On November 13th I had the pleasure of attending the 4th Annual Philanthropy Summit organized by Community Foundation of San Joaquin and Lodi Community Foundation, two groups doing amazing work in support of local public service organizations like Stockton Shelter for the Homeless (thanks to Mario Supnet at Emergency Food Bank and Andrew Mendoza at Kaiser Permanente Foundation for inviting me!). A wonderful panel moderated by Linda Phillip that included Phyllis Grupe, Annette Murdaca and Tony & Gloria Souza answered questions about what motivates them to be the incredible philanthropists and community supporters that they are and have been. The keynote speaker, Kay Sprinkel Grace, gave us volumes of great advice on how to send the right message to our current and future donors in support of our important mission.

As I continue to learn what it takes to make Stockton Shelter the strongest organization it can be, it is events like these that illustrate the importance of conveying to our supporters what it means to give to the Shelter. It means we can make sure the homeless of San Joaquin County have a warm place to sleep this winter. That the kids who today call the Shelter home have a safe place to eat, do their homework and most importantly…PLAY! That we can connect our men, women and children to the services that will help them get back on their feet, so they don’t have to worry about where they will go tonight, so they can leave the Shelter and become a part of our community again. This is what we do at the Shelter every single day.

But one thing Ms. Grace said stuck with me: Dreams + Partnership = Community Investment. That is our big picture. When you give to the Shelter you become a partner in the dream we share of providing our residents a safe, healthy, nurturing place to call home while they work to make a home of their own for themselves and their children. There are few better ways to invest in our community than to give these struggling families the chance to work, to participate, to lift themselves up.

If you’re reading this then you’ve already partnered with the shelter and share in the dream. If you can, show your friends and family our newsletter and send them a link to our website or Facebook page. Share with them our dream and invite them to invest in the Greater Stockton community. And as you prepare for your Holiday celebrations with your friends and family, remember that the support you have given the Shelter this year has helped to make a better holiday season for our kids, too. Thank you!

- Adam Cheshire, CEO
TEN WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT THE SHELTER

1. MAKE A CONTRIBUTION monthly or otherwise
2. SHOP AT SHELTER THRIFT
3. DONATE new or slightly used items
4. REMEMBER A LOVED ONE with a charitable gift
5. MAKE A BEQUEST in your will—there are tax breaks!
6. ASK YOUR CHURCH or civic organization to place the shelter needs list in their newsletter
7. LEAVE A LEGACY. Contribute to the Endowment Fund ($1,000 or more)
8. VOLUNTEER—There are many individual and group projects which would suit your talents
9. ADOPT-A-ROOM: do a make-over of a family room (new flooring, paint, fixtures & bedding)
10. TOUR THE SHELTER and give us your feedback

Thanks to St. Edwards Church our clients here at the Shelter will stay a little healthier this year. The church donated a truck load of over-the-counter medications. We can always use this here, especially during the cold season.

William Pierro was given a new bike so he could better get around. The bike came in as a donation at one of our Thrift Stores. The store staff called to see if it was needed here.

- “I just took my first ride to the store. I’m back quite satisfied”.

Kathy Bonnifield brought her children and some of their friends to do crafts with the kids here at the Shelter. She said they do the Gift of Giving every year and this year chose the shelter. The kids will be able to keep the craft they make and give it as a gift to a parent or teacher this Christmas. Thank you for volunteering this Holiday Season!

Thanks to Dalia Rivas, Simi Sekhon and Alyssa Delgadillo from Lincoln High School for volunteering here at the Shelter. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Mason Cooper from Sierra Middle School participated in the Gift of Giving this year and chose the Stockton Shelter for a canned food drive! Thank you Mason!

Introducing Mia Amor
6 pounds, 7 ounces, 18 inches. The newest edition here at the Shelter. Mom and Dad, Chelsea & Julio are so proud. Congratulations!
We had a very generous donation brought to us right in time for Thanksgiving! Thank you River Oaks Charter School for the 15 boxes of food and supplies. Along with a $350 gift card for more food from Walmart. Your kindness is truly appreciated this Holiday season.

On November 26th we got a visit from an amazing group of volunteers. They came to the Shelter with the intention to do some arts and crafts with the kids. When they got here, they made a quick trip to the nearest Walmart and bought all kinds of games and toys for the kids! They even bought the new baby, Mia, 2 winter outfits and a plush toy. It was an awesome thing to witness all of the kids faces light up at the sight of all these new toys. Thank you to everyone involved for making this a day to remember for all the kids who got to participate.

The San Joaquin Delta College Nursing Students came and supplied the Shelter with free flu shots. Thank you for making it possible for everyone to be a little healthier this winter.

Daniel Sheley, a Vietnam era veteran, got an early Christmas present this year. In fact, this was an unbelievable gift...his children purchased him a house close to the VA clinic he uses on a regular basis. What an awesome Christmas gift!
Like us on Facebook!

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Phone: 209-465-3612
Fax: 209-939-9733
Website: stocktonshelter.com

SHelter Wish List

FOR THE SHELTER
- Towels & Wash Cloths
- New Sleeping Bags
- Pillows and Twin-sized Sheets
- Twin-sized Blankets
- Reading Glasses
- Diapers (4, 5, 6) & Baby Wipes
- Laundry Detergent
- Financial Assistance

FOR THE THRIFT STORES
- Gently used items of any kind including Furniture.

MAJOR PROJECTS & COSTS
- Adopt-a-Room, Family Shelter
- Update Shelter Security
- Twin Vinyl Mattresses
- Lawn Mower & 3 Trimmers
- Bicycle Racks

A man came by the shelter to drop off a donation. While he was here he told us his story...
Years ago, when he was a kid, his church used to come and hand out food to the homeless at the Shelter. When he got older and was struggling to put food on his own table, he came here a couple of times and we gave him a bag of food. Something to get him through to his next small paycheck. He said, “I would always put the bread in the freezer. It would last longer”. Now, he has come “full circle” and wanted to give back to the place that has always given to him. He got married recently and they had so much food left over he brought it here. So, the clients at the shelter will be having Tri-tip, marinated chicken, chili, dinner rolls and a huge tray of fresh macaroni and cheese. Thank you Steve Cole for your generous donation.