

“Yellow Hallway” Program Welcomes Two Families!

The Dominican Sisters of San Rafael measured, painted and lugged furniture to welcome two families in a new transitional housing program at the Our Lady of Lourdes Convent near Dominican University.

Dubbed the “Yellow Hallway,” this new program offers a home to single mothers with children under eight years old. Homeward Bound provides support services for residents, who can stay for two years. “We’re filled with the joy of having a dream and now it’s coming true,” says Kate Martin, Director of Communications and Development for the Dominican Sisters. “The residents at Lourdes are excited to have the energy of young families in the house.”

The San Rafael City Council approved the Yellow Hallway proposal unanimously in May, with support from many neighbors in the Dominican area. Improvements for the 1,995-square-foot Yellow Hallway began soon afterward, with a new kitchen and playrooms created within the existing space.

Since 1979, the homey one-story building has been used as the organization’s care center for elderly members who need daily support and for others who may be recuperating from an illness or hospital stay. The Dominican Sisters proposed the Yellow Hallway project because they recognized that some rooms consistently went unused, Martin says.



“We’re so excited to see the new families settle in and we know it’s going to be phenomenal for them.”

Homeward Bound is reviewing applications from several families eligible for the program, which requires the ability to pay rent and willingness to sign an occupancy agreement that includes a code of conduct. The families will have access to Homeward Bound’s programs, including job training and referral to community services for education, help with food or transportation, child care and medical needs.

While the Dominican Sisters live next door, the Yellow Hallway families will be independent. A new doorway leads into the Yellow Hallway from the front porch and the space connects from a playroom to a private fenced yard with grass.

The only downside will be closing the program after the two-year period, Martin says. “We know there will be two more families behind them who need help, but we’re not thinking about that right now,” she adds. “We’re so excited to see the new families settle in and we know it’s going to be phenomenal for them.”



“I’m so grateful for Oma Village: the playground’s great, the parents can come out to socialize, the kids are super-cute to watch and they run in and out of each other’s houses sometimes.” – Monica

Monica A. Puts Life in Balance with Oma Village

After two years of living outside, Monica A. says just having a clean bathroom and shower filled her with gratitude.

Now she has a home for her family at Oma Village, Homeward Bound’s newest supportive housing program. The Novato site offers 14 small rental homes, shared playgrounds and a community room for a homework club and holiday parties. “Things have fallen into place beautifully since I came to Oma Village,” she says.

It’s a complete turnaround from 2015, when the Novato native and graduate of Novato High School came to the family emergency shelter while expecting her second child, Asha.

Her bout of homelessness began with a relapse into drug use after 10 years of sobriety, forcing Monica to turn over care of her older daughter, Mercy, to her mother and Mercy’s father. “I lost everything quick,” Monica says. “I wasn’t a hustler, I wasn’t a stealer, so for two years, I was just broke and hungry. Mostly I was looking for a safe place to sleep.”

Pregnancy galvanized her willpower, prodding her to rebuild her life and come to Homeward Bound. The search for housing, however, left her near despair although she works full-time in pool care at Indian Valley College, building on experience gained from her father’s pool care business.

“I followed up so many housing options, but most that I could afford turned out to be scams,” she said. “A studio apartment in Vallejo was my backup plan. I worried how we were going to do it.”

With a two-bedroom apartment at Oma Village, Monica has room for both girls. Mercy has continued in her same Novato school with after-school care from her grandmother, who lives nearby. Asha, now almost two years old, goes to the Head Start program on campus for day care.

“I’m so grateful for Oma Village: the playground’s great, the parents can come out to socialize, the kids are super-cute to watch and they run in and out of each other’s houses sometimes,” Monica says. She appreciates the food donations delivered weekly to stretch her grocery budget.

Monica has been saving for a home of her own one day, strategizing ways to add skills like carpentry to her resume that could lead to higher-paid positions.

“At some point, I want to move to a place of my own and give somebody else the opportunity to have permanent housing that changes their life,” she says.

IN THIS ISSUE



CELEBRATE HOMECOMING.

DEAR FRIENDS TO THE END...OF HOMELESSNESS,

Across the country and throughout our county, a transformation is taking place.

It's a transformation not just of individual lives and futures, but also a conversion of the systems we've harnessed in the work of ending homelessness.

At Homeward Bound, we have always celebrated the homecoming of each individual who finds a way home with committed assistance from our staff and community partners. We share some of these compelling stories with you regularly. Thanks to your support, these stories continue to unfold.

Now we have something broader to add to the celebration. With others in the private and public sectors who provide services, we're developing a better partnership to identify, assess, and house the folks in our community who suffer with multiple barriers to maintaining housing.

Certainly we all embrace the proven solution to ending homelessness — HOMES! For some individuals and families, a housing voucher or a temporary housing subsidy provides a viable pathway out of homelessness. For others, the solution lies in permanent supportive housing, that is, bringing ongoing services to individuals and families in their homes to help them remain housed for good. While various organizations, like Homeward Bound, have created programs on this concept, we're now breaking new ground to mold a system of all providers working collectively toward our common goal.

As an integrated system, we are identifying the services needed for individuals and families who are homeless, whether that be prevention, diversion, rapid rehousing, or permanent supportive housing. And, as a system, we are measuring our results to learn the most effective ways to bring an end to homelessness in Marin.

