



A Voice for the Sacramento Area Homeless Community Since 1997

HOMeward

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SHOC's Annual Safe Ground Stake Down Event

Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee, Homeward, and Safe Ground Sacramento hosted our annual Safe Ground Stake Down on June 14th and 15th. It was a two day campout of art and action to uplift the voices of people experiencing homelessness in our region! We are calling for an end to the criminalization of survival, community, and property and for the right to dignified access to shelter and housing.



Safe Ground Stake Down as seen by commuters coming into Sacramento. Photo by Niki Jones

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GHOST BIKES: MEMORIALS TO DIEING ON THE STREET

By Whitley O'Connor

Each year, between 45,000 and 50,000 cyclists are injured in traffic accidents in the United States according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. In 2016, 840 cyclists died. Stark white, chained to a fence or lamppost, and often bearing flowers, ghost bikes stand as somber memorials to these fallen riders.

Last fall, Henry Hargreaves, missed being counted among this statistic by less than two inches, narrowly avoiding his own ghost bike. Since then, Henry has gone on to share his photo series as a haunting reminder of just how close danger is for cyclists and to open a much-needed discussion on sharing the road.

Henry first noticed white bikes chained to lampposts around his apartment in Brooklyn several years ago.

"When I moved to New York and went around, I'd see these white bikes that were chained up to lampposts on street corners. I never really paid much attention to them until one day I passed one with a little placard with someone's name and a range of dates. I realized that they were marking the deaths of cyclists," recalls Henry. "It

kind of became this haunting symbol of the road for me. This was also around the time I started becoming a cyclist, so it was sort of a reminder that you're always just two feet away from a fatality. It was this spooky thing."

Ghost bikes are a relatively new phenomenon. The first recorded ghost bike came in 2003 in St. Louis, Missouri when Patrick Van Der Tuin – who had witnessed a motorist hit a cyclist in a dedicated bike lane - painted a bike white and placed it at the scene with a sign saying, "cyclist struck here." Observing improved awareness from motorists near the scene following the bike's placement, Van Der Tuin recruited help spreading bikes across the city.

The movement soon took hold, with ghost bikes spreading as far as London by 2005. Now, ghost bikes can be found around the globe.

Oklahoma has seen its own share of ghost bikes. In Oklahoma City, a ghost bike was placed along Lake Overholser in 2013 to honor a fallen cyclist who was killed while participating in a charity bike ride. Another bike placed in 2010 along East Britton Road still remains today to commemorate a fallen cyclist.

"To me, they're kind of a metaphor for the corpse," Henry said. "When they get placed, they're pristine and white. But from the pictures I took, you can see various levels of decomposing that's happened. People come in and steal the wheels off of ghost bikes, and to me, it's almost like raiding a grave. Sometimes, they just completely disappear."

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Craig Murphey Memorial
Photo Courtesy Henry Hargreaves

SHOC REPRESENTATIVE SPEAKS AT THE POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN RALLY



Bobby Ramey-Clark Speaking

Bobby Ramey-Clark spoke at the rally of the Poor People's Campaign at the California State Capitol on June 11, 2018. As a veteran activist and a member of the Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee, she spoke from experience in a life where she has consistently struggled for the rights of poor people. This is an excerpt from her impassioned presentation:

Since childhood, I have lived from substandard to project housing in various cities. My homeless experiences started as a teen and a couple of times as an adult with children.

As James Baldwin said, "Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced."

Just last week, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a new proposal has been introduced by HUD Secretary, Ben Carson, that would raise rents by 20% on those receiving federal assistance. This will impact 4 million low income Americans: this increase is about six times greater than the growth in hourly earnings

putting the poorest workers at increased risk of homelessness.

Mr. Ben Carson says, raising rents would help people create more "self-sufficiency" by PUSHING "them" to find work! Now you see why we like those in time past MUST do like Sojourner Truth and Elizabeth Stanton as they stood together UNITED until suffrage was won! We TOO MUST challenge those who make moral claims about caring for the souls of people, but then pass policies, LAWS that DESTROY communities!!

