

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 2, Issue 4

Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2022



MESSAGE FROM JERRY:

About 60 people turned out for this year's Walk for Hope, held on September 24, 2022 at Calaveras Big Trees State Park. We had several new participants and many old friends. The Walk generated \$17,259, our best yet. Special thanks to our generous sponsors and all the people who volunteered and participated.

Another big surprise came in the form of a recent visit from Doug Archer, CEO of Mark Twain Medical Center, who presented Sierra HOPE with a donation check for \$31,121. Our Board of Directors will decide how to make the best use of these funds, which can go a long way to help fill gaps and address unmet needs.

Jerry

Thank you to our Generous Sponsors!



Thanks to our sponsors



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Program Updates

Food Pantry:

New grant funding will enable us to continue to provide our weekly community food pantry. The Calaveras Community Foundation recently provided a \$6000 grant to purchase food and program supplies. This will help us keep up with growing need and rising prices, and provide more nutritious food. We were also pleasantly surprised by a grant from the Church of Latter-Day Saints of \$3,000 that can be used to purchase food and personal care items from the Bishop's Store House in Stockton. Both grants expire in 1 year but are a welcome cushion and opportunity to do more – perhaps something more for this Christmas Season.

Our HIV Services program has been busy with six new client referrals in the last 2 months. This program provides case management and support for residents living with HIV and their families, to help them access appropriate care and treatment and prevent the new infections. We currently are serving 46 clients in 5 rural mountain counties including Amador, Calaveras, Mono, Inyo and Tuolumne. Not all of the new referrals are linked to new infections. Some are part of our expansion of services to the Eastern Sierra or from people who were referred to us by their medical providers.

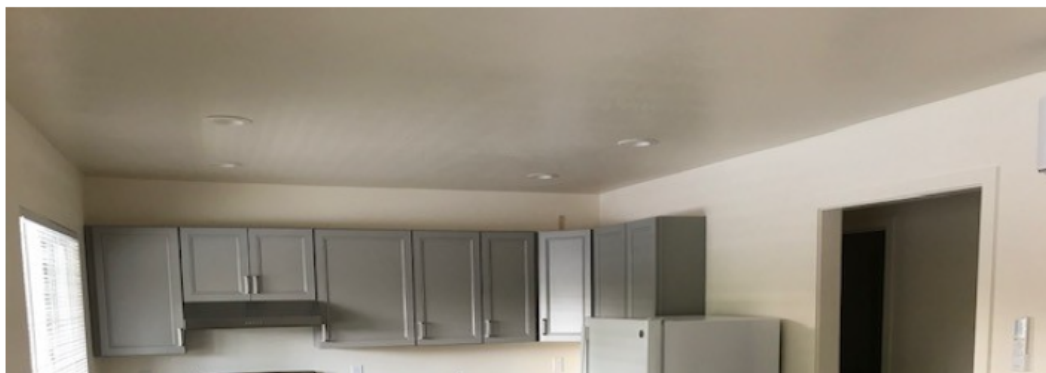
Hope House Update: Our Transitional housing program for homeless families with children is once again, fully occupied. We currently have 4 families residing in the home plus our resident caretaker, Lisa. Everybody is getting along well and they are planning a big Thanksgiving dinner that they are all contributing to. New appliances are including a new range top and new vented hood above it. Thank you again Calaveras Community Foundation!

Permanent Supportive Housing: Three of our leased apartments have been undergoing major renovations since April and are finally ready for program participants to move back in. The units were stripped to the studs and everything from floor to ceiling is brand new. The plumbing and electrical systems, including heat and air conditioning, were also completely replaced.

3 Sierra Hope Clients Move into Refurbished Homes!

The Permanent Supportive Housing program provides housing and ongoing case management for individual adults who are homeless and who have a permanent physical or mental health disability that makes it difficult for them to maintain stable housing. Tenants pay 30% of their income to Sierra HOPE for housing, and a grant from HUD covers most of the remaining costs.

Unfortunately, the grant amount is only enough to pay for 4 apartments and vacancies are rare. There is great need for more PSH units, and affordable rental housing in general. In just the past 2 months Sierra HOPE has received more than 25 requests for help from people who are without stable housing. It's heartbreaking to hear the stories of people who are unable to get adequate housing, especially those who are vulnerable because of their age or health status, and not have enough resources to be able to help.





VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

We are looking for another 1-2 volunteers to be consistent and help Steve, who has been our steadfast volunteer food pantry director for many years. With more demand, he could really use some help and he's happy to show you the ropes. It's an important job and many in our community depend on it. We need volunteers to help with food shopping, picking up donated food, preparing the pantry food bars and distribution. The time commitment varies by task.

the party, fees, age and distribution. The time commitment varies by task, which is usually 2-4. We are seeking people who can commit to a consistent schedule either weekly or every other week. Please [contact Jerry](#) if you're interested in learning more!



Join our Board! We're Recruiting

Fundraising Committee: We're seeking someone who has past experience with events and other types of fundraising strategies who can bring fresh ideas and guidance to the board. We have a lot of fun ideas (like a Spring-Cleaning Yard Sale in Utica Park) as a foundation to build on. Bring yours!

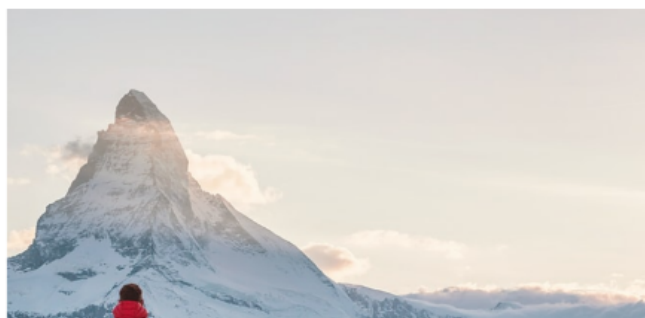
Communications: If you like or want to learn email marketing/communications Sierra Hope join the communications team bringing Sierra Hope into the digital century. Training is available if you'd like to learn email platform MailChimp and have the opportunity to show your creativity!

Social Media: Also part of the Communications Team, the Social Media board members will help us keep our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts current and engaging with important information for the community.

Please [contact Jerry](#) if you're interested in learning more!



Serving the
residents of
Amador,
Calaveras &





Everyday Ways to Help Sierra Hope

- Amazon Smile.Amazon.com: All you have to do is select Sierra Hope as your Charity and it will store this information for future purchase – it can really add up!
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WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

