

Hope's Village of SLO's Accomplishments

- * Formed a California corporation and 501(c)(3) public charity with all inherent benefits; have five member working board of directors and a devoted team of volunteers; have held monthly planning meetings at Salvation Army for five years including people who are homeless themselves;
- * Adopted by-laws and business plan; developed informational brochure, Power Point presentation, website, FaceBook page, conceptual site plan, and floor plans for model "Cabin on Wheels;"
- * Constructed a model 7' x 11' stick-built "Cabin on Wheels" (licensed by the DMV);
- * Gained the endorsement of SLO County Sheriff Ian Parkinson, Heidi Harmon and SLO City Council, CAPSLO (Community Action Project of SLO), ECHO (El Camino Homeless Organization), SLO Salvation Army, Paso Cares, SLO County Housing Trust Fund, Sandwiches on Sundays, Transitional Food & Shelter, SLO Transitions Mental Health, etc. (see entire list at www.hopesvillageofslo.com);
- * Have given 60+ informational presentations to government staff, organizations, churches and clubs; have had individual meetings with SLO County Supervisors, Sheriff Ian Parkinson, Atascadero Mayor Tom O'Malley, Katcho Achadjian and SLO Police Chief; staff at SLO County Building and Planning, general services, and health department; Laurel Weir and the Homeless Services Oversight Council; Lee Collins from Social Services, etc. We present at city council and county board of supervisor meetings keeping all elected officials apprised of our status. And all are supportive;
- * Developed and managed successful "RVs for Veterans" program for past five years; 71 RVs (motor homes, travel trailers and fifth wheels) have now been passed on to local unhoused veterans and others. No money exchanges hands, and no liability is incurred (the SLO Veterans' Service Office and CAPSLO refers veterans to us they cannot help); we also volunteer at local Veteran's Stand Down events;
- * Have had numerous articles written about Hope's Village and "RVs for Veterans" in local papers and magazines; interviewed by KCBX and KVEC radio stations, KSBY and KCOY TV. We believe there is greater focus today on local homelessness in part due to our efforts.
- * Organized two public events on very low cost housing for unhoused people led by Mark Lakeman, architect/activist and co-founder of Dignity Village in Portland, Oregon. We've done extensive research on tiny home living and successful villages in the U.S. for people suffering homelessness;
- * Arranged a meeting between Sheriff Parkinson & 10 local homeless veterans at Mitchell Park for him to get first hand knowledge on how they live in SLO. He is very supportive.

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- * Perform outreach in SLO County to many locals who are homeless and ineligible for (or underserved by) other homeless services. Prado refers unhoused people to us who they cannot assist; we provide tents, backpacks, sleeping bags, blankets, food, etc. in an attempt to make their lives just a bit easier until we get them into housing;
- * Formed an alliance with the Cal Poly "Beyond Shelter" students; presented at their annual Homeless Awareness Week and showcased our "Cabin on Wheels;" spoke at a student forum on homelessness; we speak to the political science class on the politics of poverty and homelessness every fall quarter; presented to Cal Poly construction management and architecture profs who are now having their students build HV two more Cabin on Wheels, which they may do *each quarter!*

We have an amazing group of volunteers and we all in this for the long haul...