

Memorandum from



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

Volume V, Number 2, Spring 2014

A Message to Our Donors

You may have heard or read about the staff reorganization that CAPSLO is implementing at both Prado Day Center and Maxine Lewis Shelter due to a monetary shortfall. The Board of Directors of Friends of Prado Day Center wants you, as a valued donor partner, to understand our position in regard to this reorganization.

Every year, CAPSLO has come to Friends of Prado with a request for funds to meet their budget, which we have always provided. Also every year, CAPSLO has come to us mid-year to report any shortfall in other sources of income for Prado, and Friends has always come up with the additional funds needed. Our contribution to the operation of Prado Day Center has increased every year, and we have successfully met every request for funds from CAPSLO.

We wish we had been informed of the monetary shortfall, and consulted regarding the restructuring at both Prado and Maxine Lewis, which may affect the delivery of services to our clients. Had we been so notified prior to significant changes, we might have helped with the issue and possibly averted the stress on employees and the program. We are meeting with various CAPSLO staff to determine exactly how they expect the changes to benefit our clients, and how they intend to measure the success of the changes.

Most importantly, we want you, our donors, to know that we feel a strong sense of responsibility to ensure that your donation dollars are used to best advantage to help the homeless among us achieve self-sufficiency. With your help, we will continue to achieve that goal.

Culinary Carnival Success!

The 6th Annual Friends of Prado Day Center Culinary Carnival was a tremendous success, thanks to the generosity of our wonderful vendors and sponsors, and the very hard work of our volunteers!

Guests were intrigued with the "Mystery Wine Table," which offered top-notch wine from a number of donors (see the photo at the end of the newsletter).

The live auction, led by auctioneer Scott Vernon, was very lively and featured a number of wonderful items, including vacation stays here and abroad, nights in luxury hotels, and even a beach cruiser bicycle!

All in all, guests agreed that this was the most colorful and fun carnival ever. Our deepest thanks to all involved, especially our sponsors:

Embassy Suites	Lois & Chuck Crotser
Smart & Final	Cuesta Park Animal Hospital
Rabobank	SESLOC Federal Credit Union
Farm Supply	Bon Temps Creole Café
Dignity Health, Inc.	Central Coast Printing
Compass Health	Pat & Diana McKeague
Carol & Jay Devore	Roy & Linda Rawlings
Mary Parker	Antoinette Higgins, CPA
Joan Sargen	Dee Torres & Adam Hill
Coast National Bank	Mary Matakovich & Pete Kelley

Thank You's

Belated thanks to the Santa Maria technician installers for DirectTV, who purchased and delivered toys to our clients over the Christmas holidays. They helped make our holiday celebrations a great success!

Nothing is worse than a rainy day without coffee. So we are very grateful to the anonymous donor who replaced the 100-cup coffee maker that died one rainy day in January. We are touched by the kindness of people in our community who support not just the necessities, but also the simple pleasures of daily life.

Also many thanks to First Solar, the photovoltaic solar energy company operating the Topaz Solar Farm at the edge of the Carrisa Plains. They have donated funds for "adult direct services". These funds will be used in situations where Prado staff need money to help a client become housed, or stay housed – for example, a security deposit. These situations don't have any dedicated funds in our budget, and the donation

from First Solar will go a long way to helping us help people achieve self-sufficiency.

Finally, many thanks to the 45 people from Tau Kappa Epsilon at Cal Poly, who showed up at Prado Day Center in February to scrub, dust, organize and clean every inch of the Center.

Calling New Board Members!

The Friends of Prado Day Center board is looking for additional members. If you like to raise funds and help with fund-raising activities, this might be for you! For more information, phone or email Roy Rawlings, rmrawlings2004@yahoo.com or 805-439-2814.



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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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Auctioneer Scott Vernon kept the bidding going during the live auction at the 6th Annual Culinary Carnival.



The Embassy Suites ballroom was ablaze with Mardi Gras colored balloon and streamers.



Thanks to the many contributors to our "Mystery Wine Table"!