

Homeward Bound

HOMeward BOUND OF MARIN • SPRING/SUMMER NEWS 2019



SPRING/SUMMER SPOTLIGHT

- Culinary Grad Leads Team to Serve Health and Smiles
- Bob and Sandy Support Success at King Street Senior Housing
- Sandra Pushes Family Progress with Education
- Collaboration Moves Needle in Ending Homelessness
- Community & Volunteer Spotlights:
 - Cornerstone Community Church
 - Dinner Team at Family Center
- Save the Date for Volunteer Appreciation on September 26

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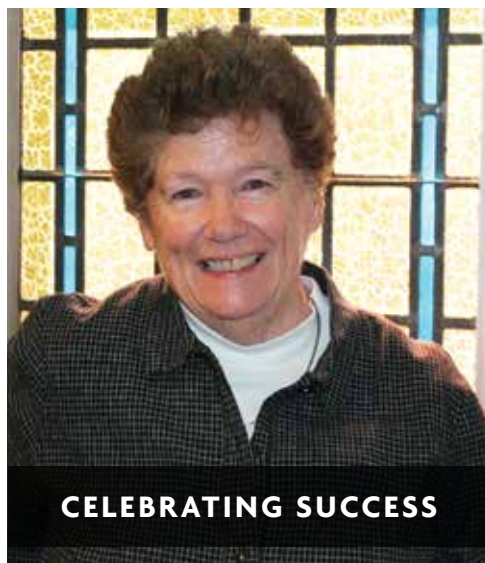
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SUCCESS IS A JOURNEY IN PURSUIT OF THE BEST IN OURSELVES....



CELEBRATING SUCCESS

We all love a story about a successful person or achievement, not just for the accomplishment itself, but because the journey involved grit, determination and strength of character. Forged together, they created success that can be admired and appreciated.

In this exciting newsletter, we've discovered amazing examples of passion and persistence that inspire awe for the people and partnerships featured, the efforts invested and the rewards reaped. We all need these inspirations to keep our own success practices on course, fueling positive energy to combat the prevalence and seduction of negativity in our midst.

We often minimize our own best efforts and the investment made to achieve something of merit.

In these pages, you can see people making the most of their journeys. They're reminders that positive outcomes can grow from a crucible of trauma or suffering, leading from post-traumatic stress to the less-recognized gift of post-traumatic growth.

Elements of success vary from bouts of failure to moments of insight and victory. At graduation events for Fresh Starts Culinary Academy, for example, we regularly hear a student say, "I've never finished anything before in my life and I feel so proud!" Perseverance and hard work coupled with a focus on the end game lead their narratives of success.

In the end, we want to celebrate too. That's our desire as people who value community and care deeply about people struggling for the opportunity to achieve their potential. Let's look around and embrace the steps of effort, growth, and accomplishment—they're gifts for all of us.

In gratitude,

Mary Kay Sweeney, *Executive Director*

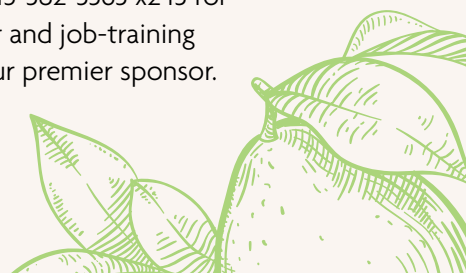


Fresh Starts CHEF EVENTS

Giving back has never tasted so good!

Join us to eat well and learn from culinary stars at our monthly celebrity chef dinners. We spotlight artisan producers and seasonal menus while graduates of Fresh Starts Culinary Academy build professional skills by serving our guests.

Visit online at bit.ly/FSchefevents or call 415-382-3363 x243 for reservations. All proceeds support shelter and job-training programs; thanks to The Republic of Tea, our premier sponsor.



