

Serving the Diverse Homeless Community

Friends of Prado Day Center
P.O. Box 12444
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406
www.pradodaycenter.org/donate.html

Volume IV, Number 3, Summer 2013



*Part of the new veggie/flower garden planted
by Benner Harris (see below).*

Thanks for Our New Garden!

Our newly devoted volunteer and master gardener, **Benner Harris**, has provided the Center with a kitchen garden, including eight varieties of herbs, tomatoes, cucumbers, and greens, as well as corn, watermelon, cantaloupe, and a variety of flowers. Benner purchased, planted and maintains several garden spaces around the site, and has had several client garden assistants digging trenches, moving rocks, shoveling and spreading fertilizer and top soil. Many thanks Benner for this wonderful contribution!



*Benner Harris tending the new Prado Day Center
Garden.*

Thanks Cal Poly Students!

On April 11, the **Pride Center of Cal Poly** once again held a barbecue on campus during Pride Week, with all proceeds going to Prado Day Center. This was the third year the Pride Center has held this fundraiser for us, and it was by far the most successful, raising

nearly \$500! We are very grateful for their ongoing support of Prado Day Center. More information about the Pride Center is available at their Web site:
<http://studentlife.calpoly.edu/pride/index.asp>.

During Cal Poly Greek Week in May, the **Cal Poly Greek Week Committee** hosted fundraisers at The Habit, Woodstock's Pizza, and Teaberry Frozen Yogurt to raise money for Prado Day Center and Maxine Lewis. The committee chose the shelters because they believe that they are vital and worthy causes in our local community. The fundraisers garnered over \$800 for each of the shelters, and members of the Cal Poly Greek community also contributed by volunteering. Many thanks to the Cal Poly Greek community for their support!

Homeless Services Client Meeting

CAPSLO conducted a Homeless Services Client Meeting on May 24th at Prado Day Center, beginning with a hot breakfast for all guests. Over 40 homeless clients of Prado Day Center and Maxine Lewis Shelter participated. Both the clients and Homeless Services staff offered comments and suggestions on a number of topics, including:

- Enforcement of rules, especially at overflow shelter sites
- Conflict resolution meetings
- The Safe Parking Program
- Case management
- The future homeless services center

Overall the meeting was extremely positive and constructive. Staff members were pleasantly

surprised to receive a round of applause from the entire crowd.

Wish List

The Center has the following ongoing needs:

- Cold cereal and individual oatmeal packets
- Coffee, sugar, creamer, peanut butter
- Disposable plates, bowls, cups, utensils, sandwich bags, 13- and 45-gallon trash bags
- Shower shoes/flip flops, socks
- Bleach and Windex
- Dry erase markers
- A set of 6 walkie-talkie's for site safety
- Laundry detergent
- Shaving cream and deodorant

If you can provide any of these products, please drop them off at the office at the Center or contact Shawn Ison at shawn@capslo.org or 805-786-0617.

The Overnight Parking Pilot Program

The overnight parking pilot program has been so successful that the city is now considering an expansion of the program to other sites in San Luis Obispo. You can read the details in an article in the Tribune on April 15th:

<http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2013/04/15/2471511/san-luis-obispo-homeless-parking.html>

You can read about one of the participants in the pilot program in “Success Story” below.

Success Story

A female client came to Prado in 2012 and became a participant in our Safe Parking Program. She was pleasant to be around, but mostly kept to herself. She worked with Case Management from the time she arrived with the goal of saving her money and securing housing. Although she was not interested in any type of mental health assistance, it soon became apparent that she was in need of these services. Her case manager consistently encouraged her to complete a mental health evaluation, and eventually she began mental health care and medication, which have stabilized her life. She has become more outgoing and her fear and anxiety have subsided. With the help of her case manager, she was able to leave the Safe Parking Program and is now housed and very happy. She recently came back to Prado to thank us all for our help and support.

Donations and Volunteer Opportunities

For more information about Prado Day Center, visit www.pradodaycenter.org. To make donations, go to www.pradodaycenter.org/donate.html.

If you would like to volunteer, either at the Center or on a committee with the Friends of Prado Day Center, please call (805) 786-0617.

Since 1997, **Prado Day Center** has provided essential day-to-day services for homeless and working poor members of our community. The Center provides food, showers, phone message service, and many other services. **Friends of Prado Day Center** provides support funding for Prado Day Center. **CAPSLO** (formerly EOC) manages the day-to-day operation of Prado Day Center. **The People's Kitchen** coordinates hot lunches served daily at the Center by organizations throughout the county.

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