



PV SHELTER

Pajaro Valley Shelter Services

Ending homelessness – one family at a time

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

News from PV Shelter

~Distributed Quarterly~

Winter 2007/08

Monte Vista Christian School Lends a Hand



Yesenia Zavala & Mark Riley from PV Shelter with MVCS Students and Gifts

The children at Pajaro Valley Shelter Services received dozens of toys, games, books, and stuffed animals this holiday season, thanks to the wonderful efforts of students from **Monte Vista Christian School** in Watsonville.

"We invited a woman [from PV Shelter] to campus to tell us how the Shelter turned her life around," said Bible teacher Chuck Kelley. "The students got excited about making a difference right here in our community."

When Mark Riley, Executive Director, picked up the toys and more than \$900 in gift cards, he said, "This is awesome. We don't have enough resources to do this on our own, so this will make it a real exciting Christmas for the kids."

The donations filled fourteen jumbo plastic bags and pretty much filled up the back of the agency pickup truck.

"Parents picked out toys for their children and wrapped them," said Yesenia Zavala, a staff member at the shelter. "It means a lot to them to be able to give presents to their kids."

Renovation Making Headway

If you have stopped by the shelter to drop off clothing donations lately, you might have noticed our latest renovation work. We replaced our badly worn decking, stairs, and disabled access ramp. It looks great! Again, thanks to **Big Creek Lumber** for their donation of lumber for this project!

Up next will be installing more storage space for residents, new flooring upstairs, space for four more residents, and fixing and widening the driveway and sidewalks. The driveway work is possible due to a donation of materials and services by **Granite Construction**.

Removal of an aging rear staircase has opened up the whole deck area for social gatherings and has a much less cluttered feel.

If you would like to get involved in this important project with a donation of funds, materials, or services; please contact the Executive Director, Mark Riley, at 728-5649 or mark@pvshelter.org.

New Shelter Decks & Office Staircase



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

Dear Friends,

First of all, thank you for making our holiday season a marvelous success! Donations of funds, clothing, food, and children's gifts along with a great Adopt a Family effort, ensured that all of our families were fed a Christmas dinner and all kids received gifts!



A generous donation for Christmas meals by **El Palomar Restaurant** from proceeds from their annual golf tournament helped ensure that our shelter residents and transitional housing families were fed. Thank you El Palomar!

We had several participants in our holiday Adopt a Family in which donations of gifts are given to each family by community members. This is a big factor in making sure our homeless clients have a great holiday season. We would like to thank the following folks for their generous help in this effort:

Soroptimist International of Watsonville
Jay Nitikman
Norte Dame School
Marilyn McConnell/Holy Eucharist Church
Sandy Jaurach/ California Grant
Geneva Mehl/Mehl's Colonial Chapel
Angela Lopez
Mary and the staff at Satellite Dialysis
Mary Ann and the staff at Orion Telescopes
Monte Vista Christian School
Suzie Yost and Granite Construction
The students at Pajaro Valley High School (2 classes)
Mr. Benham's Class at Pajaro Valley High School
The Latino Club
5 Star Catering (donated holiday food)

I hate to sound like a broken record on this, but we are still in great need of new volunteer members on our Board of Directors. I encourage you to contact me if you have any interest or know of anyone who might.

Warmest Regards,

Mark (mark@pvshelter.org)

Board of Directors

Jay Petersen, *President*
Attorney
CA Indian Legal Services

Janice Shaffer, *Secretary*
Executive Assistant to the President
Graniterock

Suzie Yost, *Treasurer*
Senior Staff Accountant
Granite Construction

Sister Jean Schafer, *SDS*
Sisters of the Divine Savior Anti-Human
Trafficking Project

John Fry
President and Managing Partner
CDM Real Estate

Marilyn O'Rourke
Management Consultant and Technical
Recruiter
The O'Rourke Group Inc.

