# Homeward Bound

Homeward Bound of Marin • Fall/Winter News 2021



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On the cover:

Board President Bob Puett and LaSaunda Tate, Director of Housing & Operations, in front of Mill Street 2.0. Photo by Paige Green



#### **DEAR FRIENDS TO THE END...**



We've reached a milestone to celebrate with you, which is particularly sweet during this time of watchful recovery and heightened appreciation for the abundance that comes our way. Together with our community partners, we've housed **400 people** since an intensive "housing first" collaboration began four years ago. This success brings the dream of home to many of our most vulnerable unhoused neighbors!

You are part of each journey home, smoothing the path of ending homelessness one person and one family at a time. Our spirits soar every time someone completes that journey and our hearts swell with thanks for each one who lets us know that they're thriving.

Every journey is different and nuanced, as you will see when you meet the individuals who have agreed to share their stories. Their courage, persistence, and resilience in the face of discouraging odds plant seeds of hope for all of us and, perhaps especially, for folks who are just beginning their path.

The journey can only be completed if there is a destination at which to arrive. Hence, we're hard at work on "Mill Street 2.0." Construction is reaching a peak, literally, as the roof is installed on the new building that will provide 32 brand new supportive housing units along with our rebuilt shelter. Opening the doors of this building will be a milestone to celebrate next year!

Construction of a building provides a visual metaphor for the rebuilding of lives that we witness every day at Homeward Bound. Thank you for being part of our construction crew!

#### Gratefully,

Mary Kay Sweeney, Executive Director

#### FALL/WINTER SPOTLIGHT

- We're Turning a Corner at Mill Street
- Veteran Jeff D. Goes from Camping to Home
- Janin H. Finds Culinary Passion in Service
- Jaybe C. Makes Business Bloom

- Community Report 2020-21
- Community & Volunteer Spotlights:
   Senator Mike McGuire
   Hillside Church

# Mill Street Turns Corner for Home

WE'RE TURNING THE CORNER

FOR HOME WITH A NEW ROOF

**AND JUST 5% OF FUNDS** 

**LEFT TO RAISE** 

A muddy corner visible a year ago at the corner of Mill and Harbor streets in San Rafael will become a major intersection for paths out of homelessness in the New Year.

Crews have moved non-stop to prepare the site, pour concrete, erect the solid walls of the ground-floor parking area, and frame the spaces on each floor for our rebuilt shelter and new housing units.

We're turning the corner for home with a new roof and just 5% of funds left to raise toward the \$19 million cost of this essential

project! Our grand opening will happen in late summer of 2022.

"We are thrilled that this most important venture is progressing at such a great pace. Our funding and construction partners are awesome as are the many community members supporting creation of this critical

resource," says Mary Kay Sweeney, Homeward Bound Executive Director.

Our new building offers an efficient, purpose-built shelter on the second floor, replacing the one operated at the site for 35 years. The updated space includes smaller dormitory rooms for better sleep and designated rooms for youth.

The structure dubbed "Mill Street 2.0" will serve Marin County as the only year-round emergency shelter, welcoming up to 300 people annually with a safe place to rest, meals, counseling and help to secure housing.

Residents on the upper floors will be part of a new supportive housing program designed for adults with a prolonged history of homelessness who struggle most to maintain stability.

The 32 new housing units will be split between the third and fourth floors, with residents sharing a kitchen, community space and bathrooms on each level. On-site staff will be available around the

delta clock to provide support.

At the moment, Homeward Bound operates an interim shelter in a former office building in San Rafael. That building will transition to provide permanent supportive housing when "Mill Street 2.0" opens.

Would you like to learn more or invite

your group to hear a presentation about this project? Please contact Development Director Corry Kanzenberg at ckanzenberg@hbofm. org or 415-382-3363 x216.

Help open doors to hope and the dream of home with a gift to "Mill Street 2.0"! With your support, we'll get down the home stretch to open this program next year.

# WAYS TO HELP RAISE THE ROOF



#### **Sponsor a Room – \$50,000**

Open one of 32 rooms for someone to end their struggle with homelessness forever.