The hardest housing law permits "source of income" discrimination.^{1*} This policy has done more damage than lack of rent control and the repeal of Costa Hawkins. This policy blocks thousands from obtaining decent market rate rental housing everyday.

Requiring an income that amounts to three-times the rent is a standard widely used in the rental housing business when determining whether to extend rental approval. The Harris Decision deemed this discrimination a reasonable,

nondiscriminatory and legitimate economic standard, not in violation of California's anti-discrimination law, the Unruh Act.

Many people on Welfare or Social Security, like me, and those with low wage jobs, are directly impacted by this "three-time" income policy. They are unable to qualify as renters, and, with high rents, this discriminatory policy increases the ranks of the homeless.

In closing there must be a united effort to add this to the list of housing repeal demands because after all EVERY BODY'S GOT A RIGHT TO LIVE AND TO LIVE IN DECENT AFFORDABLE HOUSING!

Thank you—

**In 1991 the California Supreme Court said it was lawful for a landlord to discriminate against poor people by refusing to rent to a person unless their income amounted to three times the rent. This means it is legal to discriminate against people on public assistance or Social Security in California.*

GHOST BIKES

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New York City has been the epicenter of the ghost bike movement, and Henry had been photographing bikes in Brooklyn for several years. But it wasn't until his own cycling accident that Henry realized the purpose for these photos. While riding his bike from his apartment to his photography studio, Henry was car-doored. Without looking, a man illegally parked opened his car door as Henry approached, sending him over the handle bars and catching his throat on the corner of the door. Bleeding profusely, Henry insisted the driver take him to a medical center several blocks away. The driver dropped Henry off and quickly sped away.

"The corner had caught me right between my jugular and my wind pipe, so a couple inches either way and it would have been much more serious," said Henry. "I got a dozen stitches and a \$1,500 medical bill."

Henry left the experience determined to do something. "I had been working on the project before this happened, just documenting ghost bikes," Henry said. "Then afterwards, I wanted to put it out

as a way to make people more aware of cyclists on the road and to make the cyclists more aware of the dangers around them."

Since releasing his photo series, Henry has received a lot of positive feedback, with many saying they had seen the bikes but didn't know what they symbolized. It has created a conversation.

"Cycling cuts down on congestion and environmental impact. It's good for your health, and it doesn't make noise. Most of the effects are pretty beneficial to everyone around you," said Henry. "Cyclists have such a small footprint – tire print if that's what you want to call it – on the road that we're easily ignored. If a few more people think about cyclists and are a bit more cautious, then it has been worthwhile doing this whole series."

With Oklahoma ranking 46th in the country in The League of American Bicyclists' 2017 Bicycle Friendly State Rankings, this is a conversation we need to have. "The whole thing was

wanting to put up a magnifying glass to just respect each other more and be more courteous on the road. Opening a dialogue through this project was the

goal."

Courtesy of The Curbside Chronicle / INSP.ngo



Christopher Doyle Memorial Photo Courtesy Henry Hargreaves

An Open Letter From Sacramento's Poor People's Campaign Confronting a Distorted Moral Narrative

Dear Honorable Members of the California Legislature,

For the last 40 days, on each Monday for past six weeks, hundreds of Californians have gathered at the State Capitol to express the needs and demands of a “new unsettling force.” Fifty years ago, Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on the eve of his tragic death, used this phrase to describe the rising movement of the poor and dispossessed that led to the original Poor People's Campaign.

Today, the Poor People's Campaign: “A National Call for Moral Revival” has reignited a growing movement that brings together people impacted by systemic racism, economic exploitation and poverty, militarism, and economic devastation. It is a moral fusion of multi-racial, multi-gendered, intergenerational, inter-faith, constitutionally grounded, and non-faith participants. It has been growing in more than 39 states around the country, and in Washington, D.C.. It is the new, unsettling force for a new age.

We are building power and holding our government accountable, opening the eyes of the people to the anti-democratic concentration of economic and political power into fewer and fewer hands, power that drives a deepening and dangerous inequality that is impacting the majority of people in this country and in this state.