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Marilyn Palla-Droke
UCSC Psychologist

Edda Tusinac
Director
Finkelman Family Foundation

Larry Hazen
Retired
Granite Construction

Tony Bruscia
Account Executive
InterWest Insurance

Staff

Mark A. Riley, *MPA*
Executive Director

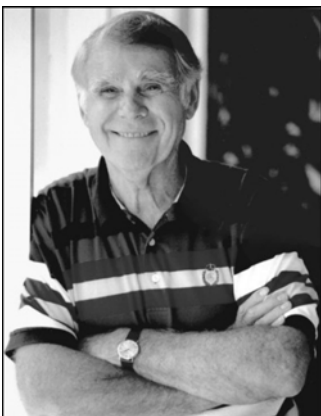
Annette Melendrez
Case Manager

Laura Solis
Shelter/Property Manager

Yesenia Zavala
Office Manager

Carmen Balandran
Shelter Supervisor

Diana Vasquez
Receptionist



In Memory - Dick Solari

We are greatly saddened by the recent passing of one of most generous and consistent supporters, Dick Solari. It is in large part due to Dick and Mary Solari that PV Shelter is here today. During our founding days, Dick arranged for us to acquire the buildings where the Shelter and offices are located. He continued to help us through our 24 years with valuable support and guidance. Most notable was his generous annual match of funds raised by Granite Construction employees for our Mother's Day Run for Shelter.

Dick provided support and guidance for many charities in our county. We will remember him as a committed advocate, a friendly, outgoing, and generous man – a perfect example of a caring philanthropist and community leader. He will be sorely missed by us and so many others. Our condolences to his family.

- Staff and Board of PV Shelter

A Great Season!

A huge THANK YOU to all of you who gave during our holiday giving season:

Judith Ain
Velma Arlidge
Bill & Karen Bachan
Barbara Banks
William & Patricia Barton
Mehdi Bathaee & Farimah Tahmasebi
Jana Baumann
Mary & Rudy Bergthold
Louis & Louise Bilicich
Charles & Marybeth Bontadelli
James & Evelyn Borrego
Marjorie Bourret
Larry & Sally Brandt
Judith Burick
Betty & Bud Capurro
Ralph & Caroline Cooke Carney
James Carroll
Antoinette Carter
Jo Covone
Ann Veronica Coyle
Rosemary & Albert Crevello
Betty Curry
Pamela Davis
Thomas & Sonia Deetz
Charles & Kim Eadie
Mark & Mariann Eichhorn
Jerry & Jan Finney
Maria Cecilia Freeman & Donald Larkin
Don & Dolores French
Dorothy Fry
Elvira Garcia
Allen & Shirley Ginzberg
Suzie "Red Snapper" Golden
Marc & Laura Grossman
Geri & CF Heebner
Nancy Hodges
Greg & Lynn Howerton
Marilyn Hyde
Katherine Ivanovich
James & Cameron Jackson
Virginia & George Jansen
Ann & A. Dobie Jenkins
Neal & Kathleen Johnson
John Kane III
Jennifer Keiderling
Laurie & Noel King
Patrice & Todd Kinion
Ronald & Gingi Kinninger
Paul Lapidus & Lindasue Marshall
Dixie Larkin
Andrew & Amy Lauter
Monte & Betty Lewis
Mike Lewis
Dr. Sterling Lewis
Kenneth & Shirley Llacera
Emily Maloney
John & Mary Manfre
Mike & Bertie McElroy
Paul & Carolyn Mecozzi
Janet Meidl
Peter & Betty Michelozzi
Julie & Rich Mitra
Katherine Moore & Samuel Johnson
Jay Nitikman & Lisa Bunin
Kaye & Phil Olivier

