



Sierra HOPE's mission is to promote individual dignity and support the health and well-being for at risk members of our community through compassionate services

Volume 3, Issue 4 Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2023



Message from Jerry

You have probably noticed our new “Hand Up” Fundraising Campaign. It’s an idea by one of our board members with the goal of not only raising funds, but also sharing more information on a personal level about what we do here at Sierra Hope. It’s a new tradition with an ongoing effort to help our subscribers, donors, partners and community gain insights into the economic realities experienced by many residents in our tri-county area.

Many of these stories of homelessness and the challenges people have feeding themselves and their families are well hidden. Most people don’t know and don’t see the incredible need that exists in Calaveras County and the foothills overall. We’re trying to help our community to know more about this important issue and also let you know how you can help. I can tell you it’s struck a chord from the emails I’ve gotten – in a good way. It’s a hard thing to talk about.

Just as important as that is, it's even more important to celebrate our successes and so with our Fall Newsletter this Thanksgiving week, we're celebrating all of you who generously support our efforts and giving thanks for all of the simple and beautiful things we love about our foothill's communities.

On behalf of everyone here at Sierra Hope, I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving!

Jerry Cadotte
Executive Director



Results are in from the 27th Annual Walk for Hope at Big Trees!

Hard to believe we've been having a walk for hope for getting close to 30 years! This has always been Sierra Hope's major fundraiser of the year, and it has a strong and loyal following.

We had some hiccups in providing a seamless online registration experience this year for that we apologize. We have already formed a committee to make sure next year is the best year ever both in terms in funds raised and in the individual and team experiences we care so much about in this event.

Thank you to all who participated and helped us raise \$16,975 in 2023!

HOME SWEET HOME, FINALLY



Sierra Hope has been working with a client for a number of months, making a placement through our rapid rehousing program (we didn't have a permanent option at the time.)

While an improvement, she found the location too remote, with challenges in accessing transportation and other necessary services for independent living.

We were happy to finally resettle her into permanent supportive housing. The cozy one-bedroom apartment is conveniently located, within walking distance to shopping, medical care and public transportation.

We are always so happy when we can permanently house someone who needs that assistance!



A Big Thank You for your generous and unexpected donation!

Grape Stomp is one of the Wine Grape Alliance's biggest annual events. This year, they raised over \$10,000 during their silent and live auctions to benefit community organizations and high school scholarship programs. We were recently notified that Sierra Hope was chosen to receive \$500 from this effort. These funds which will be added to our "Hand Up" unrestricted funds account so we can help those that may not be covered by contracts.

**Thank You
Big Trees Market!**



40 Turkeys to Grateful Families

On Tuesday, November 14th, Big Trees Market in Arnold donated 40 turkeys to Sierra HOPE – it took a little doing to pick up and store 40 frozen turkeys before making them available but we did it! We had to turn down the thermostat on our refrigerator to use it as an overflow freezer because we filled our regular freezer.

The very next day, we distributed food to 49 households (an all-time record) from the Sierra HOPE Food Pantry, and were able to give a turkey to every household who wanted one. Our pantry has seen a significant increase in need over the past year – genuine, real need. Happily, some of those turkeys were as big as the one featured above, and we were able to direct those to homes feeding large families.

Xan Adams, Sierra Hope Board member and food pantry volunteer interviewed a pantry

regular, Earl, (not his real name). Earl was regularly picking up food for his household and then two of his neighbors in his mobile home park. One of the neighbors works during the day and the other one has no transportation and often forgets what day of the week it is -- Earl also cooks for her.

Earl describes himself as the black sheep of his family and, when he was younger, got into "a lot of trouble" and did some things he's "not proud of." However, his mother was always doing things for their neighbors and this was a powerful inspiration for Earl when he decided to modify his behavior.

As a result of the increased need mentioned above, Earl has also taken on more deliveries for those that just can't get to the pantry themselves. That is in addition to the regular deliveries that Sierra Hope makes after the Pantry pickup closes.

THANK YOU, to all of the Earls out there lending a helping hand with a big heart!



**On behalf of all of us here at Sierra Hope,
thank you for your generosity and support;
we wish you all a very**

Happy Thanksgiving!



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