

Stockton Shelter for the Homeless

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



A PUBLIC MEDIA INITIATIVE

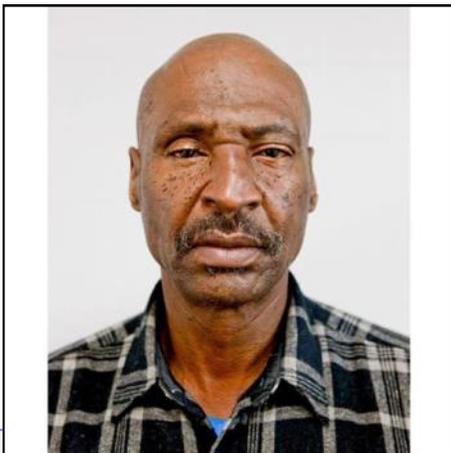
Last month we received a phone call from Kirk Crippens, a photographer who had been asked to take part in a national public media initiative called Chasing the Dream. The project consisted of taking pictures of poverty in America and he chose the Stockton Shelter as one of his sources. He came on a cold January afternoon and got some great photo's and learned a little more about the folks that stay and work here. If you would like to learn more about Chasing the Dream go to chasingthedreamproject.org



Henry Robinson is the Men's Services Manager at Stockton Shelter for the Homeless. He has worked at the shelter for 26 years. "At one point in my life I had a problem with alcohol and drugs," he explains. "I was called to a ministry, but I didn't want to be preaching from a pulpit. This is my ministry." He says he's found a connection with the clients of the shelter and has seen people evolve and discover what it takes to live a normal life.



Rosalyn Evans works at Stockton Shelter for the Homeless. Evans first came to the Stockton Shelter for the Homeless when she needed a place to stay because her room had bed bugs and roaches and she had a small child. She stayed at the shelter for a few months, volunteered after that, and finally joined the staff in 2014. "A lot of people, when they come into a shelter, they're at their lowest," she says. "They'll come in and I try to help them and comfort them. It's not as bad as they think...."



Matthew Wolfe has been living and volunteering at Stockton Shelter for the Homeless since September 1, 2011, when his sister, with whom he lived, passed away. "The shelter is a place for a person to come get himself together, to get back on his feet. It's not a home. It's a stepping stone. I'm prepared to get out." As a senior volunteer he helps check the men in, looking for knives, weapons, drugs, and current tuberculosis cards.



Arieis Turner, 6, and his sister Annette White, 8, are staying at Stockton Shelter for the Homeless in Stockton, California, with their mother, Latresa Parquet, while they wait for housing which will be ready in March. When asked what the children think of staying at the shelter, Parquet says, "They don't mind because they're with other kids. They think it's a big ol' slum-

Dream BIG!

Take the Tour!

TEN WAYS

YOU CAN SUPPORT THE SHELTER

1. **MAKE A CONTRIBUTION** through our "new and improved" website. stocktonshelter.org
2. **SHOP AT THE SHELTER THRIFT STORES**
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



One of my favorite things to do at the Shelter is take people on a tour of our facilities. It's one thing to describe for someone what we do, but it's another to show them. Usually what people tell me is that they're surprised. Before they took the tour they didn't know how many individuals we shelter each night (350 on average). They didn't know that one in three of those people are children. That we have newborns whose first home is Stockton Shelter for the Homeless (12 last year).

When you work at a homeless shelter it can be easy to take these things for granted, to assume that the size and scope of the problem of homelessness in our community is understood by everyone. Working here, we see it every day and we get to know the men, women and children that are directly affected. It is easy to lose perspective under those circumstances.

But when I'm talking to those who don't face homelessness on a regular basis, I often find out that they had no idea how many people need our services. That's why I love to show visitors around our campus and explain how our programs and services work. It gives them perspective on how big the problem actually is and how important it is for everyone in our community to support organizations like Stockton Shelter for the Homeless. Because even though we have a big problem with homelessness in Stockton and San Joaquin County, the truth is that no one has to sleep on the streets if they don't want to.