As California, through its many “silicon valleys,” led the world into the digital age, productivity rose to unprecedented levels. But virtually all of the economic benefits went to those at the top. The state now has 111 billionaires. (*CALMatters.*) At the same time, the already very poor are getting even poorer. Incomes at the bottom 10 percent of Californians have dropped by 26 percent since 2007. (*Huffington Post.*)

California has the highest poverty rate in the nation, 20.6 percent, when calculated under the U.S. Census Bureau's Supplemental Poverty Measure to account for the cost of living.

As of 2015, 46.0% of children in the state were poor or near poor, including 4.7%, or nearly half a million, living in deep poverty, with less than half of the resources needed to prevent deprivation of their basic human needs. For those at or below the poverty line, the rate for Latino children (29.6%) was more than double that of Asian American (14.4%) and white (11.5%) children in California. Poverty rate among African American children claimed almost one in five children at 18.5%. (*Public Policy Institute of California.*)

California has become a state of hardship and suffering for the poor. No one can shut their eyes to this reality.

No family should have to decide between buying groceries or paying rent, no senior should have to choose between food and medicine, and no parent should have to skip a meal in order for their children to eat. California produces nearly half of the nation's fruits and vegetables, yet one in eight Californians currently struggle with hunger and food insecurity – not knowing where their next meal is coming from. (*California Association of Food Banks.*)

While unemployment is reportedly at an all-time low, in reality, by the official measure, almost a million people in California want and need work but cannot find it. The new jobs don't pay much: industries paying near or at the minimum wage accounted for nearly two-thirds of net jobs growth. (*L.A. Daily News.*) This, while California workers earning minimum wage would have to work two and a half full-time jobs just to afford a modest two-bedroom apartment. (*CBS News, 2018.*)

Moreover, millions lack basic protections such as sick leave and family leave, predictable scheduling, and child care; are denied the right to organize in unions at the workplace. Unjust mass incarceration, a product of systemic racism, creates barriers to work for people with prior convictions. Debt, and specifically medical and education debt, is overwhelming our people and lawmakers refuse to reign in predatory lending

that flood our communities.

There are now over 14 million Californians on Medi-Cal, the government's safety-net health insurance, and more than 4 million Californians on food stamps. Many people receiving these benefits have jobs and are working hard but have still been unable to climb out of poverty.

But most visibly, and terribly, as rents skyrocket, and institutional investors buy up rental housing, we see California's crisis in the faces of the many hundreds of thousands who have lost their housing – exhausted, parched, sunburned, often living outside, under freeways, along rivers and canals, or at our very doorsteps, right on the street, vulnerable not only because they are living outside, but because they suffer from systemic racism and police abuse.

The coordinated protests of the past 40 days demonstrate that the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival has the power to mobilize and organize, statewide, the many communities where millions suffer from deprivation of their basic human needs, a desperate situation compounded by systemic racism, by the subsidies and lack of oversight of the oil industry and other toxic polluters, and by the diversion of resources to the war economy.

We are the new unsettling force. This is just the beginning. For this last week, we summarize our core needs and demands – outlining the moral, yet practical, imperatives that underlie our moral revival.



One of Many Poor Peoples Campaign Rallies on the Capitol Steps

SHOC Safe Ground Stake Down

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Street Art Reach Van brought creativity to the Stakedown with art supplies and musical instruments for spontaneous jams. Photo by David Andre



Suzanne Hastings at the information table. Photo by Paula Lomazzi



Much time was spent sharing stories, perspectives and poetry. Photo by Niki Jones



Holly Kirkland-Kyhn gave a workshop about wound care and first aid with things you can buy at the Dollar Tree. Photo by Paula Lomazzi

Thank you to our generous sponsors and participants: Merchants National Bank, Mark Merin & Cathleen Williams, Mercy Pedalers, Sacramento Loaves & Fishes, People's Assembly with Ed Harris, Street ArtReach with the Creation District, Open Mic with Speak Out Sacramento, Stitch and Bitch, Zinemaking, Community Health with Harm Reduction services, Storytelling and Messaging with Organize Sacramento, Street Theater with Your Sacramento Art and Revolution, and Meals provided by CAFFE Clothing and Food for Everyone, Mo Mohanna, Sacramento Safe Space for Unhomed Youth, and Tee Fansofa. And last but not least, all our SHOC workers and volunteers for their dedication and effort.