Profile: Denna Leads Team to Serve Health and Smiles

Meals play a central role in daily life for residents at Piner's Nursing Home in Napa, a fact that motivates Dietary Services Manager Denna Harvey every day. "It's a time when they get to talk to people and enjoy something they picked out, even when they may have lost so much," she says.

This 2013 graduate of Fresh Starts Culinary Academy finished her studies last year at Santa Rosa Junior College and passed exams to become a Certified Dietary Manager, then accepted the job at family-owned Piner's in the fall.

She manages food inventory and a staff of seven, interviews residents and updates information on their dietary needs, and files compliance reports for state and federal agencies. Denna also cooks one to two days a week.

Despite the strict guidelines, she tries to keep taste and a home-cooked feel at the forefront. The kitchen uses 99 percent fresh fruit and vegetables, especially for purées, and orders whole beef that can be cut as needed.

"Food is the last thing the residents have control over in their lives," she says. "I want to give them choices and I try to include tradition. If there's one dish or one soup that I can make from their childhood or their culture, it's a way to make them feel at home."

On her bulletin board at work, she keeps a note from a resident who thanked her for making green eggs and ham on Dr. Seuss Day, celebrated on March 2. "That was FUN," the note says.

When she enrolled at Fresh Starts, Denna says, she felt "broken" after experiencing domestic violence and losing her housing. Support from her counselors at Homeward Bound and the training chefs kept her on track.

"One of them told me that I'd be managing a kitchen one day," Denna says. "They totally believed in me when I didn't."

Since graduation, she has worked at a café, at Good Earth market and at another retirement community. Her course at Santa Rosa Junior College showed her she had an edge as a trained cook, which is not a requirement for dietary managers.

"What has stayed with me from Fresh Starts is technique. If you have good technique, you don't need a lot of salt or artificial flavors," Denna says. "And the Fresh Starts students used to work in the garden. I will always aim for farm-to-table food."

She traces her determination back to Fresh Starts, drawing on that inspiration when she felt doubt about finishing her junior college degree.

"Then I remembered perseverance and to never give up. Back then, I caught the bus from the Mill Street shelter to Fresh Starts every day. I had perfect attendance. I worked and saved money for a car. I made it through," Denna says.

She decorated her door with a sign saying "Hope" while a resident at our Next Key Apartments. "I had hope to make a difference in someone's life," Denna says.



WHILE A RESIDENT AT OUR NEXT KEY APARTMENTS SHE DECORATED HER DOOR WITH A SIGN SAYING "HOPE." "I HAD HOPE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONE'S LIFE," DENNA SAYS.

Denna and team in the Piner's kitchen



JUNE 6 - Enjoy simple Scandinavian elegance from **Chef Roberth Sundell**, whose Swedish spin on local bounty has put him among Zagat's "10 Under-the-Radar Chefs to Know in the Bay Area." He's chef-owner of Plāj in San Francisco and Stockhome in Petaluma.



JULY 18 - Award-winning bartender and "Barfly" columnist **Jeff Burkhart**, author of "Twenty Years Behind Bars," brings cocktails and stories, which we'll pair with fresh bites from our talented Fresh Starts chefs.



SEPT 12 - **PBS-TV Chef Joanne Weir** brings some favorite recipes from her travels on camera for shows like "Plates & Places." The award-winning cookbook author also is co-owner of Copita Tequileria y Comida in Sausalito



Profile: Bob and Sandy H. Find Safe Harbor at King Street

When the doors opened at King Street Senior Housing, Bob and Sandy H. became the first tenants. Bob also was hired as the resident assistant, responsible for ensuring the house stays clean and reporting any problems to staff.

All of that comes naturally to Bob and Sandy, who worked in tandem for 25 years as managers of a 36-unit building in San Rafael. When the owners decided to give up resident staff, the couple found themselves without a job or a home at the end of October 2017.

"We had no notice and we were not prepared at all," Bob says. "We had nowhere to go."

In a twist of bad luck, they lost their housing just after the wildfires that destroyed 4,000 homes in Sonoma County. None of the 49 housing applications that they filed in the first month bore fruit.