#### Make Laundry a Pleasure - \$25,000

Outfit our laundry room with energy-efficient appliances, folding table and seating

#### Furnish a Restful Terrace - \$10,000

Underwrite one of four outdoor terraces with views of the Marin hills.

#### Adopt the Computer Lab - \$5,000

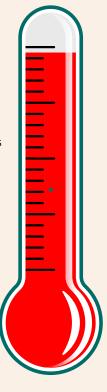
Set up our new computer lab for residents to look for jobs and fill out housing applications.

# Want to find out more about this project and these opportunities?

Please contact us at 415-382-3363 x216 or ckanzenberg@hbofm.org.

#### Help us down the home stretch

with a gift online at hbofm.org/donate or by check to Homeward Bound of Marin, 1385 N. Hamilton Parkway, Novato, CA 94949, with "Mill Street" in the memo.





#### Heading into the fall, Jeff D. says he set a goal for himself to lose some weight. That's a new one for him.

"I've set lots of goals. Stay sober, stop smoking, stay out of trouble, get a job," says Jeff, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran who moved into a Novato apartment two years ago. "Most of them were hard. It's a lot easier to focus when you have a place to live."

Now he's applying again for work and enjoying his health. After a long course of treatment for Hepatitis C, doctors recently found him clear of the disease.

#### VETERAN JEFF D. MOVES FROM CAMPING TO HOUSING

A Tiburon native who graduated from Novato High School, Jeff enlisted at 18 years old with hopes of becoming a pilot. "If you make it through boot camp, you can make it through anything," he says.

His service ended without reaching the dream of flight school and he returned to the North Bay, working alternately as a carpenter or a cook. Jeff lived in Petaluma for 18 years while his children were growing, but his stability fizzled after a divorce.

"WITHOUT HOMEWARD BOUND...
WELL, I DON'T WANT TO THINK
ABOUT IT. NOW I GET UP IN THE
MORNING, I WANT TO DO
SOMETHING PRODUCTIVE."

—JEFF D.

He first sought help from Homeward Bound of Marin after being injured when a deck railing gave way at his apartment and the fall left him unable to work. "My arm snapped and my lungs got infected, then I went into a painkiller addiction for awhile," he says.

After healing from that injury, Jeff began a period of camping around the county as he struggled with sobriety. "I've been camping in this county since 1967 with Boy Scouts. It never felt like I was homeless being outside," he adds.

Though he felt at ease outdoors, Jeff recalls skipping a lot of meals and finding stability farther away with each day. "It gets harder and harder. That's when I went to Mill Street (emergency shelter)," he says.

Jeff graduated from Fresh Starts Culinary Academy, Homeward Bound's flagship training program, and worked in the New Beginnings Center kitchen for two years. Later he found a job handling donations and doing customer service with Goodwill in San Rafael.

Case managers helped him secure a housing voucher and settle into his apartment. Jeff credits his time in our programs with grounding him on a fresh path.

"Without Homeward Bound... well, I don't want to think about it," he says. "Now I get up in the morning, I want to do something productive."

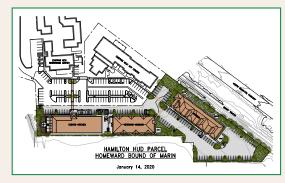
# Ending Veteran Homelessness and More with the 'HUD Parcel'

Development of what's known as the 'HUD Parcel' in Novato's Hamilton area will allow Marin County to be one of the first in California to end veteran homelessness.

The project will occupy 2.8 acres next to Homeward Bound's headquarters in Novato. A new supportive housing community planned for veterans will offer homes to all former service members known to be experiencing homelessness in Marin.

# Quick

- The plan replaces disused military warehouses with three distinct yet related programs.
- Phase 1 provides 24 small apartments for veterans.
- Phase 2 provides 26 small apartments for families and individuals transitioning to the local workforce.
- A manufacturing bakery and culinary education space for Homeward Bound's social enterprise businesses also will be part of Phase 2.



- The total project cost is estimated at \$30 million, with \$12.5 million raised so far.
- Novato's Design Review Commission gave unanimous approval to exterior design for the project in January 2021.
- Groundbreaking for this project is expected in late 2022.