We're grateful to know you are not only behind these efforts, but you are beside us as we continue to evolve the services that you've graciously and generously supported for over 40 years. Thank you, partners!

Mary Kay Sweeney, Executive Director

P.S. *As we go to press with this issue, we are deeply aware of another transformation that has taken place, swiftly and complete out of control – the fires in our surrounding counties. This devastation has affected everyone in the Bay Area, further emphasizing the compelling need for us to come together to create homes!*

Bits 'n' Pieces

Culinary Staff and Graduates Receive Birkenstock Gift



Our kitchen staff and August graduates from Fresh Starts Culinary Academy received new shoes from Birkenstock Midtown in Sacramento, which made the gift in memory of Birkenstock USA founder Margot Fraser.

She became a legend in the footwear business after founding Birkenstock USA, which she led for 40 years. Margo was a longtime donor to Homeward Bound, inspiring Birkenstock Midtown proprietors Frank and Toni Budworth to support our culinary program over the past several years.

The couple did a custom fitting for each recipient and delivered the black clogs in time for graduation.

"The assessment tool gives us strong agreement on which people need the most help and they can be at the front of the line for what's available," says Paul Fordham, Homeward Bound's Deputy Executive Director. The teamwork also simplifies the process of finding help for people in crisis.

In September, Fordham attended a meeting of Built for Zero, a national program that puts similar concepts into action to reduce chronic and veteran homelessness. Marin County is one of 70 communities involved this year, including Chicago, Phoenix and Montgomery, Alabama.

Kitchen Partner Brings New Opportunities

There's a new partner in our commercial kitchen! The team at Taste Kitchen & Table has contracted with Homeward Bound to use part of our space for their wholesale baking business. Taste Kitchen & Table also operates a Fairfax cafe and the cafe at Copperfield's bookstore in San Rafael.



Bakers arrive at 3 a.m. in the kitchen, turning out orders for hundreds of artisan rolls, croissants, scones and other goodies through the morning (along with wonderful aromas!) In addition, they have hired graduates of Fresh Starts Culinary Academy to help with their growing production.

"They have the potential to provide great opportunities for our students and even to teach some of their baking skills as part of our training," Director of Training Steve Cohen says.

Countywide Strategy Aims Services at Most Vulnerable Adults

A countywide strategy aims to link housing and services more closely for homeless adults to ensure the most vulnerable people receive highest priority for support.

Ritter Center, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Marin Housing Authority, Marin County Health & Human Services, along with Homeward Bound, participate in the effort that uses a common set of questions to assess people needing help and assign a priority score.

 **Volunteer Spotlight – Rod and Sandy Seeger Organize Fix-It Brigade**

Overgrown palm trees, mismatched drawer pulls or greasy stove hood — no job falls outside the lines for Sandy and Rod Seeger, who organize service days at our Family Center for Marin Lutheran Church.

Sandy has been connected to Homeward Bound of Marin for more than 10 years, beginning as a volunteer in our family shelter in 2004. The retired nurse and Mill Valley resident answered phones, took in food deliveries and helped with office tasks.

Currently head of the Social Action Committee at Marin Lutheran Church, she says the twice-yearly work days offer a fun way to get acquainted with others in the congregation as well as fulfill the mission to get involved in the community.

"We like the before and after, the feeling of accomplishment," says Rod, whose handyman skills play a big role in planning the work. Eight to 14 people attend the fall work day at the Family Center, our year-round emergency shelter for nine families.

This year, the team plans to put a new fiberglass roof on the garbage enclosure, add succulents to the garden, and rebuild a 15-foot planter box. The group returns each spring to make breakfast burritos for Homeward Bound residents.



ROD AND SANDY SEEGER ORGANIZE THE "REPAIR FAIRIES" FOR HOMEWARD BOUND'S FAMILY CENTER.

The Family Center occupies a 3,800-square-foot home built in 1920, so there's a constant need to update and retrofit things. Volunteer Coordinator Andrea Rey says the congregation members have become "repair fairies" for the house.

Last year, the group put two coats of non-skid paint on the front and back exterior stairs. They've also added shelves to the linen closet, rebuilt a downstairs pantry and repainted bathrooms.

"For people who have no instant gratification in their work life, this offers instant satisfaction," says Rod, who worked 31 years as head of spiritual counseling at University of California San Francisco hospital.

Rather than simply writing a check, Sandy says people love to give time on work days and know "you've really done something to help real people. It feels good."

Marty C. Tackles Diabetes and Homelessness

For years, Marty C. managed his diabetes by eating carefully. Though he lived in small quarters – a second unit behind another home in Novato – he shopped and cooked with care on a modest budget.

Things changed last year, however, when a neighbor's complaint led to findings that his landlord wasn't permitted to rent the unit under current zoning. He was evicted from the place he'd lived since 2002 and took up residence in his truck last December.