They tried sleeping in the car, then staying in motels. All the while, Bob kept his job as a crossing guard at Sun Valley School in San Rafael, where he has worked mornings and afternoons for six years.

"That neighborhood showed me the meaning of community," he says, still amazed by the experience. Sun Valley residents raised more than \$3,000 for the couple in a spontaneous effort to keep them off the street.

Suffering from diverticulitis, Sandy underwent surgery that fall and entered a convalescent hospital. Bob went to Mill Street Center in San Rafael, the year-round emergency shelter operated by Homeward Bound of Marin.

Sandy eventually joined him there and, with support from the staff, they began weighing their options. "We had to get together like two old soldiers and figure this out," Bob says. The couple has been married 51 years.

"All this really brought us closer together, even after all that time," Sandy says. Bob adds, "I wouldn't go through life with anybody else."



"WITHOUT HOMEWARD BOUND, I DON'T KNOW WHAT WOULD HAVE BECOME OF US."

Before managing the apartments, Bob worked as a lab assistant and a musician. Sandy had been a lab technician and run a licensed day care for 17 years. "We weren't idle," Bob says, but with four children they didn't save much for a rainy day.

"I think it's more frightening when you're old and sick," Sandy says. "Honestly, I don't know if I'll ever feel completely safe again."

Bob describes King Street as a "beautiful port in a storm." He relishes his space for drawing and painting, a serious hobby for 20 years, and sometimes plays an electric keyboard that he keeps in a corner.

Sandy makes sure she's on hand to receive meal deliveries or meet volunteers, getting to know the neighbors that way although she can't walk far.

"We still dream of a place of our own," Sandy says, but adds that she's focused on health and they're trying to build savings. "Without Homeward Bound, I don't know what would have become of us."

KING STREET BUILDS ELEMENTS OF SUCCESS FROM BOOKS TO BIKING

King Street Senior Housing in Larkspur welcomed its first residents last December. Community partners came knocking soon afterward.

Twelve formerly homeless seniors, seven men and five women, live in the remodeled former convent leased by Homeward Bound from St. Patrick's Church across the street. Their experience of homelessness varies from two to 10 years.

As the program starts to find a broad rhythm, each individual also finds their own steps to success.

"Three to four months ago, people were living in a shelter," Program Coordinator Micha Berman says. "Now they can close the door and have some peace and quiet when they need it. They're being independent, taking care of their health, looking at their place in the community."



- Members of St. Patrick's Church stepped up immediately. The youth group cooked up a festive St. Patrick's Day dinner and students at St. Patrick's School bring lunch to residents on Mondays.

Profile: Sandra G. Pursues Progress in Education

A room full of people rang with applause in March after Sandra G. stood to talk about her path through college as a single mother and her plans to become a nurse. She never imagined such a moment before coming to Homeward Bound of Marin.

She was a guest of honor at a dinner for Soroptimist International of Novato, which awarded a Live Your Dream Award to Sandra for her commitment to education and progress for both herself and her three young sons.

A resident in one of our supportive housing programs, Sandra studies at College of Marin and works regularly as a nanny or housecleaner. She has set goals that seemed impossible when she arrived at Homeward Bound in 2011.

"I was sleeping in a friend's living room with my kids. I took them to the park all day so I would be out of the way," Sandra says. "I never imagined there was something like Homeward Bound. When I found out, I knocked at the door so hard to get in."

After several months in our family shelter, Sandra moved to transitional housing with a two-year time frame but fretted over her future. "It was good to be there but I was trying everything to save money. I knew I had two years. It was a lot of stress," she adds. Her youngest son, Aiden, was born during that time. "I thought, 'no one will want to rent me a room with three kids.' But I didn't want to give up," Sandra says.

With encouragement from Homeward Bound counselors, Sandra worked on her English skills and enrolled at College of Marin. "They said, 'just believe in yourself.' It was my hope since I was little to be a nurse, so I decided to do it," she says.