#### JANIN H. NOURISHES THE COMMUNITY

#### Growing up in a family with lean resources, Janin H. learned to make the most of everything and count her blessings.

"My mom worked three jobs and we often counted on food banks," says Janin, who was raised in Santa Rosa.

Those experiences came full circle after her graduation from Fresh Starts Culinary Academy in January 2018. Now she nourishes others in the community as executive chef at C.O.T.S., the Committee on the Shelterless, that offers free meals, shelter and housing services in Petaluma.

"This job – it really gives me what I need to stay whole," she says. "To see people engage with the food and relax for a minute, it's wonderful to make that gift for them."

Her kitchen at C.O.T.S. relies mainly on food banks and donations from local grocers to provide daily meals, a continual menu challenge that fuels her passion. "That's where I come alive, when I tame chaos," Janin says.

Working with manager Max Knerler and another staff member, she maintained lunch and dinner service through the pandemic for 60-80 people. A recent lunch offered zucchini stuffed with ground turkey and herbs, green salad and fruit salad, yogurt and dessert.

She often rolls the cart outside herself to greet walk-up customers coming for a boxed lunch to go. "Sometimes people don't want to chat, but I just like to say hello," she says.

Janin understands tough times, having worked two jobs while parenting six kids with her husband and simultaneously running a courier business. She worked in fast-food spots in high school, then moved back to kitchen positions after the courier business shrank as new technology filled customer needs.

The Sonoma County wildfires left her unemployed when a local country club shut its kitchen. The meager unemployment check, however, gave her an opportunity to enroll at Fresh Starts Culinary Academy.



She began riding the SMART train daily to Homeward Bound's training kitchen in Novato.

"I had a lot of experience, but there was so much that I gained," Janin says. She learned better knife skills, the "mother sauces," how to organize inventory and the etiquette of food service. Help with her resume and mock interviews gave her new confidence.

"It all came together there. It was lifechanging for me," she says.



#### With two trucks and two employees, Jaybe C. sees business blooming with 27 customers at Jaybe's Organic landscaping business.

He started the business three years ago, just before he came to our Mill Street Center emergency shelter after leaving a troublesome relationship and looking fruitlessly for housing he could afford on his own.

Jaybe recently moved into his own apartment in Novato, where he can keep his equipment and two trucks secure for

bimonthly visits to customers from Mill Valley to Novato.

"The apartment is a godsend," says Jaybe, who spent two years in our Next Key Apartments as his work expanded. "I have equipment storage. It's really good to have a place to go after a long day."

While he never doubted his ability to do the work, Jaybe says he benefited greatly at Homeward Bound from guidance on building his credit, organizing his banking and assessing his technology needs.

"I knew how to get customers, schedule people, get the projects done," he says. "It was the encouragement every day that really helped me, and the support to set things up right."

A longtime Marin resident, Jaybe spent a brief period at Mill Street Center in 2004 during a time when he struggled with substance abuse. After moving for 90 days to a recovery program, he committed to sobriety and to extending his professional knowledge.

Jaybe got his introduction to plant care at the University of San Francisco. He credits the university's training program with giving him a broad base of skills during his nine years of employment there.

He later worked for 10 years with Clean Air Lawn Care, a Marin franchise that has since closed. People had begun approaching him to do work on his own, so he took the plunge into entrepreneurship.

The onset of the pandemic halted everything for weeks, but Jaybe says he had built some resilience. "I stopped spending and I had started saving long before the pandemic, so I got through," he says.

In five years, Jaybe hopes he'll be managing a competent team and spend less time in the field. Thanks to Homeward Bound, he adds, his hopes are high.

"The whole energy of Homeward Bound is good energy. I feel a lot of gratitude," he says.



# **COMMUNITY REPORT • 2020-2021**

After a year of upheaval and recovery, the need for a place to call home remains urgent. We need homes not just for shelter, but for health, for loved ones, for peace of mind. During the past year, our dedicated staff provided essential services without interruption to support and encourage pathways home for everyone who has entrusted us with their journeys.

Homeward Bound welcomed **870 women, men and children** in the year ending June 30, 2021, a drop of more than 10% from the previous year due to the social distancing required in our shelter services.