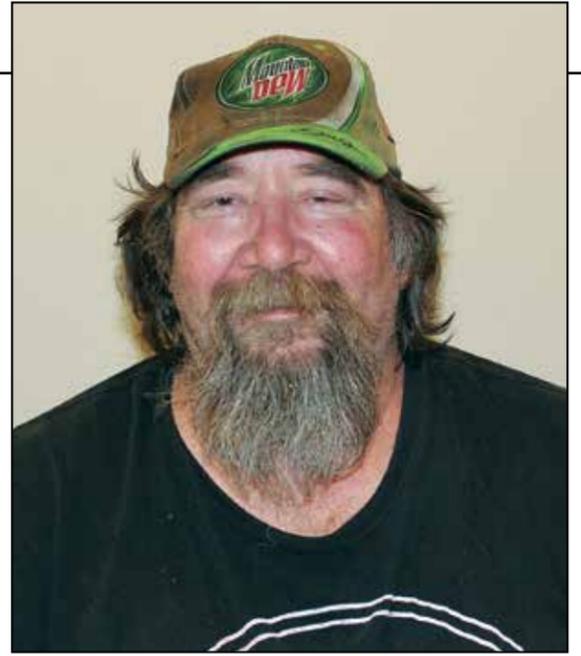
"I call myself 'housing impaired' but really it's health impaired also," says Marty, now at Transition to Wellness, a shelter program operated by Homeward Bound of Marin in partnership with local hospitals. Since December, Marty has been hospitalized three times for cellulitis and infections in his legs due to diabetes. "A month into being homeless, I had to go back on diabetes medication," he says.

Marty moved to Transition to Wellness after a week in the hospital this past August. He shares a double room and has regular visits from a nurse, along with help to reach appointments with a primary care doctor and a podiatrist.

The medical respite program launched in 2008 in collaboration with Marin General Hospital, Kaiser Permanente, Novato Community Hospital and Ritter Center. In 2016-17, it served 62 people, avoiding 833 days of hospital care for a savings of \$2.5 million. A total of six beds are available, with 84 percent of residents last year leaving for a stable housing opportunity.

With a calm environment and consistent care, Marty says his health is improving. He loves being able to cook his own meals and vows to cut his smoking habit. "My stress level has been cut dramatically. This place is amazing and offers what you need to get on a healthy path," he adds.

After decades as a truck driver, equipment operator, carpenter and mechanic, Marty has lacked consistent work since the construction industry crashed in 2010. He's applied for several affordable housing options and has been waiting for responses. Though he considers himself "not great roommate material," Marty tries to stay optimistic about his future. "I'm so grateful for this place and having all these resources," he says. "I'm hoping some housing that I can afford will come through."



Career Paths Open for Jarie S. as Culinary Graduate

He works two jobs that keep him constantly moving, but Jarie S. says he's got every reason to smile.

"I'm happy: I have a place, I have work, I have my health," says Jarie, who graduated last fall from Fresh Starts Culinary Academy. A full-time sous chef at Sol Food in San Rafael since January, Jarie also works three nights a week for Toast, a restaurant at Hamilton Marketplace in Novato. The location is convenient since Jarie lives nearby at our Next Key Apartments.

His outlook has changed since 2015, when he lost a longtime position at a Vallejo restaurant plus his housing due to legal issues. He spent a month sleeping in his car before being directed to Mill Street Center, our year-round emergency shelter for adults.

"One door closed, but that opened 10 or more new ones for me," Jarie says. It wasn't long before he applied to Fresh Starts Culinary Academy, Homeward Bound's flagship 10-week training program for cooking and front-of-house skills.

A native of Guatemala, Jarie grew up in the workers' community at a coffee farm where garden-to-table eating was a way of life. His culinary career began after coming to the United States almost 15 years ago, when he got promoted from dishwasher to pizza cook at his first restaurant job. "I like too many kinds of food. I love the kitchen and trying new things," Jarie says. In Marin, he also has worked at Boca Pizzeria in Novato and Green Chile Kitchen in San Rafael.

Chef instructors at Fresh Starts Culinary Academy honored Jarie with an award for "Best All-Around Skills" at his graduation, recalling him as a student who asked question after question. "The thing that impressed me about Jarie: he entered the class with a very well-developed skill set but his humility was remarkable. He just wanted to learn as much as he could," Director of Training Steve Cohen says.

The program advanced his career by letting him earn the ServSafe Food Protection Manager certification and exposing him to new techniques, Jarie says. He also developed resolve to reach personal goals and build savings, which he's spending to send his son through aviation training.

At Sol Food, Jarie has been able to take on-site classes offered to key employees. His most recent workshop covers supervisory techniques that will help him as kitchen manager, a role that gives him added responsibilities in working with the staff. He hopes within five years to see his son finish aviation training, then to open his own restaurant. "I have plans and I'm not stopping for anything," Jarie says.

Community Spotlight – Novato Babe Ruth League Partners with Wagster Treats

Novato's Babe Ruth Baseball League scored fundraising success with sales of Wagster Treats, the all-natural dog biscuits made in our training kitchen.

"Our 167-pound dog 'Bear' was one of the original taste-testers for Wagster," recalls Toni Shroyer, a Novato realtor whose son plays in the league. "So we know dogs approve."

The Babe Ruth community likes the fact that Wagster Treats are baked locally as a social enterprise that supports shelter and job-training programs at Homeward Bound of Marin, Shroyer says.

