

AUGUST 2016

# Stockton Shelter for the Homeless

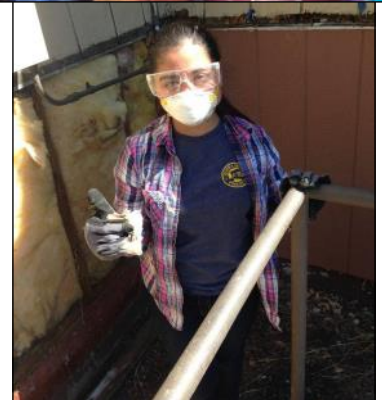
411 S. Harrison, Stockton CA 95203 • Phone 209-465-3612 • Fax 209-939-9733 • stocktonshelter.org

## Sierra Service Project 2016!



Sierra Service Project is here again this summer. Last summer they installed a new playground for the kids. This year they are replacing the siding on the Family Shelter and painting!

Thank you guys for being awesome!



# Helping the Homeless

## TEN WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT THE SHELTER

1. **MAKE A CONTRIBUTION** through our “new and improved” website. [stocktonshelter.org](http://stocktonshelter.org)
2. **SHOP AT THE SHELTER THRIFT STORE**
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!



Lately there have been many plans proposed to address homelessness in our community, and I am frequently asked what I think about them. The first thing I always say is, “I’m excited!”. It seems like homelessness is now on the ‘front burner’ as the problem that this community feels an urgent need to solve, and of course I couldn’t agree more. These proposals, or sometimes outlines of future proposals, come from different sources with different goals and different ideas about how to fund them. They have one thing in common, however: they are all focused on **DOING SOMETHING** to help the homeless in our community. That’s why I’m excited about all the talk; it eventually leads to **ACTION!**

When you’re talking about what best to do to help the homeless in our community, you can’t talk about one plan. That’s because there are different groups of homeless that need different kinds of help. Stockton Shelter

for the Homeless has the mission to provide emergency shelter primarily, and to a lesser degree other services, to as wide a range of the homeless population as we can possibly serve. That’s a big job and it takes everything we’ve got to make sure that over 300 people including 50 or more children have a safe place to sleep every night of the year. For the most part, our colleagues at the other local service providers focus on more specific groups, and we rely on these partners to fill in gaps in our services that allow us to cast a wider ‘safety net’ for the homeless of San Joaquin County. These groups include those with severe mental illnesses, those struggling with substance abuse, and families caught in a multi-generational cycle of poverty without much hope to escape. One thing I’ve learned by working with the homeless every day is that we all have our own unique stories. There isn’t anyone you can’t find common ground with if you just take a chance and get to know them.

We all agree that there is more that we can do, especially where low-income and supportive housing is concerned. Recent proposals understand this, and try to address this problem. And while we need solutions soon, it’s important to remember that moving forward to quickly can be dangerous for those we are trying to help. Whether it’s coming from the Mayor or other members of the City Council, the Board of Supervisors, the Homeless Task Force or the San Joaquin County Sheriff, our civic leaders are working on the problem and moving toward a solution. For someone like me, that’s exciting!

You can help too! Talk to a City Council person, County Supervisor, Sheriff’s Deputy or Police Officer, and anyone else who will listen and let them know that you believe that doing something to end homelessness in Stockton and San Joaquin County is the right thing to do for the whole community. Volunteer or donate at your favorite community based organization and help them make this community a better place. Support our efforts to move toward a day when our fellow human beings don’t have to sleep in a tent on the street.

For more information about the programs, projects and services of Stockton Shelter for the Homeless, please visit our website at [stocktonshelter.org](http://stocktonshelter.org), e-mail us at [info@stocktonshelter.org](mailto:info@stocktonshelter.org) or call (209) 465-3612.

~ Adam Cheshire,  
Chief Executive Officer



In Loving Memory



Harry Osell was a master gardener and friend of the Shelter for many years. He came to our campus every week, and sometimes every day, to make sure the grounds were taken care of so that our residents could find some extra comfort during a tough time in their lives. Sadly, Harry passed away recently. Those who knew him will miss him greatly. Today, some of his closest friends and family planted an olive tree in his honor here at the Shelter. We look forward to watching this tree grow and thrive alongside all of the other plants and trees Harry nurtured at the Shelter.

# 2016 Shelter Picnic

Thanks to the Delta Windjammers large donation of hotdog and hamburger buns we had an awesome barbeque for the residents here at the Shelter!  
It was a great day with a slight breeze. Perfect for some fun in the sun!



## Shelter Thrift & Donation Center

7540 Pacific Avenue (in the Hammer Ranch Shopping Center)  
*"Where the entire community can help the homeless!"*

  
**20% off**  
one entire purchase

\* not valid with any other offer \*

Coupon expires August 31, 2016





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Stockton Shelter  
for the Homeless  
P.O. Box 4803  
Stockton CA 95204  
Phone: 209-465-3612  
Fax: 209-939-9733  
Website: stocktonshelter.org

Proud Partners



Contact us at [info@stocktonshelter.org](mailto:info@stocktonshelter.org) if you would prefer to receive our newsletter in an email.

## Shelter Wish List

### FOR THE SHELTER

Laundry Detergent

Feminine Hygiene Products

Sports Bras

Baby Play Pens

Towels

Diapers (all sizes)

### FOR THE THRIFT STORE

Gently used items of any kind including Furniture.

### MAJOR PROJECTS

New flooring in Family Shelter

Remodel Front Lobby/Family Shelter

New Box Truck w/Liftgate

New roof for Family Shelter

New Paint Inside Facilities

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### SHELTER FACTS AND FIGURES FOR LAST MONTH

- 41 families with a total of 88 children were provided food, clothing & shelter
- The singles shelter averaged 130 men and 28 women per night
- The HIV/AIDS program assisted 3 families and 3 single adults with transitional housing
- Six homeless veterans enrolled in our enhanced Veteran Services Program