**"I NEVER IMAGINED THERE WAS SOMETHING LIKE
HOMEWARD BOUND. WHEN I FOUND OUT, I KNOCKED AT
THE DOOR SO HARD TO GET IN."**

The inspiration came from spending time in the hospital in Guatemala with her mother, who died when she was 12 years old. Sandra recalls the nurses in their uniforms seemed capable and filled with purpose.

Her mother's death left her in charge of four siblings, with the youngest only a year old. An older sister already had left for the United States. She let her dream slip as her siblings grew and then she herself became a mother.

Emigrating in 2006, her family worked toward stability until a split with her partner left Sandra homeless with two children. "Homeward Bound was our special opportunity," Sandra says.

Some relatives questioned her desire for college, reminding her that they left Guatemala to earn more money. Eventually they

supported her goal, she says, and now believe when she pledges to "make something better in this life."

Moving to permanent housing meant the world to her, Sandra says, because she now can save money and help her sons thrive. They now are 4, 8 and 11 years old. The older two flourish in school and all participate in karate three times a week.

In their early years, Sandra adds, she rebuffed every request — for a toy, new clothes or an ice cream. "I don't want them to remember only that. Now I sometimes take them for the ice cream," she says.

Pictured above: Sandra with sons Anthony, Frandy and Aiden

ACTIVITIES AT KING STREET SENIOR HOUSING



- Yoga, massage and meditation workshops occur in the former chapel, a peaceful space at King Street that residents also use to read or reflect.
- Residents have launched a "Fresh Fridays" program to knock out a weekly round of housecleaning chores.



- A local volunteer gathered books to fill a reading corner.
- A presentation by Marin Sanitary Service suggested ways to be a sustainable shopper and what goes where in recycling. A speaker set for this spring will explain the range of services available through the Larkspur City Library.



- A resident has begun planning a patio garden to be planted and nurtured by the "green thumbs" in the group.
- The Lark Theater has added one resident to its roster of volunteer ushers. Two others have joined as theater members.



- Cheryl Longinotti of Cycling Without Age brings her trishaw to invite residents for a spin on local bike paths.
- The Larkspur Community Foundation has made a grant to support a computer station for residents to share.

Countywide Teamwork Grows Housing Success

More than 125 people have settled in permanent housing since August 2017, when government and nonprofit partners began an intense collaboration to move the needle on the crisis of homelessness.

That number accounts for more than 25% of people estimated to be chronically homeless at that point almost two years ago.

This success directly stems from the “coordinated entry” process, which gathers team members weekly from partner agencies to track outreach, needs, resources and options for every individual known to be struggling with ongoing homelessness.

“We are able to serve vulnerable people more effectively through collaboration and coordination of services,” says Paul Fordham, deputy executive director of Homeward Bound. He’s among local officials participating in the nationwide “Built for Zero” initiative this year that joins communities to share ideas for programs to end chronic and veteran homelessness.

The collaboration led Homeward Bound to reshape services as “housing-focused shelter” at Mill Street Center in San Rafael, which has been a night-to-night emergency shelter for 55 adults. Our New Beginnings Center implemented similar changes to adopt a low-barrier, housing-focused approach.

The key moves were:

- Removing the \$3 nightly fee charged to guests at Mill Street, which discouraged some people from entering.
- Adding staff to keep the shelter open through the day, rather than requiring everyone leave after breakfast.
- Launching case management services and housing group meetings at Mill Street to help people work on their housing challenges from the first day.
- Initiating housing progress reviews at 28-day intervals for each guest at Mill Street. Engagement in housing-focused goals has become a requirement to renew the next 28-day stay in the shelter.

Closer partnerships boost the effectiveness of our programs. For example, while Homeward Bound bases services at the shelters, other nonprofits can help guests get to housing appointments.