Players in the league have sold them in the Snack Shack at the field, to neighbors and to friends and family. A generous donor was so inspired by the project that he offered a \$1 match per bag sold!

The league buys Wagster Treats at a discount, then sells them at the retail price of \$10 per bag.



WAGSTER
LIFE-CHANGING DOG TREATS

All the funds raised are going to field upkeep and equipment Shroyer says, a "home run" for the league budget.

Fundraising partners like the Babe Ruth Baseball League give a boost to the business of Wagster Treats, which also are available at more than 120 grocers and pet stores like Woodlands Pet Food & Treats and Pet Food Express. Wagster Treats also can be found at dog-friendly wineries and events, including Woofstock and the Bay Area Pet Fair.

As a social enterprise, the business brings in revenue to support shelter and job-training programs at Homeward Bound while providing supportive employment and training opportunities for graduates of Fresh Starts Culinary Academy.

To find out more about fundraising sales of Wagster Treats:

**Please contact Emma Arnold
at 415-382-3363 x218 or
email woof@wagstertreats.com.**

HOMeward BOUND PROGRAM MAP – 2017

Adult Services

Housing at Last
Multiple Locations
26 beds
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Fireside Apartments
Mill Valley
Partnership with Eden Housing
8 senior units (8 beds)
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Fourth Street Center
San Rafael
20 rooms (20 beds)
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Warner Creek Senior Housing
Novato
Partnership with Eden Housing
Support services provided for 60 residents
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Next Key Apartments
Novato
25 studio units (25 beds)
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Meadow Park
Novato
Partnership with EAH Housing
6 houses (15 beds)
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

New Beginnings Center
Novato
80 beds
(including 16 beds for veterans)
SHELTER & TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Transition to Wellness
Novato
3 studio units
(6 medical respite beds)
EMERGENCY SHELTER

Mill Street Center
San Rafael
55 beds
EMERGENCY SHELTER

Family Services

Oma Village
Novato
14 houses (35 beds)
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Fireside Apartments
Mill Valley
Partnership with Eden Housing
10 houses (35 beds)
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Family Place
Multiple Locations
10 houses (41 beds)
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

San Clemente Family Homes
Corte Madera
Partnership with EAH Housing
4 houses (13 beds)
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Next Key Apartments
Novato
4 studio units (8 beds)
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Meadow Park
Novato
Partnership with EAH Housing
6 houses (15 beds)
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Family Center
San Rafael
9 rooms (25 beds)
EMERGENCY SHELTER

Mental Health Services

Palm Court
Multiple Locations
26 beds
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Carmel Program
San Rafael
26 rooms (26 beds)
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Voyager Program
San Rafael
5 rooms (10 beds)
EMERGENCY SHELTER

Job-Training Programs

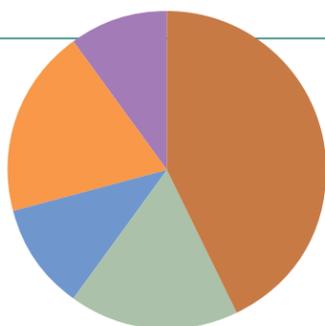
Fresh Starts Culinary Academy
Offers intensive 10-week job-training program.
Enrolls up to 80 students annually.

Apprenticeships
Offers paid apprenticeships in Janitorial & Building Maintenance and Landscaping & Gardening.

OPERATING BUDGET / TOTAL AGENCY EXPENSES AND REVENUE • 2016-17

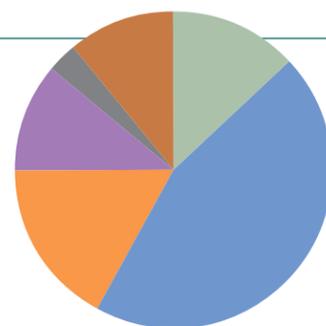
EXPENSES

Adult Services	43%
Mental Health Services	17%
Family Services	11%
Job Training / Social Enterprise	19%
Administration / Development	10%



REVENUES

Gifts	11%
Foundation Grants	13%
Government Grants	45%
Program Revenues	17%
Social Enterprise	11%
Other Income	3%



COMMUNITY REPORT

2016 - 2017

In partnership with our amazing donors and volunteers, Homeward Bound has sustained the growth of our programs to help homeless families and adults in Marin County. Together, we have paved pathways out of homelessness for hundreds of people this past year, and offered essential services to more than 1,200 people. Thank you!

While homelessness is a complex social issue, we believe there are varied solutions that, of course, have housing at the core. Just as individual pitfalls bring people into crisis, we're creating a variety of routes leading back to stability and resilience.

In the fiscal year ending June 30, Homeward Bound served a **total of 1,242 homeless men, women and children**, with 81% in our adult programs. We also helped 88 families last year, including 126 children experiencing homelessness.

Isn't it unbelievable in this modern era, when satellites talk to phones in our pockets, that so many people struggle to meet basic needs: a roof over their heads, a safe place to wash, and nourishing food? Many of the children and adults who arrive at our shelters have lived in cars, under freeways, in garages, and other places not fit for human habitation.

Our Family Center continues as the year-round emergency shelter for families experiencing homelessness in Marin County. Though demand still outpaces our capacity, we take heart in the progress of our residents. In 2016-17, **84% of families in our programs** exited for stable housing.