Following a multi-year trend, the number of seniors in our programs rose again to become 27% of the individuals served last year. COVID-19 poses extra risks for this group, which includes many individuals with medical or disability issues, underscoring our commitment to cleaning and safety protocols.

Family programs served a total of **121 parents and 127 children**, a tally that also declined from a year earlier due to the pandemic. The silver lining came in the form of pop-up emergency motel shelters that allowed us to support an additional **23 families** experiencing homelessness.

As the motel shelters closed, our staff worked diligently to ensure that all families had pathways to stable housing. In June, Homeward Bound received federal funds to expand "housing first" services for **10 more families**. Across Homeward Bound, 89% of families and 69% of individuals leaving our programs moved to a housing option.

Our innovative Transition to Wellness program saw 28% more people last year, serving **62 men and 16 women in medical respite care** who exited from hospital treatment without stable housing. This partnership with local hospitals resulted in 904 hospital days avoided for a savings of \$3.37 million for the year.

The National Health Care for the Homeless Council recognized the excellent services of this program by honoring Andre Harris, R.N., with its **2021 National Medical Respite Care Award**. Andre has led this program at Homeward Bound since 2008.

Health care played a large part at Homeward Bound, with on-site vaccine clinics and frequent testing opportunities. Andre Harris also handled the COVID-19 testing required for new shelter residents when intake resumed last November.

Fully **100% of Homeward Bound staff** has been vaccinated, while approximately 65% of residents have completed their doses. Along with on-site clinics, our staff offers education and encouragement for every resident to protect themselves and our community by getting the vaccine.

Construction of our "Mill Street 2.0" shelter and new housing program in San Rafael made great progress despite pandemic-induced complications for supplies and prices. This four-story structure has ground-floor parking, shelter space for 40+ residents on the second floor and 32 supportive housing units above.

The roof goes on the building at the end of November, a milestone as excitement grows for a **grand opening in late summer of 2022**. You can read more details on page 3.

Our "front door" shelter services operate temporarily from a former office building purchased by the County of Marin through Project Homekey. Homeward Bound also worked last year with county officials to lay plans for a second site purchased through Project Homekey in Corte Madera. The new program will open next year in a former motel on Casa Buena Drive to offer **permanent supportive housing for 18 people** with a staff office, small community space and outdoor patios.

A new veterans housing program advanced last year with added funding and approval for the site's exterior design from the Novato Design Review Commission.

This development will demolish three disused military warehouses next to Homeward Bound headquarters in Novato, replacing them with 50 units of supportive housing and expanded space for social enterprises like production of our Wagster Treats premium dog biscuits.

We expect Phase 1 of this development to break ground in late 2022, providing a **24-unit veterans community** that can house all former service members now identified as experiencing homelessness in Marin. The site will allow Marin County to be among the first in the state to end veteran homelessness!

Our social enterprises have a bright future, yet they met serious obstacles during the pandemic along with training opportunities at Fresh Starts Culinary Academy. Virus risks prevented launch of new students last year in our core training program and shut down our onsite event venue, The Key Room. Fresh Starts Chef Events pivoted to hold several Virtual Happy Hour gatherings.

Our culinary team remained busy with huge efforts in hunger relief, producing **96,000 meals for vulnerable families and adults** in our programs. Through the state-sponsored Great Plates Delivered program, our kitchen produced an additional 15,000 meals for seniors facing serious health risks in our community.

The Fresh Starts staff created an entirely new advanced curriculum for culinary graduates employed at Homeward Bound, allowing them to gain proficiency in advanced knife skills, inventory control and kitchen management. They also assisted more than a dozen graduates with emergency cash aid, referral to job opportunities and resume updates.

Giving Homeward Bound something to wag about, Wagster Treats continued to grow with more than \$100,000 in sales for the 2020-21 year. Our treats made a debut at Whole Foods Markets in Northern California and laid plans to continue growth in the holiday season.

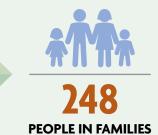


THANK YOU FOR PARTNERING WITH US THROUGH A HISTORIC YEAR IN THE WORK OF "ENDING HOMELESSNESS WITH TRAINING, HOUSING AND HOPE."