Sacramento Benefactress' Long-Time Commitment to Help the Homeless

By Dylan Svoboda

In the late 1960s, years before the social safety and housing cuts of the Reagan era and subsequent explosion of homelessness across the United States, Sacramento's longest-tenured homeless advocate embarked on a journey to help those less fortunate than herself.

Her name is Jodette Johnson. And she's closing in on her 50th year feeding and fighting for the homeless in California's capital city.

Outside of a few closings and moves here and there, Jodette has operated a belly dancing academy since 1962. To ensure she can continue helping those in need, she's been a clothier, restaurateur, and back again as a clothier-jeweler-costume seller.

On her way to Sacramento from Los Angeles in 1967, Jodette and her husband Carl, who passed away in 1989, got into a brutal car accident near Bakersfield. They both barely made it out alive. The crash left Jodette in a coma for eight days. The doctors told she broke 80 percent of the bones in her body and she may never walk or dance again. So she prayed. She prayed to God to let her walk again and she promised to give for the rest of her life. Sure enough, two years later she was walking and she's been giving since then.

In 1969, as Jodette got back on her feet and hippies were descending on downtown and midtown Sacramento, the couple was running a hippie boutique near the intersection of K and 24th Streets. UC Davis was the home of her academy at the time. It was then, in January of 1969, when Jodette decided to open up The Free Shop on L and 18th Streets and follow through on the promise she made to God.

The Free Shop fed and clothed everyone from "the hippies to the homeless to those we were just hungry or cold," Jodette said.



Jodette Johnson - Photo Courtesy Svoboda

Jodette professes to be one of the first Sacramentans to ever help the homeless.

"People called me crazy," Jodette said. "They asked: 'Why are you doing this for these people?' I told them it's my duty to help those in need after my car accident. God saved my life and allowed me to walk again. I haven't quit feeding the hungry since."

Jodette has run her belly dancing academy and

costume-clothing-jewelry thrift shop out of a city of Sacramento-designated historical building on one of the busiest intersections in all of midtown, K and 22nd, for over thirty years now. She's passionate about giving and belly dancing – the clothes and jewelry selling is to support the former.

"I'm paying \$2,000 a month for this building," Jodette said. "The belly dancing classes help cover that and rent for my house, but that alone is not enough to help the homeless. I sell clothes to afford to feed the homeless."

The belly dancing extraordinaire didn't come from humble beginnings. She's performed for Kings in Jordan and Saudi Arabia. She has letters from President Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton and pictures with Muhammed Ali and Engelbert Humperdinck on the walls of her shop. She's been in music videos and traveled across the Middle East. In many ways, she's lived a privileged life. And yet she's maintained the unpretentious attitude adopted after her accident.

Today, Jodette continues to feed the homeless multiple times a week. She's taken all but the driver's seat out of her car enabling her to fit copious amounts of food, blankets, and clothes as she makes her rounds. Her dream is to feed every homeless individual, every day. But she's realistic. Her goal is to buy and cook food three times a week, but even that has become difficult given her economic situation. Income from her belly dancing classes comes in waves and increasingly people are shopping for clothes from home rather than going into thrift shops.

As someone on the front lines of the epidemic, she's aware of how widespread homelessness has become in Sacramento. Despite homelessness being an immense issue, much bigger than any one single person, and economic constraints of her own, Jodette continues to fight. The world would be a better place if we all had a little Jodette in us.

Imagine if America was Really About Liberty and Justice for All

By Suzanne Hastings

Some believed that the Poor Peoples' Campaign died with Dr. Martin Luther King on April 4th, 1968. But it's alive and well.

Woody Guthrie traveled America during the great depression and met unhoused families looking for a better life. He wrote songs that are relevant to the world today, about people just looking for a place to be. Many face the same problems today that existed back then.

What if America was really about liberty and justice for all, not just a select few?

We are one of the richest, most powerful countries in the world, Yet we have

citizens living on the streets in third world conditions. What if we were about the people and not greed? What if American businesses put people over profit?