Homeward Bound focused intently in 2016-17 to create **new housing avenues** for families. Our biggest stride forward came in partnership with the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael, who approached us to help create a transitional housing program for two single mothers and their children. We look forward to welcoming new residents in this "Yellow Hallway" program. (See the full story on page 1.)

As 2017 began, we cheered the first families moving into Oma Village in Novato after five years of planning, fundraising, and construction. Fourteen families now have a chance to reimagine their future in our community. We're now hearing stories of new jobs, rising opportunity, and multi-generational academic success. It's amazing what stable housing can do!

We also expanded housing options with funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, adding seven families in our "Family Place" program for a total of 10. Family Place offers subsidized housing and supportive services to chronically homeless families.

For single adults, Homeward Bound offers shelter and supportive housing programs that served 1,000 people. In 2016-17, **73% of exiting adults left for a housing opportunity.**



A main focus this year has been working with community partners to refine the system of care and prioritize help for chronically homeless adults. Several initiatives target this goal, including design of a countywide "coordinated entry" for services. We also participate in Built for Zero, a nationwide effort to evaluate and redesign services to eliminate chronic homelessness.

Fresh Starts Culinary Academy continues to provide pathways out of poverty, both for people in our programs and low-income adults in the community. Now in its 16th year, the academy served 63 students last year.

A survey of graduates shows **85% secured employment** within a month of completing the training. Many found positions with members of our robust advisory committee like Sol Food Restaurant, Good Earth Natural Foods and Genji Sushi.

With Fresh Starts Culinary Academy recognized as a leader in workforce training, we gladly responded last year

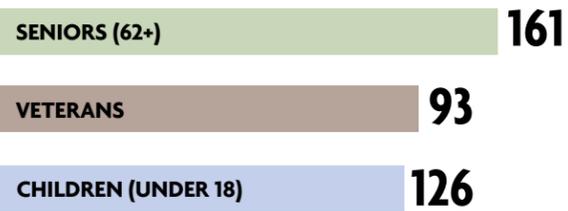
to help nonprofits from Mendocino, San Jose and Contra Costa counties develop their own culinary programs. Our team also presented at the national Social Enterprise Alliance Summit in Los Angeles.

Homeward Bound operates six social enterprise businesses that continue gaining strength, including Fresh Starts Chef Events, The Key Room event venue and production of Wagster Treats dog biscuits.

In 2016-17, these businesses generated over \$800,000 in revenues. Our businesses now offer **11 supportive employment positions** for graduates of Fresh Starts Culinary Academy, as well as on-call paid work in catered events. We continue to believe in the "double bottom line" – providing jobs for people striving to enter the workforce while generating revenues to support our programs.

The Wagster Treats business grew significantly as we pivoted from selling at local farmer's markets to becoming a wholesale vendor to pet food and grocery stores. Two distributors now help deliver Wagster Treats to more than 120 stores, including Pet Food Express across California, while online sales continue at **WagsterTreats.com**. If you're fundraising for a project, we can work with you to sell Wagster Treats to support your cause! All our sales support the mission of ending homelessness through training, housing, and hope! For sales information please contact Emma Arnold at 415-382-3363 x218 or email woof@wagstertreats.com.

WHO WE SERVE:



The average cost for Homeward Bound of Marin to provide someone with a place to sleep and wraparound support services is just \$40 per day.



FAMILY PROGRAMS



Exited for housing: 84%

Market Rate Housing: **24%**

Subsidized Housing: **22%**

Living with Family/Friends: **38%**

ADULT PROGRAMS

Including mental health programs



Exited for housing: 73%

Market Rate Housing: **26%**

Subsidized Housing: **33%**

Living with Family/Friends: **14%**

*Exit figures do not include Mill Street Center

JOB TRAINING

FRESH STARTS CULINARY ACADEMY

Number of Students:



Number of Graduates:



Graduates Employed within 1 Month:



HUMANS OF HOMEWARD BOUND

Modeled on “Humans of New York,” a photoblog by photographer Brandon Stanton, this project by fifth-graders at Marin Country Day School interviewed 20 people involved with Homeward Bound of Marin. Some have been edited for brevity – get the full stories at a gallery show this winter at our Novato headquarters.



“The longer you live, the more you discover how flexible you can be. For example, when I was a teenager, the thing I was most proud of was just being stubborn. But you get older, and you discover what you’re really good at.”
– Gina, Fresh Starts Culinary Academy graduate



“I grew up in Marin, was born in Marin, and never moved. I want to be here my whole life. I work here now at Homeward Bound. I love it.”
– Andre Harris, nurse and coordinator of Transition to Wellness medical respite program



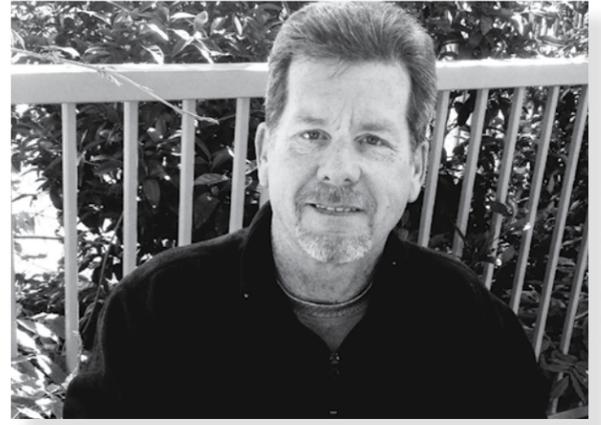
“The reason for my work, the purpose of my life, I found it here. We are working with people who are needing support in their lives, and we want to treat them with beauty and dignity.”
– Mary Kay Sweeney, Executive Director of Homeward Bound



