“Unexpected Donation”

On April 29th I had the privilege of speaking to a group of students at Edison High School, just about a mile from our campus on Harrison and Church streets in South Stockton. They had a “Coin War” for the Shelter: each class competed to see how many coins they could collect for our cause. I’m told the competition got heated, and the winners, of course, are the people we serve. These high school students were able to raise $80 in quarters, nickels, dimes and pennies. I had no idea they were doing this until their teacher reached out to me to ask if I would speak to the kids, accept their donation in person and talk to them about opportunities to volunteer at the Shelter. So often I find myself accepting support for our mission from places I didn’t expect or think to look, finding kindness and compassion for our clients and a desire to make our community a better place through Stockton Shelter for the Homeless. It is experiences like these that make me feel like I have the best job in town.

When I was finished talking to them and they understood how many clients we serve every day and every year, one student seemed disappointed that $80 wasn’t nearly enough. I explained that we rely on support from our community to help us serve our community, and from my perspective there’s no such thing as “not enough support” when it comes to helping our homeless men, women and children. It is not about how much money you raise but the act itself, showing our clients that people do care about them, bringing them the hope for a better future that is so important. These students were surprised to hear we shelter so many children (it was 68 on this day). I asked them why people are homeless and the answers they gave me made it obvious that they understood. When I dug a little deeper it became clear that many of the teenagers I was standing in front of had firsthand experience with homelessness, either in their own lives or with friends and family. When I asked how many of them had been to the Shelter many raised their hands. As I wrapped things up and walked back to my car with $80 in coins in my hand (surprisingly heavy!) I came away feeling like Stockton may have a lot of kind, generous, community minded adults in its future. That makes me excited for the city, for Stockton Shelter for the Homeless and for all the other amazing organizations that serve those who need help in our community.

If you know a young person who needs to get their community service hours for school, or someone who just wants to come to the Shelter and make a difference in the lives of Stockton’s homeless, please invite them to like us on Facebook, call us at (209) 465-3612 or e-mail us at info@stocktonshelter.org. Just like we never turn anyone away seeking emergency shelter, we NEVER turn away anyone seeking to make our campus and our organization a better place for those we serve.

Adam Cheshire  
Chief Executive Officer
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. JOIN THE SAFETY NET TEAM by donating $500 or more annually
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

Stockton Has Heart came to the Shelter over the Easter Weekend and brought the Easter Bunny, eggs for an egg hunt, candy and goodies for the kids. They even had face-painting! Thank you so much for the wonderful memories!

Thank you Cintas for all you continue to do for the Shelter! We always look forward to having you. We can’t wait to see what you have in store for us next time.

The residents of the Shelter got a welcome surprise when we were given tickets for opening night of Varakai at the Stockton Arena! Most of the residents who attended said they had never seen anything like it in their lives and enjoyed every minute. We thank Cirque Du Soleil who graciously donated the tickets. Fun events like this wouldn’t be possible without caring organizations like yours.

Schneider National Foundation sent us a letter saying that we were receiving a donation through their “Pay it Forward” campaign. The corporation is located in Wisconsin and this holiday season they chose a number of employees to be involved in their campaign. This campaign allows each employee chosen to pick a non-profit organization to donate money to. The Schneider Foundation gives the money, but allows the employee to choose the recipient.

We would like to say thank you to Ukeitha Thomas-Kelly for choosing Stockton Shelter for the Homeless. This was definitely a welcome and exciting surprise!
Most people have a safety net consisting of a combination of savings, investments, home equity, available credit, family, friends, and/or church affiliations that get them through rough times. A few have exhausted these resources and some have no safety net at all. These are the people we serve at the Stockton Shelter.

The Stockton Shelter Safety Net Team is made up of generous donors who have pledged a yearly financial contribution of $500 or more to the Shelter. THANK YOU to the members of the Safety Net Team. Without your support, we would not be able to provide services to the homeless.

- Aisin Electronics
- Tom & Patti Armstrong
- Howard & Lacey Arnaiz
- Peter & Bonnie Avila
- George & Norena Badway
- Neelesh Bangalore
- Daniel & Mary Bava
- Ross Bewley
- Anthony & Angela Bilich
- Dr. Nicholas & Cathy Birlew
- Donald & Candace Butwill
- C&R Fence Contractors
- George & Leslie Campbell
- Robert & Mari Carloni
- Cherokee Freight Lines
- Kevin & Nancy Collins
- Community of Christ
- Cortopassi Family Foundation
- Howard & Terry Crane
- Michael Crete
- Charles & Cheryl Patmon
- Eleanor Touhey Disaster Relief Fund
- Venkata & Lakshmi Emani
- Filipino Nurses Association of San Joaquin County
- First Presbyterian Church
- Margaret Fleming
- Lori M. Freitas
- Albert Gianneckini
- Jason Gonzalez - We Paint
- Yvonne Goodman
- Greater Stockton Employer Advisory Council
- Michael & Karen Hall
- Thomasina Harvey
- Ricardo Heredia
- Patrick & Cecilia Hobi
- Craig Hubbard
- Theodore & Maureen Hutz
- Robert & Gladys Ikeda
- Christina Irvin
- Stewart & Ana Jacoby
- Dr. William Johns
- Kurt Johnson
- Junior Aid of San Joaquin County
- Junior League of San Joaquin County
- Diane Klein
- Lambda Theta Phi
- Little Flock Baptist Church
- Lindsay Longcor
- Peter Lynch
- Steve Lytell
- Edna Mackey
- Patricia & Victor Macko
- Randall & Anne Mallett
- Edward Malloy
- Michelle Marek
- William Marre
- Patricia McMillan
- Nola Moccabiche
- Bonnie Morehead
- Norcal CFC
- John & Olubunmi Olowoyeye
- Guilio & Cheryl Ongaro
- Hosahalli Padmesh
- Frank & Lisa Passadore
- Portuguese Club of Stockton
- John & Barbara Ranelletti
- Reed & Renee Robbins
- Judith Rego
- David & Gina Rishwain
- Joe & Connie Rishwain
- Robert & Karen Rishwain
- Roek Properties
- Rosi Cerri Foundation
- Jerry & Mary Ruiz
- Peter & Susan Salamon
- San Joaquin County Medical Society
- San Joaquin Lions Club
- San Tomo Inc.
- Burl & Mary Sites
- Laurence & Diane Smith
- B.J. Stewart
- Stockton Urgent Care
- Randy Thomas
- Thrivent Financial
- George Tometti
- William & Joan Topp
- Murdaca Family Foundation
- Valimet Inc.
- Ram Vasantharam
- Elizabeth Villalpando
- Sharon Newman & Rita Visger
- Mary Williams
- Thomas Williams
- Mary Woolsey
- Nishka Yudnich

For those with no safety net - you have provided one!
Like us on Facebook!

Stockton Shelter for the Homeless
P.O. Box 4803
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Phone: 209-465-3612
Fax: 209-939-9733
Website: stocktonshelter.org

Contact us at info@stocktonshelter.org if you would prefer to receive our newsletter in an email.

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Shelter Wish List

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

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

MAJOR PROJECTS
- Metal Storage Lockers
- Metal Bunk Beds
- New Twin Vinyl Mattresses
- Siding for the Buildings
- Repair/Replace Play Structure

These two cuties got their very cool outfits from the Shelter! This is part of the many clothing donations we receive from our community members. Thank you so much for all you do!