We could have health care for all. We could have free education, and not staggering student loans that many struggle to repay. We would not have the homeless problem that we now have, as housing becomes out of reach of the majority of Americans. Nutritional food would be available to everyone: We are a land of plenty, but a world of want.

The Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival - has focused on many of these issues. An alarming amount of people are living near or below the poverty

line. And this includes people who have jobs, but aren't making enough money to live, only survive. Poor diets run rampant among poor children because their families live in "food deserts". Schools are run like prisons because we have become a culture of incarceration.

Somewhere, somehow, America went off the tracks. So we should fight for a new America; one that will serve the needs of the people and not Wall Street profits. One that will take better care of its citizens. A place where workers will be treated fairly, and a country that won't split migrant and immigrant families apart.

Liberty and justice for all can be a reality, not just a dream.

From *Writing for Donuts* Page 8

Oasis

I look up at the paintings of my life and see deserts and dead camels
I'm trying to get away from myself... I love this world so brightly but
I'm scattered dots on an empty canvas, nothing in between them to
connect

Every day, for all this time, I've been fighting for my life
I forgive the people that hurt me, I know they are hurting themselves
I've been used and abused and sold like some lifeless tool... but so
have they

I keep moving forward, moving forward - I know there's no point
getting hung up on the past

Wake up every day and go through the motions, say to myself "It will
be okay, it will be okay"

Looking into the mirror at somebody that I hate

I know that I need to like myself more, I don't even feel angry or sad
I just feel dead

I know what has happened can't be changed, and I know it will
continue to happen

To me and to you and to everyone else

In spite of all the world's beauty, there is still ugliness and hate

But still I try to keep going, to make things better when I can

Because I look at the way my son looks at me with such love in his
eyes

And I feel like a fraud, he shouldn't look at me that way

But he does, so somehow, some way I need to make everything okay

My son will know the world is harsh and cruel, but he'll see that
humans have strength

To overcome their obstacles and constantly change to be better and
wiser and good

For every person broken has a chance to repair,

For every life taken, another will start

For every long Winter, Spring will soon replace

-Loredana

A Special Thanks to Our Homeward Underwriters:

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Women's Empowerment

Uptown Studios Inc.

Safe Ground Sacramento

Los Rios College Federation of Teachers



"If a free society cannot help the
many who are poor, it cannot
save the few who are rich."

- John F. Kennedy 1961

Seven Deadly Sins: Wealth without work • Pleasure
without conscience • Science without humanity •
Knowledge without character • Politics without principle •
Commerce without morality • Worship without sacrifice

- Mahatma Gandhi



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Enclosed find my donation of \$20 for a one year subscription.

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Make checks payable to the Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee (SHOC) and mail to: PO Box 952 Sacramento, CA 95812