#### WHO WE SERVE



**8/U**PEOPLE SERVED





**SINGLE ADULTS** 



SENIORS (62+)

234

VETERANS 51

**CHILDREN (UNDER 18)** 

127



**FAMILY PROGRAMS 89%** left for a housing opportunity



**ADULT PROGRAMS 69%** left for housing opportunity





### **HUNGER RELEIF**

#### 96,000 Meals

produced for people facing a housing crisis and vulnerable seniors in Marin

#### 15,000 Meals

delivered through state's Great Plates Delivered program

#### 35 Employees

received work hours related to meal production



#### TRANSITION TO WELLNESS

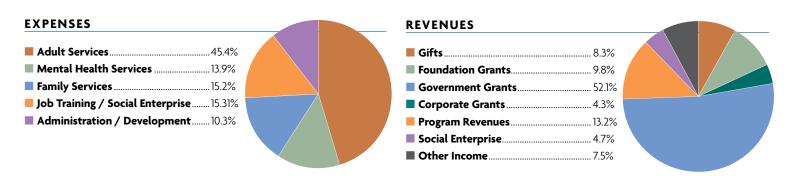
Medical Respite Shelter

78 people served

904 hospital days avoided

\$3,368,693 saved through avoidable hospital stays

#### **OPERATING BUDGET / TOTAL AGENCY EXPENSES AND REVENUES • 2020-21**



#### **HOMEWARD BOUND PROGRAM MAP - 2021**

#### **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

#### COMING SOON

#### Casa Buena

Corte Madera 18 studio rooms (18 beds)

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

#### Next Key Apartments

Novato 25 studio units (25 beds)

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

#### **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

#### UNDER CONSTRUCTION

#### Mill Street 2.0

San Rafael (32 beds)

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

#### New Beginnings Center

Novato 80 beds (including 12 beds for veterans)

SHELTER & TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

#### **Temporary Shelter**

San Rafael (40+ beds)

EMERGENCY SHELTER

# Transition to Wellness

Novato 3 studio units (6 medical respite beds)

EMERGENCY SHELTER

#### UNDER CONSTRUCTION

#### Mill Street 2.0

San Rafael (40+ 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)

MERGENCY 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

#### **Families First**

Multiple Locations 10 houses (29 beds)

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

#### Next Key Apartments

Novato 4 studio units (8 beds)

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

#### **Nuestra Casa**

Multiple Locations 10 houses (29 beds)

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

#### **Family Center**

San Rafael 9 rooms (25 beds)

EMERGENCY SHELTER

#### Yellow Hallway

San Rafael 2 families (5 beds)

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Job-Training Programs

#### Fresh Starts Culinary Academy

Offers intensive 10-week job-training program. Enrolls up to 60 students annually.

JOB-TRAINING PROGRAMS

#### **Apprenticeships**

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

JOB-TRAINING PROGRAMS



### Community Partner Spotlight: Senator Mike McGuire Champions Housing for All

# The new shelter and housing building going up in San Rafael had not yet been drawn or designed when Sen. Mike McGuire began working on funding to help pay for it.

With others in the California State Senate, he helped draft the "No Place Like Home" bill signed into law in 2016 to offer more than \$2 billion toward ending chronic homelessness.

The senator believes strongly in permanent housing with support services as a valuable – and cost-effective – strategy to end homelessness.

"We know that providing housing and wraparound services will save taxpayers millions in the long run and produces life-changing results," Sen. McGuire said.

In 2020, our Mill Street site received a total of \$4.45 million in "No Place Like Home"

funding. The new building in San Rafael includes 32 apartments to serve people with a prolonged history of homelessness who can thrive with on-site support.

The state grant kick-started the fundraising campaign that now has gathered \$18 million toward the building's \$19 million cost. We expect to open the doors in late summer of 2022.

"Sen. McGuire tackles challenging problems like homelessness by listening to people on the front lines, bringing problem-solving resources and ultimately creating funding opportunities to get things done," says Mary Kay Sweeney, Homeward Bound's executive director.