To expand the supply of affordable rentals, the Marin Housing Authority has revised programs that assign housing choice vouchers, also called Section 8, which let a tenant pay 30% of income for rent with a voucher covering the rest. The programs set aside more vouchers for “housing first” services and for people moving on from supportive housing, while also seeking out more landlords to participate.

Data from the recent wet winter showed fewer spikes in demand at Mill Street Center, though staff still had some nights when they turned people away for lack of space.

Of those housed since the coordinated entry system began, 50% had used the REST program of rotating winter shelters hosted by various churches. “That was a bed for the night, but what those former guests of REST have now is permanent housing,” Paul says.

Ray’s story shows the potential of collaboration to lay stronger paths for progress. Outreach workers met Ray (not his real name) washing clothes in a Novato creek. At the time, he lived outdoors in a camp.

During that meeting, Ray completed the screening used by partner agencies. Ray had been homeless for seven years, cycling between Homeward Bound’s shelter, the REST winter shelter program, the emergency room and jail. He had struggled with addiction and post traumatic stress disorder.

A housing opportunity came up for Ray within a few months. Due to periodic contact with partner agencies who shared information, team members found Ray and helped him through the move-in process. He struggled with the new surroundings at first, but after a few months checked himself into a rehab facility.

Ray now enjoys having his home and, with newfound sobriety, recently got a part-time job. Since 95% of people placed through the coordinated entry process remain housed, chances are good that Ray has left homelessness in the past.

HOUSING: GOOD FOR HEALTH AND COMMUNITY



COST OF SERVICES FOR A CHRONICALLY HOMELESS ADULT

\$65,000 PER YEAR

(medical, emergency shelter, law enforcement, jail and court services)

COST OF SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR A TYPICAL TENANT

\$25,000 PER YEAR

(rent, case management, referrals to community services)

(Home Not Found: the Cost of Homelessness in Silicon Valley, 2015; Marin Chronic Alcohol with Justice Involvement Project, 2013.)



Adults suffering with chronic homelessness have a life expectancy that’s 28 years shorter than their peers with housing.

- ✓ They suffer chronic diseases at three to six times higher rates.
- ✓ They die more often from diseases considered to be preventable.
- ✓ They are more likely to lack insurance and regular medical care.

(Hard Cold Facts About the Deaths of Homeless People, National Health Care for the Homeless Council, 2006)



Along with Homeward Bound of Marin, partners in Marin’s “coordinated entry” collaboration include:

Ritter Center
Marin Housing Authority
St. Vincent de Paul Society
Buckelew Programs
City of San Rafael
County of Marin
Department of Veterans Affairs

Community Partner Spotlight: *Cornerstone Congregation Believes in Food as Love*

In keeping with its name, Cornerstone Community Church in Marin City has held fast for more than 20 years among meal providers for shelter residents at Mill Street Center.

Almost 100 church members team up and take turns to provide a meal every month in a rotation of congregations and other groups that has served Mill Street dinners since 1986. Together, they constitute the biggest volunteer project at Homeward Bound of Marin.

"We appreciate the opportunity to serve. We exist to help people," says Bishop Johnathan Logan, Sr., who has led the church for more than three decades.

Dr. Carolyn Logan, the church administrator and bishop's wife, works with coordinator Valerie Preston to ensure a meal for 55 adults will be delivered to the San Rafael shelter on every fourth Sunday.

"We bring ribs, chicken, green beans – for each person cooking, it's their choice," she says. "We just tell them, 'please don't do pasta,' because we've heard from residents that they get a lot of pasta."

The couple likes to make occasional deliveries themselves and chat with residents. "There's always somebody that we know. They can see we're not looking down at them. We're there to bring love and support," Carolyn says.

Several church members have used Mill Street services at one time or another, she adds. The congregation also gathers toiletries, socks, towels and other useful items that the shelter might need.

"Our goal there is just to promote the spirit of excellence and love, to put our purpose into action," Bishop Logan says.