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Resources List

Night Shelters**Salvation Army:** 12th and North B St. 30 days per year: Dormitory living, C&S: Dinner, breakfast clothing for residents: Men/Women: Sign-up SA patio weekdays at 1PM. 916-442-0331**St. John's Shelter:** Women and Children. 4410 Power Inn Rd. Call between 10am & 3pm for space availability. 916-453-1482**Union Gospel Mission:** 400 Bannon St. Beds for Men Only, sign up 6:30pm at mission, Newcomers/Referrals have priority. 7:30pm Chapel Service with meal afterwards, 6am breakfast for residents. Showers / shaves 9-11am & 1-2:45pm. open to all homeless men: 916-447-3268**Next Move (formerly SAEHC)** 24 hr Family Shelter; Families, single adults with children who have no other resource: Women's Refuge; single women, no children: Call for screening/space availability 916-455-2160**Volunteers of America Family Shelter:** Adults w/children only. Apply Tues.-Thurs. 1-3 pm 1490 Blding B, N. "A" St. 916-443-4688**Day Shelters****Friendship Park:** Between 12th St. & Ahern on North C: Weekdays 7am - 2:30pm: open to anyone: Many services**Meals****Union Gospel Mission:** 400 Bannon St.: 7 days, Evening meal, Men/Women: Church service 7:00pm required, dinner following 8:30-9:15pm. Sunday 11am service, lunch at noon. 916-447-3268**Loaves & Fishes:** 1321 N. 'C' St.: Lunch every day 11:30am-1pm. Tickets available 7 am- 12:30 pm at Friendship Park weekdays: at 8 am on Saturday and 10am on Sundays.**Women's Civic Improvement Center:** Seniors Only: 3555 3rd Ave. 11:30-12:30 lunch M-F 916-452-2866**Food-not-Bombs:** serves free food in Cesar Chavez Plaza, 9th & J St., every Sunday 1:30 pm. All Welcome.**Foundation of Faith Ministries** 2721 Dawes St. Rancho Cordova. Every 4th Sat. 3-5 pm All Welcome.**Glory Bound Street Ministry** 4527 Parker Ave. Sundays; breakfast 11:30 am after 10 am church service; dinner 6:30 pm after 5 pm church service: Fridays; dinner 7 pm after 6 pm church service. Must attend services. 916-452-7078**Safe Haven Calvary Christan Center:** 1300 North C St. 8 am Sun, Coffee, Women's clothing, Service 9am: Wed. 6 pm bible study.**Women & Children****Maryhouse:** 1321 N. 'C' St. suite 32: Breakfast for Women and children 8am-9am. Day shelter 8am-3pm weekdays for women and families.**Wellspring** 3414 4th St.: T&Th full breakfast: M-W-F continental breakfast for women and children. 916-454-9688**Youth Services****Wind Youth Services:** Drop-In Center for youth (ages 12-24) experiencing homelessness: 1722 J Street, M-F 9am-6pm, S-S 10am-2pm: Emergency shelter for ages 12-17, call **1-800-339-7177**: Emergency shelter for ages 18-24, call **916-561-4900**. Services also include: street outreach, case management, mental health**Free Clothing****Sacramento Food Bank:** 3333 3rd Ave. (at Broadway) 10am-2pm Mon - Fri. 916-456-1980**Union Gospel Mission:** 400 Bannon St. Men: M-Sat 9-11am or 1-2:45pm: Women and Children: Thurs. 9 am sign up, 9:30-10am bible study, 10 am - 12 pm shop. 916-447-3268**Glory Bound Street Ministry** 4527 Parker Ave. Clothes Closet, Sundays 11:30 am all welcome. 916-452-7078**Medical****Mercy Clinic:** For homeless adults, children: 1300 block of N. 'C' Street next to fire station. 916-446-3345**Sacramento Dental Clinic:** 4600 Broadway (Primary Care Blding) Walk-ins 8 am - 12:30 pm 916-874-8300**Mental Health****Guest House, 600 Bercut Drive.:** Homeless Mental Health Clinic. Mental Health evaluation, medication if needed. Housing referrals for mentally ill, GA refs, SSI aps, refs to A & D counseling: 916-440-1500**TLCS Intake Offices:** 1400 N.'A' St. Blding. A: Adults 18 yrs & up; Referrals to transitional living programs, independant living, mental health support services; SSI/SSDI application assistance; Walk-ins 8-11am M-F 440-1500**Genesis:** Professional Counseling for life problems. Referrals. 401 12th St. (DeLaney Center). 916-699-1536**Crisis Intervention****WEAVE:** Services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and their children. Referrals to court mandated battery intervention programs, Safe house, 24 hr. crisis line: 916-920-2952**AIDS / HIV****AIDS Housing Alliance** provides residential care, transitional housing & permanent housing services to homeless persons living with aids. 916-329-1093 weekdays.**CARES (Center for AIDS Research, Education and Service):** 1500 21st ST. Serves people with HIV and AIDS. Medical care, mental health, case mgmt, health ed and regional prevention/ed classes. 916-443-3299**Breaking Barriers:** Homeless Outreach Program provides direct services to people living with AIDS and HIV. Transportation to social services, medical appointments, job interviews, and housing assistance. 916-447-2437**Harm Reduction Services:** 40001 12 Ave.; High risk outreach; HIV, Hep-C testing; case management for HIV; free medical clinic, needle exchange. 916-456-4849**Alternative Test Site:** Free anonymous HIV testing, Wed /Thurs. Call for appt. 916-874-7720.**Legal Aid****Disability Rights, CA:** Free legal services for people with disabilities. Call for appt. toll free: TTY:(800)776-5746**Tommy Clinkenbeard Legal Clinic:** 401 12th St. (DeLaney Center) Free legal assistance and advocacy for problems related to homelessness. 916-446-0368**Legal Services of Northern California, Inc:** 515 12th St. (at E ST.) M-F 8:30am-12pm, 1pm-5pm. Problems with public benefits, landlord / tenant, divorce clinic. Call for appt. 916-551-2150**Welfare Rights:** 1901 Alhambra Blvd. (2nd floor) M-F 9am-5pm: AFDC, Food Stamps, Workfare and Medical rep at hearings. 916-736-0616**Social Security Disability / SSI Lawyer Free Consultation** (916) 658-1880**Veterans****VA Outreach:** 1-800-827-1000**Homeless VA Coordinator:** (916) 364-6547**About SHA**

