



PV SHELTER
Pajaro Valley Shelter Services
 Celebrating 25 years of providing shelter
 to homeless families 1983–2008

**Emergency Shelter &
 Transitional Housing for
 Homeless Families**

News from PV Shelter

~Distributed Quarterly~

Summer 2008

PV Shelter Spotlight- New Business Partner

PVSS has always been focused on helping families attain financial security. Sometimes that has meant bringing them into our family of employees or finding a way to assist them in developing a business that can provide the shelter with a service. One couple from our transition house saw our need and is now part of our supportive service family.

We have partnered with El Pajaro Community Development and assisted Gerardo and Izalya Flores in starting up a general maintenance business. Gerardo noticed that our lawn needed cutting and offered to make sure that basic landscaping was maintained. That opened up a relationship that led them to El Pajaro Community Development Corporation at Plaza Vigil. Their business consultant Vinicio Vides helped them to complete the process of starting up their landscaping and general maintenance business. And we are their first customer!



Mission

To assist homeless women, children and families obtain stable housing through temporary shelter and services.

Vision

Pajaro Valley Shelter Services aspires to be a model program that helps women, children, and families end the causes and cycles of homelessness - one family at a time. By lifting their dignity, identifying their barriers, and helping to set their goals, homeless families will develop the skills and attitudes necessary to move on to stable housing and improved personal and economic self-sufficiency.

Notes from the Executive Director

CELEBRATING TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE AND A NEW COMMITMENT TO SERVE AS DIRECTOR

It has been fifteen years since I have had a formal relationship with Pajaro Valley Shelter Services. In that time it has never dropped out of my vision or my concern. Sr. Marie Veronica and I moved into the shelter in 1983 and I stayed until 1993. During my time "away" I visited with the previous executive directors, staff and board members just to "check in" on the progress of the agency. As with any agency that provides support to folks trying to rebuild their lives PVSS has had successes and its challenges. To its credit it has a dedicated staff that is passionate about the mission and a board that works tirelessly to let the community know who we are and what we do.

When the executive director position became open I began to think about the next few years of full time work and couldn't resist returning to the place of the most purpose and meaning for me, Pajaro Valley Shelter Services. I felt the pull that Sr. Marie Veronica would want me to bring her spirit to the work again. What is most amazing is that this year marks twenty-five years of service to families seeking shelter in the Pajaro Valley.

It is my hope that many friends will celebrate with us as we move through this year and into the next celebrating the many families who have found a home and a place in our community, our donors who have given so generously to the big projects and the everyday expenses, and all the staff and board members who hold it all together. I know there is great community pride in the shelter and its services. We will be inviting you to celebrate with us throughout the year.

We have always relied on the donor community to support our efforts and have a long list of friends developed over the twenty-five years. We ask that you consider giving a gift in celebration of our 25 years of service.

Gratefully,
Susan Olson, S.N.D.



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Carmen Balandran
Shelter Supervisor

Diana Vasquez
Receptionist

Donation Corner

We love your donations of clothing, furniture & other items! However, if anyone is willing to donate their time and services that would be a great help as well. We sometimes find ourselves in need of:

- Computer Support
- Small handyman repairs
- Light landscaping

If you are available to donate your services, please call us at (831) 728-5649

Thank you 24th Annual Mother's Day Run Sponsors!

This year's Mother's Day Run was our most successful event yet! We had our biggest participant turnout ever! Thank you to everyone who donated, including:

Gold

Granite Construction
Graniterock
Richard Solari Family
Joan S. Lane
Register-Pajaronian

Silver

Borina Foundation, in Memory of Nick & Lucy Borina
and their daughters, Mary Ann & June

Bronze

Watsonville Community Hospital
Bay Federal Credit Union
Porter Sesnon Foundation

Community

Foot Doctors of Santa Cruz County, Dr. Hopkins,
Dr. Abdoo, & Dr. Ogino
S. Martinelli & Co.
Stephen & Patricia Martinelli
Dominican Hospital
Plantronics
Santa Cruz County Bank
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Thanks to all of our Runner Sponsors!

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Fitz Fresh
General Service Co.
Steven C. Smith, M.D.
The Foot Doctors
Soroptomist Club of
Watsonville

**Thank to all of our
volunteers. We could not
have done it without you.**

**Next year we will celebrate
our 25th Annual Mother's
Day Run for Shelter! This
is an amazing milestone
and we hope to see you
there!**

Contacting PV Shelter

Phone: (831) 728-5649

Email: info@pvshelter.org

Web: www.pvshelter.org

Address: 115 Brennan St.
Watsonville, CA

Kisses for the Community

Pajaro Valley Shelter Services has teamed up with on-line floral boutique, **Flowerkisses.com** and their fundraising program called ***Kisses for the Community***. ***Kisses for the Community*** is a one of kind fundraising program to help support non-profit agencies throughout the United States. They will provide a discounted rate on all bouquets sold on behalf of PVSS and donate a percentage from each bouquet sold to our agency. So, next time you need to order flowers for any occasion; Mother's Day, Birthdays, Anniversaries, or Valentine's Day, go to **Flowerkiss.com** to make your purchase. You will be donating to our cause! As an added bonus, **Flowerkisses.com** sends Hershey Kisses along with every purchase! Just enter the discount code: PVSHELTER at check-out.

Flowerkisses.com
Hand Picked Fresh Daily

Internet = \$\$

Want to earn money for PV Shelter Services just by searching the internet? It is the easiest way to raise money for your favorite cause. **Goodsearch.com** (powered by Yahoo) is a search engine that will donate money to our organization for every search made on their site. It's easy! Go to **goodsearch.com**, enter "Pajaro Valley Shelter Services" in the charity box and search the web like you normally do. Except this time, PVSS will receive money! You can also use the Goodshop feature to shop online and **goodsearch.com** will donate a percentage of your purchase to PVSS.



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