skills such as facilities, legal, finance, healthcare, fundraising or communications.
- Offer in-kind products or services that could reduce future startup costs.
- Share the initiative with caregivers and families who want to participate in community listening.
- Help identify potential facility sites, partners and grant opportunities.



Help shape what comes next

Kern Oasis is a community-driven effort of Kern Oasis Avocates Team The goal is to build awareness, connect caregivers with useful information and develop a responsible path toward a future program facility for Kern County.

How you can help right now

- Email kernoasis@gmail.com to discuss partnerships, sponsorships or in-kind support.
- Call 661-282-7109 to connect with the Kern Oasis team.
- Share the facility vision with organizations and individuals who care about seniors, adults with disabilities and family caregivers.
- Watch the website newsletter archive for future project updates.

Stay connected

Email: kernoasis@gmail.com

Phone: 661-282-7109

Educational information only; not medical, legal or financial advice. Future facility details are planning concepts.