The Sacramento Housing Alliance is a network of concerned citizens who promote decent affordable housing for low income households and homeless people through advocacy and participation in public discourse.

For more info, or if you would like to participate, please call:

(916) 455-4900
<http://sachousingalliance.org>909 12th Street, Suite 114
Sacramento, CA 95814***The SHA does not itself provide or manage housing.*****Mather VA Social Works:** help getting DD-214, any vet. (916) 843-7064**Sacramento Veterans Resource Center** 7270 East Southgate Dr. 916-393-8387**Miscellaneous****Francis House Center 1422 C St.** Must get a lottery number 9am. M,Tu,Th,F for Direct Services: ID vouchers, transp. assistance; In depth resource coaching by apt.; Veteran's advocate; Notary services Thurs. call for apt.; Job Development Center M,Tu,Th,F 9:30am - 1pm. Family Rescue motel vouchers for qualified families Mon. 1pm. **(916) 443-2646****Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services:** 3333 3rd Ave. (south of Broadway) Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 10am-1:30pm, and Wed 4pm-7pm. 916-456-1980.**Social Services:** 28th & R ST. M-F 7:30am-5pm. Call for asst. 916-874-2072**Employment Development Department (EDD):** 2901 50th St. (at Broadway) M-F 8am-5pm. Unemployment, job services. 916-227-0300**Medi-Cal:** 1-800-773-6467, 1-888-747-1222. Or see DHA eligibility workers 1725 28th St. 916-874-2256**Social Security Office:** 8581 Folsom Blvd (East of College Greens Lite-rail stop, past the flea market) M-F 9am-4:30pm 916-381-9410: Natl line 1-800-772-1213**211 Sacramento**
Dial 211

for tele-info & referral service

Califorina Youth Crisis Line:
1-800-843-5200**Health Rights Hotline:**
551-2100**Narcotics Anonymous Hotline**
1-877-NA-6363

Welcome to Homeward:

Please help us make a difference!



Homeward Street Journal has been publishing since 1997 as a non-profit project of the Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee. The paper's mission is to alleviate miscommunication between communities by educating the public about housing and poverty issues, and by giving homeless people a voice in the public forum. Homeward also informs homeless persons of shelter and occupational assistance, and acts as a creative self-help opportunity for those individuals who wish to participate.

The opinions expressed in Homeward are those of the authors, and not necessarily of SHOC or Homeward.**Submissions and Editorial Policy**

We welcome any participation or contributions: Articles, poems and other writing can be submitted at our office in Friendship Park, or mailed to the address below.

All writing submitted for publication will be edited as necessary, with due respect for the author's intent. The editors will attempt to consult with an author if changes are necessary, however, the paper will go to print with the story as edited if the author is unavailable.

All Letters to the Editor must be signed to be published. If the writer wishes to remain anonymous s/he should so state, but the letter must still be signed.

Poetry and graphics will not be edited, either the paper will publish the submission or not.

In submitting articles to the paper, authors give their permission to print their submissions in accordance with the above stipulations, as well as possible reprinting in INSP member papers, with due byline. Any requests for stories outside the above three will be referred to the author.

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Writing for Donuts

In Time

Time-is it just an illusion?
Or is it a mathematical killer?
When can I get the point?
In time, yeah, in time...