SENATOR MIKE MCGUIRE

While the landmark "No Place Like Home" bill continues to produce results, Sen. McGuire has turned his attention to boosting a project that would end veteran homelessness in Marin County.

With his support, the state's Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention Program awarded \$3 million in 2020 for a \$12.1 million plan to create 24 apartments for unhoused veterans next to our Admin Office in Novato.

Sen. McGuire lobbied to include \$4 million in this year's state budget for the plan, enough to ensure the start of work on this project as Phase 1 of a larger 2.8-acre proposal.

Based on current knowledge of people experiencing homelessness, completing this new community would make Marin County one of the first in the state to end homelessness for its former service members

"He's been a true champion, one that we cherish for this work," Sweeney says.



### Volunteer Spotlight: Hillside Church of Marin

#### When work began last year to rebuild the Mill Street Center shelter, Marie Waters and her team from Hillside Church of Marin were among dozens of meal volunteers who saw gaps appear on their calendars.

"We were used to doing two Tuesdays per month – one tacos and one steak," says Marie, who has led a Hillside meal team since 2004. The evening meals delivered by a rotation of groups constituted Homeward Bound's largest and longest-running volunteer program.

The pandemic halted deliveries of home-cooked food in our programs, but the Hillside group pivoted to grocery deliveries that have helped stretch the budget at Family Center.

"We really didn't want to lose the team spirit and the volunteers," Marie says. The group delivers on the first and third Wednesdays to our emergency shelter for nine families in San Rafael.

A retired nurse, she believes in boosting health for the whole community by supporting her lesser-served neighbors. "There's a need and I've got so much to be thankful for," says Marie, who also has pitched in to give COVID-19 vaccinations at a county clinic.

Another team member, Winnie Caulkins, said she seized on delivery to the Family Center to maintain her connection to Homeward Bound after making meals for Mill Street Center for 16 years.

While the church supports other projects, including an orphanage in Mexico, she says the meal team appreciates the local partnership.



"We're happy to help out with a ministry in our own community," she says.

Shikira Porter, program director at the Family Center, praises the Hillside group's flexible response to supporting families in the shelter program. The volunteers also generously provide gift cards for Safeway that help new families get started on their shopping.

"With school starting, families asked to switch from delivery of meals to items they could use for kids' lunches. It's worked beautifully," Shikira says. "Families use every piece of the donation!"



# WAYS TO GIVE

## Help people reach housing and hope

Invest in avenues that lead home for individuals and families moving from crisis to resilience in our community. Every gift to support our shelter and housing programs helps people overcome obstacles and reach a sustainable future.

Honor friends and family members with a contribution in their name or create a monthly investment to unlock new futures all year. Interested in making a planned gift in your estate to carry your compassion forward? Please contact 415-382-3363 x216 or email ckanzenberg@hbofm.org.

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!

# Give a gift box for the holidays

Surprise your friends and colleagues with a gift of goodness from our kitchen. You can choose from three gift boxes (Sweet, Savory or Biscotti combinations) or select individual items for everyone in your foodie circle.

Call the Halo Hotline at 415-382-3363 x214 or visit **bit.ly.HaloProducts** to see our lineup of treats like Halo Truffles, Halo Honey and jams, pickles and sauces. All products are made by students and staff at Fresh Starts Culinary Academy.



## Plan a 2022 event in The Key Room

Gather with your team or host a special occasion and we'll take care of the details in our full-service venue with on-site catering. Our relaunch of The Key Room includes audiovisual upgrades and fresh menus.

Our staff in The Key Room helps with everything from menu choices to cleanup. We can even offer fun culinary activities to spice up your event. All proceeds support nonprofit training and housing programs.

Call us at 415-382-3363 x214 or visit online for more details at **thekeyroom.com**.



# Please your pets with Wagster Treats

These "life-changing dog treats" help our dog-loving team build employment skills while making all natural snacks for your pets. Choose Wagster Treats to support our shelter, housing and training programs and indulge your furry friends with healthy goodness.

Find Wagster Treats at Whole Foods Market, Pet Food Express and independent pet retailers or buy online at WagsterTreats.com.

We offer holiday gift boxes too!