Michel & Mary Orradre
Jay Petersen
John Petersen
Barbara Petrovic
Judy & Randy Ragsdell
Betty Rather
Rowland & Pat Rebele
Joseph & Delores Rodriguez
Raymond & Jody Rodriguez
Ruth Ann & Richard Rosenbaum
Phyllis & Bruce Rosenblum
Tom & Virginia Rosewall
Peter & Patricia Schafer
Sister Jean Schafer, SDS
Mark & Laurie Scurich
Steven Silveria
Stuart Simon
Allen & Lois Smith
Barbara & James Smith
Richard & Mary Solari Charitable Trust
Ginny Solari-Mazry
Blanche & Wilbert Sutter
Marcela Tavantzis & Jesus Plasencia
Kent & Claire Thompson
Thomas & Laura Tietz
Mike Toccalini
Christine Trionfetti
Kim Tschantz
Bill & Josie Turpin
Edda Tusinac & Herb Finkelman
Eugene Wagner
Claire Witherspoon & Jim Engleman
David & Ruth Wong
Douglas & Rhea Wong
Catholic Daughters of the Americas
El Palomar Restaurant
Famco LLC
G&L Supply
Interwest Insurance Services
La Selva Beach Community Church
Lakeside Organic Gardens LLC
Monument Lumber, Inc.
SC County Appraisal Service
Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur
Slavic American Cultural Organization
Southwest Truck Service
Trinity Lutheran Church
United Methodist Women
UPPEC #18

A special thank you to **Goldi Jacques-Maynes D.C.** over at **Golden Chiropractic** for holding a fundraising day for us! She recently opened her business at the site of the former Driscoll's Chiropractic.

HONOR CARDS – We now have "in honor" cards that you can request on your remittance envelope when you send in a donation. Just include the name of the person(s) you are honoring and their contact info, and we will send them a card noting your donation in their honor.

We love to keep you informed, but if you wish to be removed from this newsletter mailing, please call us at 728-5649 or send your request via email to info@pvshelter.org.

24th Annual Mother's Day Run for Shelter



Please save the date for our 24th annual **Mother's Day Run for Shelter** on **May 11, 2008**. We will have the usual 10k & 5K runs, 5K walk, and 1K Kid's Fun Run.

Runs and walks will start and finish at Ramsay Park and include the beautiful slough trails.

We are still finalizing run/walk times and the exact course, but preliminary details can be found at: www.pvshelter.org.

Registration forms will be sent out by the end of February and available by download from our web site or you can register online at www.active.com.

Be a Sponsor!

Show your customers that you support our community and take advantage of a multitude of opportunities to have your business name displayed by being an MDR sponsor. Call 728-5649 and ask for the "MDR Coordinator" for more info.

Contacting PV Shelter

Phone: (831) 728-5649

Email: info@pvshelter.org

Web: www.pvshelter.org

Address: 115 Brennan St.
Watsonville, CA
95076

Donation Corner

We *love* your donations of clothing and other items! We are often asked "what do you need?" We always need the following:

- Contemporary clothing for women, girls, and boys. Business dress clothing for women for job interviews is especially welcome. Sweaters and jackets for the winter are now also needed.
- Blankets, throws, and comforters in good condition.
- Toiletry items such as shampoo, soap, conditioner, and toothpaste. We prefer these be the "full size" containers and not sample or gift size.

In terms of larger items, such as furniture, we can occasionally use these items for the families in our transitional housing units. Our need for these items varies depending on if we have new families moving in.

For these items and anything not listed above, please call 728-5649 to see if we have a need at the moment. Please don't leave large items without notifying us.

When you bring a donation, please come to our second floor office down the driveway behind the Shelter (the large house out front) and see the person at the front desk for a receipt.

Helping Families Help Themselves

At PV Shelter, the **Emergency Shelter for Homeless Women and Children** and **Transitional Housing for Homeless Families** programs are designed to help families help themselves by learning new job and language skills, linking with community services, and saving money so they can gain stable housing.

Both of our programs provide women, children and families the opportunity to:

- Stabilize their immediate crisis
- Identify patterns that lead to cycles of homelessness
- Gain assistance from local resources for job training, legal aid, counseling, and more
- Develop and implement long-term strategies and skills for breaking the cycle

Everyday, PV Shelter is home to more than 20 families moving from dependency to self-sufficiency, from self-doubt to self-esteem, and from welfare to work.

A big thanks to all of our valuable supporters for helping make a difference in these families lives!



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