

# SIERRA HOPE

HEALTH OPPORTUNITIES, PROGRAMS & EDUCATION

*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 1, Issue 4**  
**2021/2022**

**Quarterly Newsletter**

**Winter**



John Byrne file photo/Tribune

**MESSAGE FROM JERRY:**

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I'm going to use my newsletter article this month to shine a light on something we don't talk about nearly enough. Homelessness.

Sierra HOPE participates in the annual "point in time" homeless count each year at the end of January in order to provide a community-wide measure of homelessness, identify service needs and inform plans to prevent and reduce homelessness. As we encounter homeless individuals, we leave them with a care kit of basic items such as a rain poncho, hand warmers, socks, flashlights, \$5 gift cards to a local coffee shop, etc.

But there are two really important facts to acknowledge here:

1. Calaveras county is a tough place to be homeless. There is no safe shelter that can meet the needs of a typical (non-violent) homeless individual or a homeless *family* in Calaveras County.
2. There are dollars chasing housing. The fact is, Sierra HOPE has grant money available to get individuals into permanent housing, but there is no rental housing available. How do we solve this dilemma?

It's discouraging to encounter homeless people without having anywhere to refer them.

Sierra HOPE and our board are committed to advocating for more services for the homeless and crafting a strategic plan addressing this multi-faceted issue for long-term success.

Sierra HOPE does a lot of good work, and we couldn't do it without you. We can always do better, and the need is calling us to do more. The question is how.

If you want to help or have ideas emails me [here](#).

*Jerry Cadotte, Executive Director*





## Hope House in the beginning

### Program Updates

#### Expanded HIV Geographic Coverage

Last year Sierra HOPE was asked to take on Mono county and provide services there – we have 1 client with whom we service via Telehealth. This year we've been asked if we could also service Inyo County. Inyo is a very big county which includes all of Death Valley and the 395 corridor. One of the reasons we would take this on is because we believe people in rural areas deserve to have the same services available to larger cities and towns. We believe the additional grant funding will allow us to craft a strategy to do outreach and case management. This project is in progress.

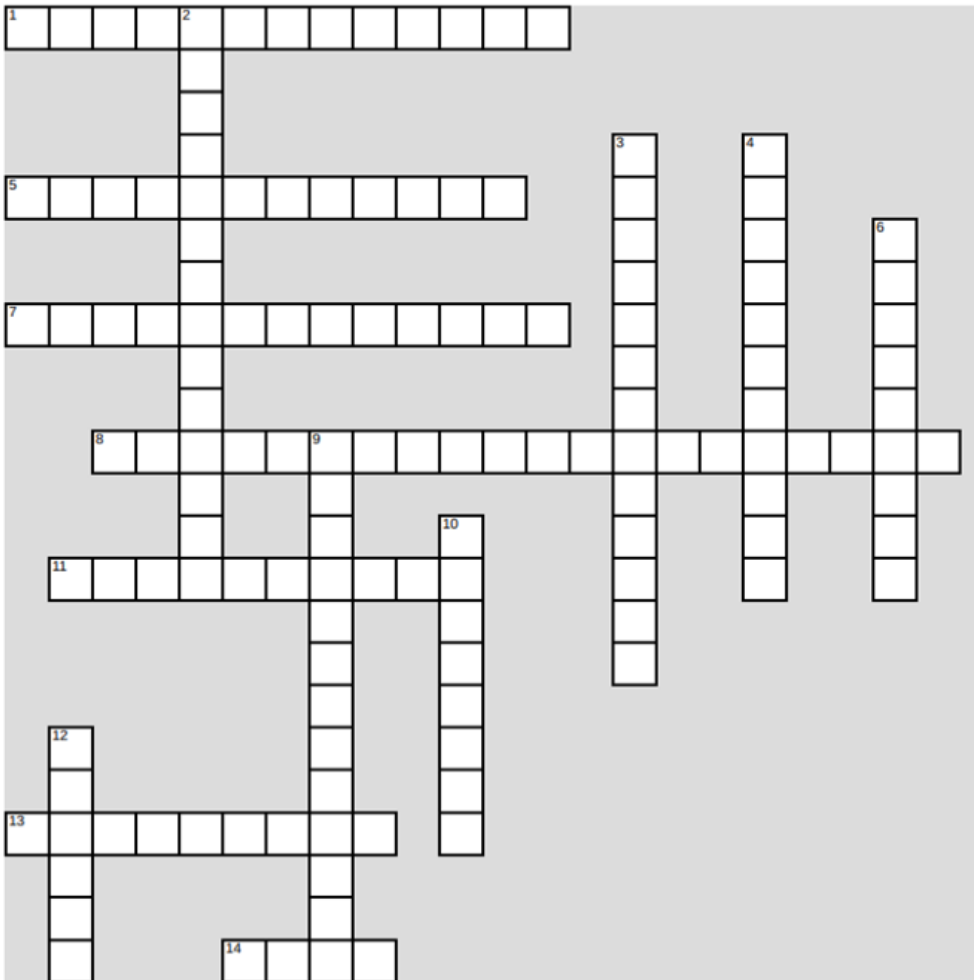
**Transitional housing:** "Hope House" our transitional home in Angels Camp has 2 adults and 1 child currently residing there. Vacated rooms are undergoing repairs. Pinnell's Carpet of Angels Camp has generously pledged to replace the carpet in the living room and the handicapped accessible bedroom with waterproof vinyl flooring as they are badly damaged. While repairs are occurring, Sierra Hope is looking into online classes for residents with a requirement of completing so many skills-based modules per week with the goal of providing more structure and exposure to skills development.

