

**KEEPING  
FAMILIES  
SAFE!**

**SHELTER  
FACTS FOR  
THE MONTH  
OF**

**MARCH 2013**

- 47 families with a total of 96 children were provided food, clothing & shelter
- The singles shelter averaged more than 209 men and 27 women per night
- 12,867 meals were served
- The HIV/AIDS program assisted 5 families and 8 single adults with transitional housing
- Seven homeless veterans enrolled in our enhanced services program



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# Stockton Shelter for the Homeless

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## Grandparent caregivers in need of shelter



Rosalyn with Carlos, 17 and 8-year-old India.

At the Family Shelter we have seen an increase in grandmothers providing full time care for their grand kids. These women didn't just step up, they jumped up when circumstances put their grandkids in jeopardy. Raising a second generation of children has a price tag that is totally unexpected and can present many challenges.

**Rosalyn's** father was a very good man with a lot on his plate including raising Rosalyn's nephew, Carlos. Her dad died

of diabetes in 2002. Carlos was only 6 at the time and Rosalyn was granted custody of him. In 2005, circumstances arose where she adopted India, her own grandbaby. They were all getting by fine until recently. The home they were renting went into foreclosure and they didn't quite have the funds to get into another home. Staying in a motel while searching for affordable housing wiped out their savings. Rosalyn brought her family to the Shelter where she is now able to save her money to get back into housing.

**Debra** was given custody of her 3 young grandchildren, Savannah (5), Dominic (3), and Gabriel (2), when their mother could no longer care for them.

Things were good until Debra lost her job. Her savings might have been good enough for

awhile by herself. But with four mouths to feed? No way.

Both Rosalyn and Debra have expressed heartfelt gratitude to the shelter and shelter supporters for all the assistance and support they receive. Even



Dominic (3) and Gabriel (2) with their grandmother, Debra. 5-year-old Savannah not available for picture.

through the toughest of times, they know that being together is totally worth the struggle.

## Imagine a shelter being "the better place to live"

Every day someone new shows up at the shelter in search of something better than what they have or better than the dire circumstances they are facing. Many of these "someones" are like the two families highlighted above. Taking on awesome responsibilities and dealing with extremely harsh realities like losing a job or the place that was once home. It is hard

to imagine the hurt, the frustration, and the fear that grips their lives. Almost 50 million Americans are now living in poverty. Many homeless or on the brink. Finding shelter can be such a relief when the alternative is sleeping in a car or a park or under the freeway. We can't help them all **but we can help those in our own community.**

There is a strong spirit of thankfulness and appreciation

here at the shelter. While all the clients have assigned chores, most put in extra time and energy to keep the shelter working as a supportive community. Rosalyn and Debra are excellent examples. You will usually see Rosalyn working the front desk and Debra leading the charge wherever volunteers are needed. All of us join together to thank our supporters. Because of you, we are keeping hope alive.

**TEN WAYS YOU CAN HELP  
BY SHARING YOUR TIME,  
TALENT or TREASURE...**

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

**CALL US AT 209-465-3612**

Thank you to Carrington College Veterinary Technician students and to the Animal Protection League for their community outreach. They held a pet wellness clinic at Stockton Shelter where they offer free check-ups, vaccinations and spay/neutering for pet owners who are homeless or in-need.



Linda Allen-Marino & Denise Raniuo of St. Joseph's Spirit Club and the St. Joseph's Gift Shop delivered dozens of blankets and coats collected during a blanket drive



Every year during the week before Easter, Student and staff from St. George School walk from their School to the Stockton Shelter and deliver hundreds of hygiene items for our clients. The students take a tour of the shelter and learn about homelessness and what we do for those less fortunate.

**Thank you St. George School!**



Danielle Bell-Krietz and Bunnie Moscatelli delivered dozens of fully-loaded Easter baskets for the children at the Family Shelter.

Yes, I would like to help build the second thrift store with funding in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Wall of Honor**

- Friends of the Shelter \$50 - \$99**
- Bronze Sponsor \$100 - \$249**
- Silver Sponsor \$250 - \$499**
- Gold Sponsor \$500 - \$999**
- Diamond Sponsor \$1,000 and up**



Local artist, Mary Ann Poletti, donated eight of her original paintings to the shelter. These beautiful pieces of art are brightening the walls of the new 14-bed single ladies dorm.

# New store grand opening

Please join us for our grand opening on **Wednesday, May 1, 2013**. Check out the great bargains and unique items we have to offer. We are located at 1242 W. Fremont Street (1 block east of Pershing Avenue).

Remember, whether you donate items or make a purchase at Shelter Thrift, you are helping the homeless in our community.

We are still welcoming financial assistance in defraying the costs of opening the store. Place your name on the store's **Wall of Honor** which will be displayed in the store honoring all those who contributed. Just fill out the coupon located to the left and mail it back to us.



in-store savings coupon  
good at both locations

## SHELTER THRIFT & DONATION CENTERS

*"Where the entire community can help the homeless"*

7540 Pacific Avenue  
at Hammer Ranch Center

1242 W. Fremont Street  
1 block east of Pershing Avenue

# 20% off

**one entire purchase**  
\* not valid with any other offer \*

**Coupon expires May 31, 2013**



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**Website: stocktonshelter.com**

**Find us on Facebook** 

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*KEEPING FAMILIES SAFE*

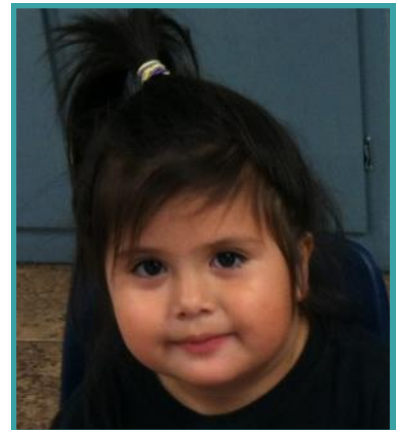
# Shelter Wish List

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Toni Taboada – President  
Darlene Canepa – Vice President  
Charles Keen, Jr. – Treasurer  
Kitty Ruhstaller – Secretary  
Mary Aguirre  
Emily Ballus  
Eric Holman  
Angel Jimenez  
Robert Leonard  
Karen Moran  
Michael Padilla  
Radhika Rao  
Jerry Ruiz  
Holly Stanco  
Jerry Swanson  
Gail Teague  
Tany Teas-Lim  
Julie Watts  
J.C. Weydert  
Joan Wilhoit  
Carol Zelter  
CEO – John Reynolds

## FOR THE THRIFT STORES

Formal and Prom Dresses  
Purses and Shoes  
Women's Clothing  
Men's Clothing  
Children's Clothing  
Home Décor  
Kitchen Utensils  
Jewelry  
Books, CDs, and DVDs



## FOR THE FAMILY SHELTER

## MAJOR PROJECTS & COSTS

Room Remodeling (adopt-a-room) - \$2,000 ea.  
Computer, Monitor & Printer - \$800  
Linoleum flooring for the Drop-In Center  
Used or New Freezer for the Family Shelter

Back packs  
New Sleeping Bags  
Reading Glasses  
Toilet paper  
Diapers & Baby Wipes  
Bars of Soap  
**Financial Assistance**