#### CONGREGATIONS

#### Thank you to:

- Peace Lutheran Church for donating Safeway gift cards and delivering groceries at Fireside Apartments.
- Hillside Community Church members for delivering groceries and Safeway gift cards weekly at the Family Center.
- First Congregational Church of San Rafael for organizing a pillow drive.
- Hillside Community Church members for interior painting at the Family Center
- Westminster Presbyterian Church for bringing Sunday dinners to Voyager Carmel Center.

#### **S**CHOOLS

#### Thank you to:

• Marin Country Day students for decorating shipping boxes for Wagster Treats.

#### BUSINESSES, AND ORGANIZATIONS

#### Thank you to:

- Sonic Forest for a pro bono concert at Warner Creek Senior Housing.
- Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical for back-to-school gift cards for our families.
- Cakes 4 Kids for delivering fabulous birthday cakes for children at the Family Center.
- Drawbridge for scheduling volunteers Marianne Owens and Jill Hoefgen to provide a virtual arts and crafts session for our families on Thursdays.
- Kiosk for generous ongoing support with websites and digital marketing.
- Domino's Pizza in San Rafael for ongoing deliveries to our family programs.
- Wednesday's Gift for donating household items for our programs.
- Make It Home Bay Area for furniture donations for our programs and for residents moving into housing.
- Welcoming Home for furniture deliveries for people moving into housing.

#### INDIVIDUALS

#### Thank you to:

- John Bischoff, Kathy Fenger, Tom Lippi and Steve Deschler for lunchtime help at New Beginnings Center.
- Claire Halenbeck for helping redesign office space at our headquarters.
- Jenna Ray for emergency food boxes and flashlights at Warner Creek Senior Housing.
- Riley Berman and Dillon Murphy for help with the food pantry and events at Fireside Apartments.

- Mandy Reyes for donating Farmers Market gift certificates to Warner Creek Senior Housing.
- Justin and Amy Scott for help with yard work at King Street Senior Housing
- Glenn Matsui for generously stewarding our beehives.
- Renata Bihun, Nancy Elberg and Sue Orma for assisting at the New Beginnings Center front desk.
- Nicole Lamb for visiting with seniors at Fireside Apartments.
- Justin Scott for help with community events at Fireside Apartments.
- Shelly Vasquez and volunteers from Archie Williams High School for baking treats and helping with special events at Fireside Apartments.
- Carl Lundgren for doing backyard weeding and cleanup at the Family Center.
- Betty Pagett and Winnie Konopath for bringing meals to the Family Center.
- Ashton Cullinan and friends for decorating shipping boxes for Wagster Treats.
- **Brianna** and **Romina Rossi** for making and delivering bag lunches at Warner Creek Senior Housing.
- Carree Michel for help with publication graphics.
- Sara Henry for leading arts and crafts workshops plus supporting community events at Warner Creek Senior Housing.
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- Marcie and Don Leach for delivering food weekly from SF-Marin Food Bank to the Family Center.
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**THANK YOU!** If we have forgotten to list you, please accept our apology and know we appreciate all that you do.



1385 N. Hamilton Parkway Novato, CA 94949

# Brighten the New Year with Tax-Smart Giving



If you plan to remember Homeward Bound of Marin at the holidays, we invite you to consider giving through appreciated stock or other means that also may provide you with tax advantages.

Your non-cash support through a gift of stock or a qualified charitable distribution from a retirement account can fill the New Year with hope for families and adults transitioning out of homelessness.

With a gift of any size, you invest in solutions to help people find homes of their own. A planned gift through your estate also has the potential for tax advantages to you or your heirs.

We're grateful for your partnership to offer hope and pathways home!

For more details, contact Corry Kanzenberg at 415-382-3363 x216 or email ckanzenberg@hbofm.org. See more information about tax-smart gifts at https://bit.ly/planyourgiving.

"I became involved because homelessness is one of world's most crucial economic, social and moral issues. I remain involved because Homeward Bound continues to provide unfaltering compassion, dedication and innovation to ending homelessness, one key at a time."

—Anita Gail Jones, author, visual artist and member of Homeward Bound's Board of Directors.