-Alex

Truth is the Whore

Now we see lies
That are televised
Through TV screens
Catastrophes and war
Truth is the whore
No more
We've been ignored.

-Anonymous

Gone

What was is it now.
Creating fastens reality. Splurged
Tightening grip - hold it in, they
say
Express the best before puppets
play
And tingle, trickle your way
Before they claim
And will say
You're gone....

.... GO.

-Paige

Reason

The brain has the ability to
reason, yet your heart is what
gives life reason. When you
find something that transcends
reason, don't be surprised if it's
your heart.

-Kyle

Breaking Free

Finally breaking free. Not being
what my mom wanted to be.
I'm so down and ready to leave,
adventure, explore. I go through
phases of wanting to be part of
society and days when I just
wanna sleep under the stars,
away from this whitewashed
world, out where everything's
growing every second...
That way I truly feel thankful.

Time to find a new town to settle
in.

-Kadiatou



Without a Roof

woarof.tumblr.com

David Phillips providing a meal and kind words with hungry community members at Chico Downtown Plaza. Phillips is continuing a Sunday ritual of helping the poor that his son Desmond took joy in doing before his life was snuffed out during an officer involved shooting in March of 2017.



Maria with Bill Mash, aka Without a Roof

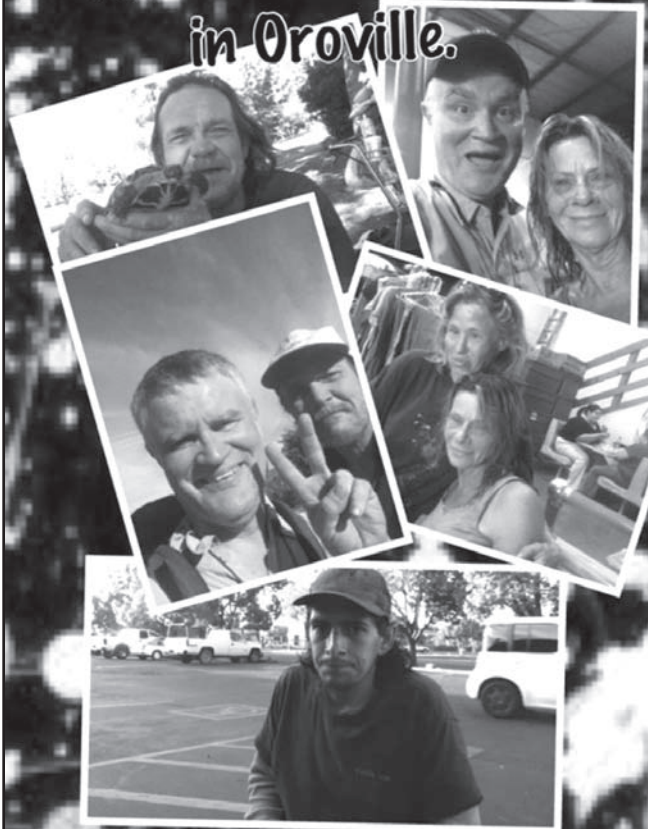
I met Maria back in the winter of 2014 at the weekly Without a Roof Poor People's Palooza in Chico Downtown Plaza. At the time Maria was homeless living out of her car, a lifestyle she described as, "not how God wants me to live." I reconnected with Maria this Sunday. She was so happy to see me and proudly shared that she has a steady job and her own place to live the past 18-months. She credits her faith in God, who answered her prayers.

The CHICO VIBE

Made possible by our supporters...

Chico Housing Action Team
Bob Woods, Ed Mayer, Lucy Gould
& Friends of Tyler Rushing

Life on the streets in Oroville.



Of Heart and Home

Home-it seems so distant and far away
Like the sun peeking over the horizon and
darting away,
Fleetingly sweet
A dream, but one well-dreamt.
Home.
Home is where you rest your head
Home is where you have a comfortable bed
Home is where I'm secure and content
Home is where my heart beats with the ones I
love
To a rhythm
Only I know
Secretly
Inside of me
I have almost forgotten that feeling
Of home
But soon I will remember
As I create my new home
And build it upon the foundations of my heart.
-Brellyn