

Interfaith Community Social Services Volunteer Newsletter March 2023

18500 Striker Ct. Sonora, CA 95370 209-532-0905 Open: M-F 10AM-1PM

Director's Report

The big question is....are you all holding up ok, and are ok?? In my 50 years up here, I don't remember the weather so impacting as this winter has been. I'm sure we all have stories, scares, highway/travel uncertainties, and worrying about neighbors, friends, and families. Many meetings have been cancelled/postponed, gatherings cancelled, events on hold, and work/business closures, all make things difficult. BUT, first and foremost....remember, if you are uncomfortable driving in to Interfaith on your "work" day...please don't. We want you comfortable, take care of home/family, and ready to come in when things settle down a bit. For those who are able to make it in....we **thank you** for maybe working in a different area, doing something you are not used to doing, and all the while remaining wonderful, kind, and understanding the issues of our clients! This too, shall pass. 🌍

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A few more reminders:

1. March Training Dates: 1:30 to 3PM

March 22	Pantry
March 23	Clothing/HH/TT/D
March 27	Interviewers
March 28	New Volunteers

(1- 4:30PM)

Please sign up. And, bring up any questions, procedures, changes that might be better, and in general how are things going. You input is important.

2. At the end of the work day...

- a) Make sure ALL clients in your area are out of the

building/area. (Example: check showers for clients; water off, not running; items are removed; client jackets, etc., have been removed.

- b) Remind clients to pick up bagged items behind front counter (with their name on the bags).
- c) Check lobby area for items left by clients...water bottles, clothing or front table items, etc.
- d) Name tags on before doors open!
- e) Pantry: be sure the garbage is out, and the dumpster is locked up. And make sure the dumpster
- f) Donation Bin area: be sure the bins are locked. Pick up broken pieces, sweep under the bins, and dump whatever is not appropriate for Eco-World or Interfaith.

95% of the time everything runs smoothly, and in the best interest for the clients and volunteers. It couldn't be done without you, your dedication, and caring for our struggling folks.

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We Welcome our Newest Volunteers:

Lisa Dasko: wife of Scott. Lisa works as an Interviewer on Thursdays, fills in other days. And now will be overseeing the Garden area with Scott.

Dawn Gerner and Crystal Mello: working Tuesday and Thursday in the Clothing, and Pantry when needed.

Pam Kittredge working in the Pantry on Tuesdays.

Cindy Rachelle working in Interviewing and as a Greeter.

Alex Duran not yet on a regular schedule, but works in the Clothing and Pantry areas.

Ideas Wanted: If you have travelled out of the area, and have learned about other like-Interfaith agencies out there...let me know if you think there are services or programs we could include at Interfaith. Remember, we don't only serve those who are struggling or homeless, but we serve as an information area for other resources; family members trying to find ways to help their children or other relatives; donors, service groups, schools, other help-programs, some pets, and civic/service clubs, and many others as well. FYI Mondays Public Health is here; trying for Veterans Services on Tuesdays; Wednesday is Social Service Dept; and Thursday Lions Club/eyes and hearing. Sunrise Rotary helps many of those looking for wood (via referrals to the Senior Center.) Love Tuolumne County and the Homeless Services Workdays happens here; Tuolumne County Social Services Consortia, Tuolumne Thursday evenings in the Park; Latter-Day-Saints wood work cutting work days; we work with Maynard's, the Jail and Prison, Jamestown Family Resource Center, numerous community committees and events. More and more with senior apts, MHParks, Cultural Collaborative, Senior Network, all the while listening and gathering information for us to build programs and learn of other services all along the way. And many others...the point being how better can we serve, or engage others to serve.

Upcoming Dates to Note:

March 12 Daylight Savings begins!
"Spring forward....Fall back"

March 17 St. Patrick's Day
March 20 Spring begins! Whew!
April 1 April Fool's Day
April 7(CLOSED) Good Friday
April 9 Easter
April 10(CLOSED) Easter Monday
April 21 Earth Day
April 26 Administrative Assistant's
(our Deborah's)Day

WE WILL HAVE DISATER DRILLS IN MARCH AND APRIL) for our insurance purposes

Interfaith Needs In case people ask...

- Shower towels
- Rubber bands (shoe dept)
- Laundry soap (for shower towels)
- Handwarmers
- Tarps
- Pet food
- Men's jeans
- And yes.....delightful and wonderful volunteers

As the season turns, people are starting to make plans for over-due trips to see/visit families, vacations, graduations, etc., please remember to let me know, so we can plan coverage/substitutes

Almost finally...we do have a large supply of Co-Vid home test kits. If you, or someone you know would like some, pleas see me.

And finally..... Thanks to Doug's wife, Keron, who made the wonderful Valentine's Day decorations for the Lobby counter area. It was just wonderful. Many comments from clients, and most of us stopped and found our names there, with excellent characters for each volunteer and paid staff. That was fun!

Stay warm, and safe!!