“Life is all opportunity, and make sure you never forget that there is always a tomorrow, and you can always change something that you don’t like. But, the only person who can make that change is you.” – Chef Mei Ibach, instructor at Fresh Starts Culinary Academy



“I work as a bartender at Applebee’s. I also produced my own record. I want to be remembered in a very positive way. My family has kept me going.” – Will, Fresh Starts Culinary Academy graduate



“I stopped drinking and that has absolutely changed my life. I don’t have a lot of possessions. I don’t have a car, but I finally have a good life. Thus I can learn to love myself.” – Robert, New Beginnings Center resident



“Before Homeward Bound, I did not have a home. I was staying with friends...just kind of floating around. Now I wake up every morning, excited to see what will come of the day.” – Steve, Next Key Apartments resident and Homeward Bound maintenance worker



“Working here...there’s so many amazing people who really care about you, and care about your success. And that’s super-important, when you want to be around people who are positive influences in your life.” – Dalaina, Wagster Treats baker and Oma Village resident



“What I want to do is become a drug and alcohol counselor and help younger people, stop them from getting into trouble, hanging around the wrong people, or getting involved with alcohol and stuff.” – Kim, New Beginnings Center resident

Fresh Starts CHEF EVENTS Giving back has never tasted so good!

We're setting the table for delicious events in the coming months. Pull up a chair to eat well while doing good – all proceeds support shelter and job-training programs while providing hands-on work experience for students at Fresh Starts Culinary Academy.



DECEMBER 1 – Kick off the holidays with Chef John Ash, a pioneer in Wine Country cooking and two-time James Beard Award winner. His menu features wild mushrooms paired with wines from Marimar Estate Vineyards & Winery.

JANUARY 18 – PBS-TV Chef Joanne Weir, co-founder of Copita restaurant in Sausalito, brightens the New Year with a menu drawn from her award-winning cookbooks and passion for exploring foods from around the world.

MAY 10 – Chef Daniel Kedan celebrates West Sonoma County with a menu from Backyard, the Forestville restaurant that he operates with wife Mariana Gardenhire to spotlight the region's agricultural bounty.

Check with us online at bit.ly/FSchevents for menu details and more additions to the spring calendar.

YOUR GIFTS OPEN NEW DOORS

Open doors to transformation for homeless individuals and families with a donation to our programs. Give a gift to honor your family and friends at the holidays while making a brighter future for people in our programs.

Make a difference with a gift online, a gift of stock, or a check to Homeward Bound of Marin, 1385 N. Hamilton Parkway, Novato, CA 94949.



SHOP FOR GOOD WITH AMAZON SMILE

Doing some holiday shopping online? Use the portal at Smile.Amazon.com to place orders and every purchase supports Homeward Bound of Marin. Shop with compassion to send gifts, decorate your home or even to stock your office while helping to end homelessness!

Visit Smile.Amazon.com and choose Homeward Bound of Marin from a list of charities.

YOUR DOLLARS MAKE CHANGE!

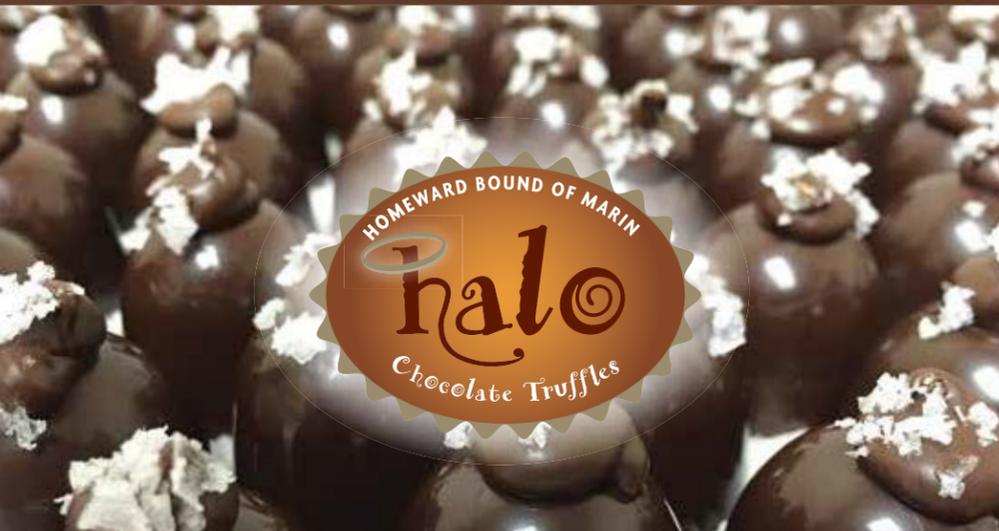


Chef Events: The most delicious nights in town happen at Fresh Starts Chef Events, our monthly series of celebrity chef evenings. Learn from a culinary star, celebrate Bay Area talent and enjoy a tasty meal.