The mission-minded church also supports a food program in Haiti along with construction of wells and classrooms in Africa.

A trained marriage and family counselor who works as an academic support provider for Vallejo schools, Carolyn helps young families who face hunger, homelessness and unemployment. She knows at least four are living in their cars.

"We see the struggle and we try to find resources," she says. "Mill Street is a resource but some communities don't have those services."

Volunteer Spotlight: *Volunteer Chefs Kindle Interest in Food*

When Julie Burford and Arlene Ford bring a monthly dinner to residents of the Family Center, they're not just thinking of filling bellies. They see their meals as a chance to spark a closer interest in food.

"They call us 'the organic ladies.' We want to bring a little bit of adventure to the table with maybe something that people haven't had a chance to try," Julie says.

Started in June 2018, their project uses grant funds from the Marin-based Healing Kitchens Institute to purchase organic ingredients. They shop at the farmer's market at the Marin Civic Center or Good Earth, an all-organic grocer.

Four or five recipes typically make up their menu for the family shelter, which serves approximately 25 parents and children. "We made a bold first dinner, with lamb meatballs, and wondered if everyone would eat it," Julie says.

Reviews from the families have been positive, Arlene adds, though one parent had an allergic reaction to a shrimp dish, not realizing that they had a mild allergy to shellfish. The only complaint has been the lack of leftovers.



Thanks to their grant, a trained chef helps each week with food prep. They cook in Julie's kitchen, with her husband Stan at the

ready to wash dishes and pack up everything for delivery. A recent dinner included toasted farro and asparagus salad, shepherd's pie, sweet and sour red cabbage, and carrot cake.

"We try to include seasonal and fun things that are not too common, like fennel or blood oranges," Arlene says.

The two women connected through Ceres Community Project, a nonprofit that cooks organic meals for people facing life-threatening illness. Julie founded the Marin chapter of Ceres eight years ago and Arlene joined the project two years later.

"We both have the volunteerism spirit in our bones. And we both believe in connecting people through food, even in a temporary community," Arlene says.

HOMEWARD BOUND PROGRAM MAP – 2019

Adult Services

King Street Senior Housing
Larkspur
12 beds

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Housing at Last
Multiple Locations
26 beds

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Fourth Street Center
San Rafael
20 rooms (20 beds)

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Next Key Apartments
Novato
25 studio units (25 beds)

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

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

EMERGENCY SHELTER

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

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Warner Creek Senior Housing
Novato
Partnership with Eden Housing. Support services provided for 60 residents

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE 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

Mill Street Center
San Rafael
55 beds

EMERGENCY SHELTER

Family Services

Oma Village
Novato
14 houses (35 beds)

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Family Place
Multiple Locations
10 houses (41 beds)

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Fireside Apartments
Mill Valley
Partnership with Eden Housing. 10 houses (35 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

Yellow Hallway
San Rafael
2 families (5 beds)

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

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 60 students annually.

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

WE WANT TO CELEBRATE YOU!

WHETHER YOU CARE FOR CHILDREN OR PLANTS, BRING MEALS OR MASSAGE, YOU HAVE MADE A HEARTWARMING IMPACT IN OUR PROGRAMS. VOLUNTEERS SUPPLY THE WIND BENEATH OUR WINGS! WE'RE PLANNING A JUST-FOR-YOU GATHERING TO HONOR YOUR GIFTS.



Every year, Homeward Bound of Marin receives help from more than 1,000 volunteers.



Many volunteers carve a niche doing what they love, enriching our efforts to end homelessness for each individual that we serve.

SAVE THE DATE

Volunteer Appreciation Party

4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, September 26
The Key Room
More details to come!



Dozens of volunteers lend a hand in our kitchens or deliver food to our programs, creating meals that bring people together.



WE LOOK FORWARD TO HONORING ALL THESE UNIQUE CONTRIBUTIONS OF TIME AND TALENT. THANK YOU!