Stockton Shelter for the Homeless is there for *everyone* who needs us. We never turn *anyone* away; we don't have to because we have the facilities to accommodate the huge demand for emergency shelter we receive every night of the year. It's not a permanent home, but it was never meant to be. We are proud to be the place where the homeless can find respite and safety from the streets. Where the hopeless find hope again. Where people learn how to get back on their feet and back into our community.

None of this is possible without your help. **THANK YOU** for supporting our mission! I invite everyone to **take the tour** by calling us at **(209) 465-3612** or e-mailing at **info@stocktonshelter.org**. If you've taken the tour in the past, consider doing it again to see what's changed since the last time. And if you've never toured the Shelter before, you owe it to yourself to see first-hand the great things we do with support from our community!

~Adam Cheshire



J JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
Women building better communities®

58th Rummage Sale

Twice is Nice

Saturday, March 5, 2016
San Joaquin County Fairgrounds
1658 S. Airport Way, Bldg. 2 - Stockton, 95206

8:00 am to 12:00 pm
Admission \$5.00

Closed 12:00 to 1:00
Re-open 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Admission Free and All Rummage 1/2 off

- 21,000 sq. ft. of Fabulous Treasures
- Quality Merchandise all at Bargain Prices!!
- Designer Men's & Women's Clothes & Accessories
- Collector's Corner & Boutique, Holiday, Garden, Furniture
- Children's & Infant's Apparel, Toys, Live Plants
- Electronics, Home Decor & Much More!

DEPARTMENT SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE
PRE SALE ON FRIDAY MARCH 4th 4-7pm by ticket only \$20
QUESTIONS or to DONATE: 209.993.9771 or www.jlsc.org

Poster Design by Nancy Buckenhelm
www.nancybuckenhelmdesigns.com



Remembering Vinnie



Vinnie Richardson came into the Shelter a few months ago asking what he could do to help. He and his friend Saul Severe were driving into Stockton and saw all of the tents under the freeway. Vinnie told us he was in a band called Nraevis and they were going to be having a concert at the Rockbar in San Jose. He wanted to donate the proceeds to the Shelter. Vinnie came out and met with us on a regular basis. While doing all of this he was being treated for stage-four cancer. He had such a huge heart and held such a passion for helping those less fortunate than him. He always had the hugest smile and his positive energy was contagious. Vinnie passed away on February 22, 2016. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Community Support



As part of the Community Serving Community session, three representatives from the Leadership Stockton Class of 2016 visited the Shelter to learn more about what we do. If you want to learn more about this great program, contact Program Director Timm Quinn at Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce (California).

Thank you, Derron Lee, for supporting homeless families! We have three expecting mothers living at Stockton Shelter for the Homeless right now so we will definitely be putting these diapers to good use.

In-store savings coupon

SHELTER THRIFT & DONATION CENTERS

"Where the entire community can help the homeless"

7540 Pacific Avenue
(at Hammer Ranch Center)

20% off
one entire purchase
* not valid with any other offer *

Coupon expires March 31, 2016



Thanks to the group GRUPO RENACER for bringing lunch to the Shelter! These acts of kindness are always welcome here at the Shelter.



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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

FOR THE THRIFT STORE

Gently used items of any kind including Furniture.

MAJOR PROJECTS

New flooring in Family Shelter
Metal Bunk Beds
New Twin Vinyl Mattresses
Siding for the Buildings
Painting Inside and Out

SHELTER FACTS AND FIGURES FOR LAST MONTH

- **39 families with a total of 79 children were provided food, clothing & shelter**
- **The singles shelter averaged 149 men and 52 women per night**
- **The HIV/AIDS program assisted 3 families and 4 single adults with transitional housing**
- **Six homeless veterans enrolled in our enhanced Veteran Services Program**