Adriana and Luis, with their three children, came to Pajaro Valley Shelter Services not knowing what to expect. They said, “We searched for a home for three months, after getting an eviction notice, but we couldn't find one. We thought all doors had been shut.” PVSS’ Emergency Shelter had a space available for Adriana and her three children, and Luis found a top bunk bed in a shared living garage. After two months in the Shelter, a space became available in the one-year Transitional Housing, so Luis joined his family again. “I was so happy that we were going to be together again,” said Adriana. After a couple of months, they moved into the two-year Transitional Housing.

During their time at PVSS, they saved a total of $34,500. "We always found a way to save more. It was hard at first, but PVSS helped us be more attentive to our expenses. We had to collect all receipts and that was hard because we felt tired after work... Now, we think before making a purchase." Adriana and Luis plan to continue saving money to buy a home.

In March, they moved into their first apartment in Watsonville. "Our kids are happy - they get excited to go to school because they finally have a home." The children participated in the AiducateNow STEM workshops, where they learned how to express themselves more and feel less shy. "I want my children to get an education, as well as to become volunteers and donors. I want them to remember their time at PVSS, so that they know how to value their home and be good people," said Adriana.

A Family Together Is Invincible!
Adriana found a stable job that she enjoys. She used to work in the fields, seasonally. She said, “My job believes in me. They see that I am always willing to learn and get better. They see potential in me. Now, I'm going back to school to take computer classes.” Luis worked on managing his anxiety by starting therapy. He said, “I plan to continue therapy so that I can be at peace with my past.”

You moved a family of 5 forward!

“We want all families that are in a similar situation to continue fighting forward - ¡que sigan luchando para adelante! There is always a way out and someone to give you a hand up.”
Adriana & Luis
What's your Mother's Day Tradition?

The Palominos participate in the Mother's Day Run & Walk for Shelter in honor of their mother.

“Our mother was the rock of our family,” said Angeles Nuñez. “She loved Mother’s Day. ‘We’ll make tamales,’ she’d say, excited.” The nine Palomino siblings lost their mother, Isabel Palomino, in December 2016. Angeles knew that the following Mother’s Day would be a tough one for the family, so she proposed that they honor Isabel by participating in the Mother’s Day Run & Walk for Shelter.

“There are ten of us siblings, eight girls and two boys. We lost a sister to breast cancer. We remain so united.” Their mother Isabel and father Arnulfo fostered that unity in the family after they immigrated from Guanajato, Mexico, to Watsonville in 1970. Angeles was two years old and is the third youngest sibling. Angeles thinks fondly on her mother’s passport at the time when they joined their father in California. “My mother’s passport back then had photos of all the siblings.”

The Palomino parents made a tradition of “Family Night” on Fridays. Isabel would cook for the entire family. “Our mother was everything. As the family grew, she raised all of her grandkids.” Now, the Palomino siblings are keeping the tradition alive for their father and the family. “We don’t want our dad to feel alone. We’re still in this together. We’ll have a potluck or just order pizza and play games,” Angeles said.

Run & walk in honor of your moms, dads, and families!

Inspired by the mission to outrun family homelessness, Angeles ran in the Mother’s Day Run & Walk for Shelter for the first time seven years ago, with her daughter and now daughter-in-law. When Angeles proposed that her siblings join them after their mom passed, the sisters were first to say, “I wanna do it! I wanna do it!” Now, there are 13 to 15 family members who participate in the 5K race - wearing the same T-shirt in honor of Isabel. After the event, they go to the cemetery to pray the Rosary and then they share in a meal with their dad.

“We love the Mother’s Day Run & Walk for Shelter. It’s great that more and more people join in every year,” Angeles said.

Start your Mother’s Day on the right foot – outrunning & outwalking family homelessness for single mothers, single fathers and two-parent households with children!

When Families in Our Community Thrive, We All Thrive
I’m a community member determined to help! PVSS is working on helping and empowering families, which goes hand in hand with the work I have done. My focus has been with students, but without a strong foundation at home, my work isn’t possible. I’m super excited to bring my ideas and experience to PVSS.

- Uriel Reyes, PVSS’ Treasurer

 Uriel Reyes Joins Our Transformational Board!

Our Vision
We envision a community where families have safe, secure and stable housing with sufficient resources and space to plan for their futures and pursue happiness.

Our Mission
Providing families with a path to stable, self-sufficiency futures through short- and longer-term housing and supportive services.

Strategic Plan 2019 - 2022

Building Our Future
Thank you for sharing your feedback throughout the 6-month process. Read about how your voices were included in the process on our website www.pvshelter.org after April 1st.

We are thrilled to work on achieving our Strategic Goals hand in hand with you over the next three years!

Strategic Goals

1. Resource Development (Capacity-building)
2. Fund Development for Sustainability
3. Systems Improvement for Efficiency, Effectiveness & Empowerment
4. Board Development
5. Program Development

PVSS’ Strategic Plan will be available to download at www.pvshelter.org.
For 35 years, Pajaro Valley Shelter Services (PVSS) has accompanied more than 7,500 individuals on the path to self-sufficiency and permanent housing. PVSS provides families with a path to stable, self-sufficient futures through short- and longer-term housing and supportive services.

The community fundraising goal in 2019 is $75,000 to support PVSS' vision for a community where families have safe, secure, and stable housing with sufficient resources and space to plan for their futures and pursue happiness.

The 35th Annual Mother's Day Run & Walk for Shelter will be on Sunday, May 12th, at Ramsay Park in Watsonville. It will feature chip-timed races: a 10K Run (out-and-back loop), 5K Run or Walk, and 1K Kids’ Fun Run, with the first race beginning at 7:45 AM. The race route is a beautiful trek around Watsonville’s wetlands. This well-loved event is enjoyed by attendees of all ages and skill levels, from competitive runners to weekend joggers and families with strollers. Participating women are honored with a rose.

Start your Mother’s Day on the right foot — outrunning & outwalking family homelessness for single mothers, single fathers and two-parent households with children!

Register Now!

35th Mother’s Day Run & Walk for Shelter!

Sunday, May 12th
Ramsay Park, Watsonville

www.pvshelter.org
831.728.5649

On Mother's Day, we run & walk for shelter. What's your Mother's Day tradition? Join us.

Use Discount Code SN19 on Active.com or write it on the enclosed Registration Form to benefit from the $30 Early Bird price through April 10th!