WAYS TO GIVE

Invest to build a *stronger future*

With a gift to Homeward Bound, you help build bridges from crisis to stability and stronger futures for homeless individuals and families in our programs.

You can choose to honor friends or loved ones with your donation. We also can help facilitate legacy gifts, contributions of stock or recurring donations.

Make a gift online at hbofm.org/donate or by check to Homeward Bound of Marin, 1385 N. Hamilton Pkwy., Novato, CA. 94949. Thank you for your support!

Invite your guests to *The Key Room*

Our team provides delicious catering and friendly service in a modern event space designed for corporate gatherings, conferences, banquets or special occasions.

Event & Catering Coordinator Viki Card helps with planning, menus, staff and other details to make your event succeed. **Call 415-382-3363 x214 to start working on your big day.** *All proceeds from The Key Room support shelter and job-training programs.*

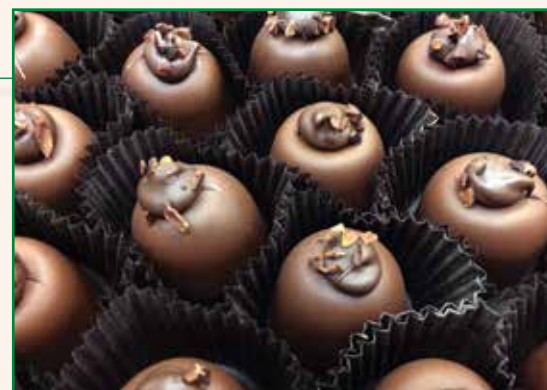


Treat someone special with a *Halo*

Do you want to give a treat with a little something extra?

Choose a box of Halo Truffles or select one of our Halo HomeMades jams, jellies and salsas. Students and staff at Fresh Starts Culinary Academy make them all, plus your purchase supports shelter, housing and employment skills training.

Call the Halo Hotline at 415-382-3363 x214 or visit bit.ly/HaloProducts to learn more.



Stock up on goodness with *Wagster Treats*

What's good about Wagster Treats, the gourmet dog treats made in our kitchen by graduates of Fresh Starts Culinary Academy?

With only six simple ingredients in each chef-inspired recipe, they're healthy for dogs and good for the community! Each purchase supports programs that help homeless and low-income adults build employment skills.

Find Wagster Treats at Pet Food Express stores and independent pet retailers throughout the North Bay or online at wagstertreats.com.





Gifts of Time and Resources

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, 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 Church of Marin, 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, Korean Presbyterian Church, 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 ongoing support at the Fireside Apartments.
- **The TNT Club of Trinity Lutheran Church** for diaper donations.
- **First Congregational Church of San Rafael** for helping with Wagster Treats and selling Halo HomeMades.
- **St. Isabella's Church** for bringing Christmas presents for children.
- **Golden Gate Center for Spiritual Living** for donating Christmas presents for adult residents.

SCHOOLS

Thank you to:

- **San Domenico School 4th graders** for cooking meals monthly.
- **San Domenico School 5th graders** for staffing a food pantry at Fireside Apartments.
- **Mill Valley Middle School** for donating Christmas presents to residents.

BUSINESSES, AND ORGANIZATIONS

Thank you to:

- **Cake4Kids** for donating birthday cakes to our young residents.
- **Stone Soup Marin** and **Anne's Kitchen** for providing monthly meals at Mill Street Center.
- **EO Products** for donating organic personal care products to our programs.
- **The Republic of Tea** for donating tea and gift baskets as premier sponsor for Fresh Starts Chef Events and for wrapping Christmas presents.
- **Deseret Industries Store** in Sacramento for donating bedding.
- **SusieCakes** for pies and cakes for our programs.
- **Children4Change** for supporting the Family Center, Mill Street Center and Oma Village with meals and activities.
- **Benziger Family Winery, Imagery Estate Winery, V. Sattui Winery, St. Francis Winery and BR Cohn Winery** for donating wine for chef events.
- **Members of National Charity League** for meal donations to the Family Center and Mill Street Center.
- **Marin Ballet, Marin Dance Theatre and Mayflower Chorus** for donating tickets to holiday performances.
- **Anabella's Gifts** for donating Christmas presents to the Family Center.

