

# HELPING HANDS FOR HOMELESSNESS

safety | security | collaboration | care | acceptance | health | dignity | humanity | belonging | community

Welcome back to the Sitka Homeless Coalition’s Newsletter! This issue, we would like to thank the many people and organizations who made our **Shelter Sitka Campaign** a success! Thanks to your generosity, we exceeded our goal of \$25,000 and received a grand total of **\$53,769!** Thank you for enabling us to serve some of the most vulnerable people in our community.

Chip Camden, Board Vice Chair

## Shelter Sitka In Review

### Campaign Events

#### Community Fundraisers

- Sea Mart Tabling
- Holiday Market Fundraiser
- SHC Annual Meeting Silent Auction
- Sitka Tells Tales Event

#### Community Engagement

- Community Walks
- Volunteer Letter Writing
- Project Homeless Connect
- SHC Annual Meeting
- National Homeless Persons Memorial Day Gathering

*Thank you for joining us!*

Funds raised from local/state businesses and partners:

**\$41,342**

Funds donated from community members:

**\$12,407**

Total Funds Raised:

**\$53,769**

### Event Highlights



Nov. 9 2024 | Hítx'i Sáani Community Walk



Dec. 5 2024 | SHC Annual Meeting



Dec. 12 2024 | Sitka Tells Tales

# SHC

## By The Numbers

### Case Management



- Since August 2024, we have moved **5** people into housing
- Office hours attended **26** times in 2025

### Winter Warming Shelter



- **563** total shelter stays
- Utilized by **22** people

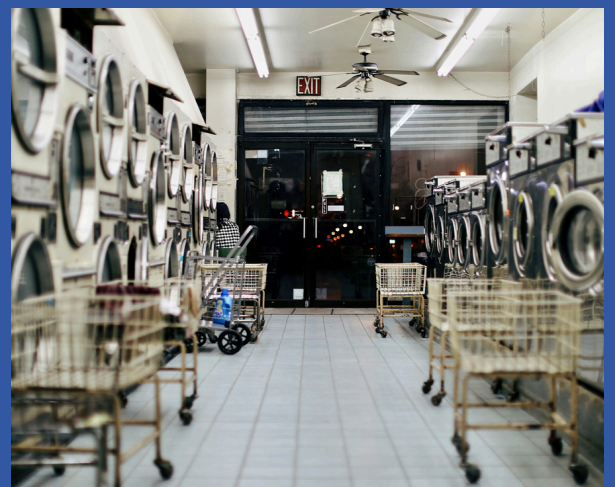
### Showers and Laundry 2024

- Attended **647** times
- **958** loads of laundry
- **488** showers



### Dinner Program

- **250+** meals served this winter
- Utilized by **40+** people



# Volunteer Spotlight



Hannah Green,  
Volunteer of the Year

## You've been a SHC volunteer since 2017. What inspires you to keep working for the mission of eradicating homelessness in Sitka?

The issue of homelessness has been something that's very important to me for decades. Being homeless was really important to my family. There were some times in my life when I was younger that I was homeless. It feels weird to pat myself on the back because I'm doing something good, but if I were to say how I felt about it, it would be satisfied. I'm satisfied with what I'm doing. This is what I really feel that I should be doing now. It doesn't make sense to me to not do this.

## How did it feel to be honored as the Volunteer of the Year at the annual meeting?

I didn't know that was happening, so that was a surprise. It was nice. I didn't [start volunteering] with ulterior motives or anything. It was just like, "you're hungry? I'll feed you." There are a lot of people who do so much stuff – there are so many people who help me help others. But it was really sweet.

## What is one thing you would want people to know about the issue of homelessness in Sitka?

We use a housing first model, getting individuals into housing so that after that, we can help them feel safe, secure and protected. First and foremost, they need to be housed. They need to be alive. We really can't help individuals with long-term goals if they're constantly in fight or flight because you're literally sleeping outside. Your body, your brain, your spirit, your emotions [don't] have a chance to rest and heal. I'm really looking forward to seeing people achieve their goals and dreams so they can focus on other things besides pure survival.

Cathy Li, SHC Volunteer

**Hobbies:** Gardening, Woodworking, Taking walks (but not for exercise!)

**Go-to drink at the Backdoor:** Caramel latte

## The Cozy Corner

Fill my backpack and keep it under 40 pounds (lbs) while helping me stay warm and dry! Do the math here. What are you packing?



Coat - 3 lbs



Sleeping bag - 10 lbs



Canned soup - 6 lbs



Books - 2 lbs



Flashlight - 1 lb



Water jug - 5 lbs



Socks, long johns, fleece top - 5 lbs



Pot and spoon - 1 lb



Tent - 12 lbs



Cookies - 1 lb