**Permanent Supportive Housing:** This program serves chronically homeless individuals and those who are disabled. Sierra Hope manages 5 units: (4) 1-bedroom apartments and (1) 2-bedroom house. All are occupied.

**Homeless Task Force:** The Calaveras County Homeless Task Force will be reconvening in 2022 after pausing during COVID. Sierra Hope, with the task force will evaluate various approaches to solve the persistent lack of affordable housing in Calaveras County. The county also lacks an emergency shelter. Throughout the planning and evaluation activities, logical partners should be revealed with whom we can pursue state and federal grants for housing.

**Food Pantry:** We've seen a bit of an increase in our clients since Unemployment Insurance checks have ended and we are serving between 20-25 families every week. Our [Heroes fighting Hunger](#), through their monthly support, are making ends meet! Please click on the link to become one of our awesome Sierra HOPE Heroes fighting Hunger.

# Late winter HOPE



## Across

- 1 Another February holiday (2 wrd)
- 5 Homeless Berkeley musician who produced compilations showcasing street musicians
- 7 Singer who chose dancing over college at age 18 and became homeless (2 wrd)
- 8 Benefactors who contribute monthly to support the Food Pantry (3 wrd)
- 11 Online consultation, referral and treatment services with your doctor
- 13 Sierra HOPE's transitional home in Angels Camp (2 wrd)
- 14 County that includes Death Valley and the 395 corridor

## Down

- 2 Fundraiser for agencies that provide supportive services for people with HIV/AIDS (3 wrd)
- 3 February holiday (2 wrd)
- 4 Singer who donated \$1 to house homeless LGBT youth (2 wrd)
- 6 A tough county to be homeless in
- 9 March holiday (3 wrd)
- 10 T'was \_\_\_\_\_ before Christmas.
- 12 The fate of many meetings during the pandemic