Call 415-382-3363 x243 or book online at bit.ly/FSchevents



Wagster Treats: The “life-changing” dog biscuits made in our kitchen offer three tasty flavors free of soy, wheat and corn. They're baked in small batches by people moving out of homelessness and changing their lives with employment skills for a sustainable future. **Find us in local stores or buy online at wagstertreats.com**



Halo products: Someone you know deserves a Halo! Our jams and jellies made from seasonal fruit plus Halo Truffles, crafted with Callebaut Belgian chocolate, are produced by students and graduates of Fresh Starts Culinary Academy.

Call the Halo Hotline at 415-382-3363 x214 to order seasonal specials or gift baskets.



The Key Room

FINE FOOD~EXCEPTIONAL EVENTS

The Key Room: Book now to hold your next event in The Key Room! Our full-service venue with on-site catering offers a modern, flexible space with delicious food by our professional chefs plus students and graduates of Fresh Starts Culinary Academy. **Call our event coordinator, Viki Card, at 415-382-3363 x214 or visit online at thekeyroom.com**

WHEN YOU SUPPORT OUR SOCIAL ENTERPRISE VENTURES, THE PROCEEDS BENEFIT SHELTER AND TRAINING PROGRAMS AT HOMEWARD BOUND OF MARIN.

Gifts of Time and Resources



We have such overwhelming support from the community and, with every good intention, we try to keep track of your support. Sometimes we inadvertently overlook individuals or organizations that have helped Homeward Bound in some way. If we have forgotten to list you below, please accept our apology and know we appreciate all that you do. And let us know, so we can include you next time!

Congregations

Thank you to:

- ◆ The following congregations for bringing a monthly meal to Mill Street Center: **Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Village Baptist Church, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Marin and Spirit Rock Meditation Center, St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, Congregation Rodef Sholom, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Community Congregational Church of Tiburon, Trinity Lutheran Church, Redwoods Presbyterian Church, St. Isabella's Catholic Church, Hillside Community Church, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Marin Lutheran Church, First United Methodist Church of San Rafael, St. Anselm's Catholic Church, St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Church of Novato, Marin Covenant Church, First Presbyterian Church of San Rafael, First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo, Cornerstone Community Church, Congregation Kol Shofar, and Nativity of Christ Greek Orthodox Church.**
- ◆ **Peace Lutheran Church** for their ongoing support at the Fireside Apartments.
- ◆ **First Congregational Church of San Rafael** for donating new blankets & sheets.
- ◆ **Marin Covenant Church, Westminster Presbyterian Church and Mt. Tam Methodist Church** for helping with furnishings at Oma Village.
- ◆ **Marin Lutheran Church** for beautifying the Family Center.
- ◆ **TNT Club of Trinity Lutheran Church** for a diaper drive for the Family Center.
- ◆ **Women's Tuesday Group** from **Hillside Church of Marin** for cooking meals for the Family Center.

Schools

Thank you to:

- ◆ **San Domenico School 4th graders** for cooking meals monthly.
- ◆ **San Domenico School 5th graders** for art pieces created for the Family Center.
- ◆ **San Domenico School 7th graders** for working in the gardens at New Beginnings Center.
- ◆ **San Domenico School 5th graders** for staffing a food pantry at Fireside Apartments.
- ◆ **Marin Academy** students and **Marin Country Day School** students and families for working in the gardens at New Beginnings Center.

Businesses and Organizations:

Thank you to:

- ◆ **Cake4Kids** for donating birthday cakes to our programs.
- ◆ **Stone Soup Marin** for donating a monthly meal at Mill Street Center.
- ◆ **EO Products** for donating organic personal care products to our programs.
- ◆ **Planet Bee Foundation** and the **Marin Beekeepers Association** for ongoing support and guidance with beehives at New Beginnings Center.
- ◆ **The Republic of Tea** for donating tea for chef events as well as volunteering in the garden.
- ◆ **Residents of Novato Healthcare Center** and **San Rafael Healthcare & Wellness Center** for making meals for Mill Street Center.
- ◆ **CommuniTyler** for working in the gardens at New Beginnings Center in memory of Tyler Lorenzi.
- ◆ **Birkenstock Midtown** for donating shoes for Fresh Starts Culinary Academy graduates and staff.
- ◆ **Kiosk** for ongoing support with websites and digital marketing.
- ◆ **Sausalito Woman's Club** for donating food at New Beginnings Center.
- ◆ **Joy Love Serve** for ongoing support of families in our programs.
- ◆ **Deseret Industries Store** in Sacramento for donating sheets, blankets and pillows.
- ◆ **Realtors at Coldwell Banker in Novato** and **employees at Ultragenyx** for organizing donations of backpacks and school supplies.
- ◆ **V. Sattui Winery, Mantra Wines, Pey-Marin Vineyards, Sequoia Sake, North Coast Brewing Co., and Jackson Family Wines** for donating to Fresh Starts Chef Events.
- ◆ **Michael Basso Foundation** for back-to-school donations for our students.
- ◆ **Pennyroyal Farm** and **McFadden Farm** for donating raffle gifts for chef events.
- ◆ **Mycopia** for donating gourmet mushrooms for chef events.