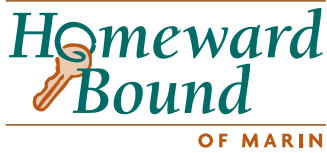
- **Kiosk** for ongoing support with websites, digital marketing and the creation of a succulent garden. (*pictured above*)
- **BioMarin** for organizing bedding and furnishings at King Street Senior Housing.
- **Related** for assembling furniture and cleaning the backyard at King Street Senior Housing.
- **Drawbridge** for bringing art workshops to Oma Village and Family Center.
- **The Arc SF** for help in the gardens at New Beginnings Center.
- **Mycopia, Verlasso, Spirit Works Distillery and Monarch Bitters** for donating products for our chef events.

INDIVIDUALS

Thank you to:

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- **Mark Reynolds** for holding a photo portrait session at Family Center.
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- **Glenn Matsui, Vicky and Gary Huehner and Kristen Schaefer** for help with our beehives.
- **John Murphy** for taking photo portraits of our residents.
- **Christopher DeLellis** for serving as a chaplain at Warner Creek Senior Housing.
- **Sara Henry** for offering art workshops at Warner Creek Senior Housing.
- **Nancy Vierra** for coordinating a Mindfulness Conversation Group for Warner Creek residents.
- **Farrell Swain** for leading a knitting group for Warner Creek residents.
- **Yayoi Lewis** for leading a gentle exercise group at Warner Creek.
- **Susan Orma, Nancy Elberg and Renata Bihun** for assisting at the New Beginnings Center front desk.
- **Andy Arenberg** for administrative support.
- **Mary Wright** for creating flyers for Fresh Starts Chef Events.
- **Sherry 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.
- **Marcie and Donald Leach** for bringing deliveries from the Food Bank to Family Center.
- **Julie Burford and Arlene Ford** for cooking at the Family Center once a month.
- **Sunny, Linea and Linda Gerwig** for preparing meals for the Family Center.
- **Diana Williams and friends** for making a Christmas dinner at Fourth Street Center.
- **Tannaz Rahimpour** for providing childcare at Oma Village.
- **Patrick Rimbaud and Ashley Droegge** for providing meals for Oma Village.
- **Jackie Towney Moore**, for providing meals for Family Place residents.
- **Danielle Egan** for help with Wagster Treats.

THANK YOU! If we have forgotten to list you, please accept our apology and know we appreciate all that you do.



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WITH YOUR HELP, WE'RE ACHIEVING SUCCESS!

Heart of Marin Awards

Homeward Bound of Marin received a great honor to kick off 2019 with recognition for **Achievement in Nonprofit Excellence** at the 26th Annual Heart of Marin Awards.

The Center for Volunteer & Nonprofit Leadership received 20 nominations for the award, which spotlights an organization that has “demonstrated exemplary service to their constituents.”

Photo left to right: Deputy Executive Director Paul Fordham, Board Chairman Bob Puett, Executive Director Mary Kay Sweeney, Director of Operations LaSaunda Tate, Chaunte Chastang, representing award sponsor Nugget Markets.



2018 Women of Industry Awards

Members of the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce named Executive Director Mary Kay Sweeney in the **2018 Women of Industry Awards**, along with Stephanie Plante of Cpi Developers.

The honorees “provide a much-needed voice for all women in business,” says Joanne Webster, the chamber’s chief executive officer. “They inspire our youth, advocate for the rights and needs of women (and) support gender equity in the workplace.”

Charity Navigator

Homeward Bound again received a **4-Star Rating from Charity Navigator**, which attests to our status as “exceptional.” Thanks to our supporters for helping us reach for the stars!