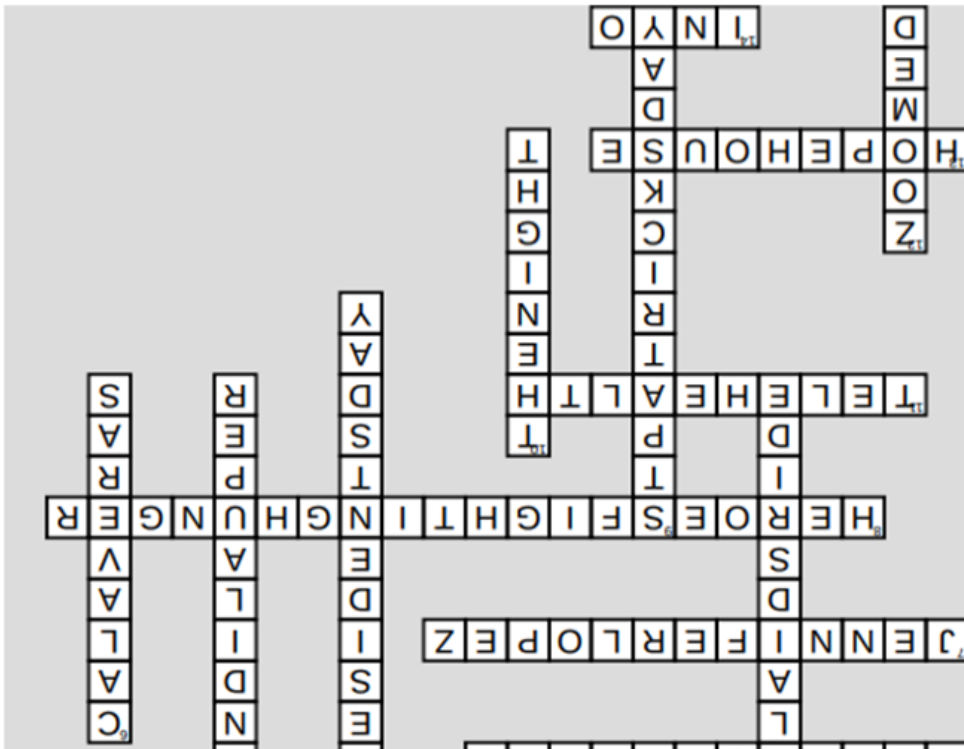
This is our first attempt at a crossword. In the future they will be more of a crossword and less of a word search. To play print the page with the crossword. To play online, go to: <https://crosswordhobbyist.com/1021502/Late-winter-HOPE>

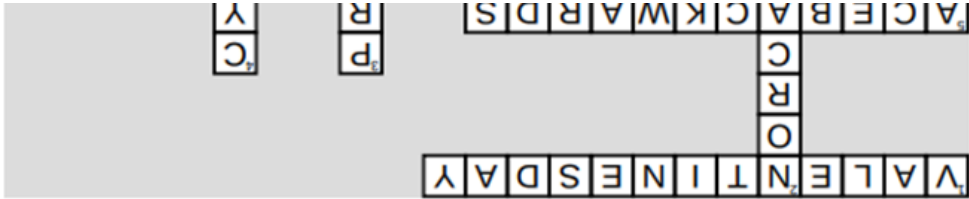
## Fundraising Activities:

**NorCal AIDS Ride:** This Northern California Biking event supports agencies like Sierra Hope

that provide supportive services for people with AIDS. Sierra Hope has been a beneficiary since 2015 and recently received \$5,000 from this fundraiser (We've received as much as \$15,000 some years.) The ride historically covers 300 miles in 4 days. This year the format is being changed due to ongoing COVID concerns, and will take place May 21-22 in Sacramento. Sierra Hope will field volunteers from among our staff and board (support crew, rest stop staffing, etc.).

**Generous Donation from Robert C. Jones Fund:** We received an unexpected donation of \$11,417.99 from Patricia Jones and her husband Josh Bigelow. Patricia's late parents, Jane and Casey Jones, were also long-time supporters of Sierra Hope. It is generous donations like these that help us provide services our grants don't cover and we're so very grateful to have this support.





Late winter HOPE



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