- ◆ **Novato Mothers Club** for donating diapers for our families.
- ◆ **Wells Fargo employees** for labeling bags for Wagster Treats.
- ◆ **Napa Valley Wine Train** for donating a raffle prize for Fresh Starts Chef Events.
- ◆ **Robert Sinskey Vineyards, Gundlach-Bundschu Winery and Bartholomew Park Winery** for donating raffle prizes for chef events.
- ◆ **Three Twins** for donating ice cream for a Father's Day party.
- ◆ **SusieCakes** for donating pies and cakes for our programs.
- ◆ **Dixie Community Heroes** for cooking meals for Mill Street Center.
- ◆ **Youth First from Jewish Family and Children's Services** for a garden work day.
- ◆ **Grateful Gathering** for the living room renovation at Family Center.

Individuals

Thank you to:

- ◆ **Renata Bihun, Liza Nichayeva, Amanda Mueller, Suzanne Caprio, Jane Sweeney** and **Cyndie Martel** for volunteering at Fresh Starts Chef Events.
- ◆ **Suzu Foster** and **Rosie Trescott** for donating wine for our chef events.
- ◆ **Neely Wang** for professional photo services for Homeward Bound events.
- ◆ **Michelle Wall** for donating haircuts at New Beginnings Center, Mill Street Center and Warner Creek Senior Housing.
- ◆ **Wes and Julia Maybe** for donations of diapers to the Family Center.
- ◆ **Equator Coffee** and **Hopmonk Tavern** for donating raffle prizes for our Volunteer Appreciation Party.
- ◆ **Georgia Westfall and classmates at Tam High** for organizing a STEM summer camp at Fireside Apartments.
- ◆ **Allianz USA employees** for donating sheets and blankets for our programs.
- ◆ **Carol Eade, Jodi Skinner, Nancy McCarthy, Janet Calmels, Michael Bello** and **Mary Miller** for volunteering in the New Beginnings Center kitchen.
- ◆ **Joy Nickinson** and **Christopher DeLellis** for volunteering in the chaplaincy program at Warner Creek Senior Housing.
- ◆ **Susan Orma, Nancy Elberg, Renata Bihun, Hilary Shelley** and **Julie Whitely** for assisting at the New Beginnings Center front desk.
- ◆ **Carol Inkellis** for donating her talents as a blogger for Fresh Starts Chef Events.
- ◆ **Mary Wright** for creating flyers for Fresh Starts Chef Events.
- ◆ **Natalie & Daria's Flowers** for weekly flowers to New Beginnings Center.
- ◆ **Betty Pagett, James and Zachary Tollen, Carl and Rhett Krawitt, Judy Saffran, Bobby Bradford, Noel Robertson** and **Peter Burchard** for organizing an Oma Village barbecue.
- ◆ **Bob Tanem** for his ongoing garden guidance.
- ◆ **Sherri Rogers** for ongoing help in the garden.
- ◆ **Amanda Weitman** and **Chris Heffelfinger** for delivering Saturday lunches at Family Center.
- ◆ **Gail Schreuder** and **Jennie Gill** for donating move-out baskets to residents.
- ◆ The **Thomas family** for cooking a meal for Family Center.
- ◆ **Sumaiyah, Deonna, and Mareonna**, teenage childcare volunteers, for helping with impromptu staff daycare as our employees coped with the effects of North Bay fires.
- ◆ **Sara Henry** for offering art workshops at Warner Creek Senior Housing.
- ◆ **Robert Schinske** for stuffing backpacks with school supplies in back-to-school season.
- ◆ **Adelina Gowdy and family** for cooking once a month for the Family Center.
- ◆ **Aidan O'Neill** for baking cakes for our families.
- ◆ **Marcie and Donald Leach** for bringing deliveries from the Food Bank to Family Center.
- ◆ **Elizabeth Austin** for 20 years of delivering from the Food Bank to Family Center.



IN MEMORIAM

Homeward Bound of Marin mourns the passing of Rosie Basso, a longtime supporter of our programs. She and husband Dave Basso of San Rafael founded the Michael Basso Foundation in memory of their son to bring their compassion into action by supplying grocery boxes, back-to-school supplies and holiday gifts to our residents through the past decade. The Point of Light Foundation honored her generosity in 2014; we continue to be honored and inspired by her service.



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FAMILY SERVICES

Family Center

Shikira Porter, *Program Manager*
430 Mission Ave., San Rafael
415-457-2115

Family Place

Fireside Apartments

Meadow Park

Next Key Center Apartments

Oma Village

San Clemente Family Homes

ADULT SERVICES

Mill Street Center

Teddy Ryan, *Director*
190 Mill St., San Rafael
415-457-9651

New Beginnings Center

Kristina Hieb, *Director*
1399 N. Hamilton Pkwy., Novato
415-382-3363

Fireside Apartments

Fourth Street Center

Housing at Last

Meadow Park

Next Key Center Apartments

Transition to Wellness Program

Warner Creek Senior Housing

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Voyager Carmel Center

Alison Buck, *Director*
830 B St., San Rafael
415-459-5843

Palm Court

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