

# Memorandum from



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

Volume VI, Number 1, Winter 2015

## 2015 Culinary Carnival!

Do you have your tickets yet for the Culinary Carnival on February 12? If not, you can still get them at [sloculinarycarnival.com](http://sloculinarycarnival.com). The event is on Thursday evening the 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Embassy Suites in San Luis Obispo. The ballroom will be ablaze with Mardi Gras colors, and we'll have the Crustacea Jazz Band playing New Orleans jazz, food and beverages from 12 food and 12 beverage vendors, a fantastic live auction, a mystery wine table, and lots of fun. All proceeds go to the ongoing operation of Prado Day Center.

## "Make Change Count" Meters: Update

In our last issue we told you about the "Make Change Count" meters located in downtown San Luis. In September, the United Way and the Downtown Association presented a check to Friends of Prado Day Center for \$8,500! This money includes sponsorships for each meter as well as money collected in the meters themselves. Currently we are finding that the meters are bringing in about \$200 every month. In addition to raising money, the meters are also raising awareness about how to help the homeless in our community. Thanks to all of you who are contributing to these meters!

You can find the meters in the following locations:

- Chorro Street at the Marsh Street parking structure.
- Broad Street at Marsh Street
- Higuera Street at Osos Street
- Chorro Street at the Mission Plaza entrance
- Higuera Street at Court Street
- Higuera Street at Downtown Center

## Holiday Thank You's!

Thanks to all of our faithful donors who sent contributions for the year-end mailing! We try not to solicit funds too often, but we do need to ask a few times

a year, and we're very grateful for the generous support of our regular and occasional donors.

Many thanks to Dr. Scott Dubral and his wife, Julie; Mom Mary and Dad Larry, who for 14 years have sponsored an annual ChiroFeed at Prado Day Center. This year's event on Dec. 13 featured massages, chiropractic adjustments, manicures and haircuts, and a BBQ! A great treat for all involved (see photos below).

Also thanks to Barnes & Noble, who every year gives nonprofits in our community a chance to raise money by wrapping Christmas gifts. They supply the wrapping paper and tape; the nonprofits supply the labor. This year Friends of Prado had two sessions as gift wrappers, raising a total of \$190.

Finally, thanks to all of the individuals and businesses who contributed presents for the Christmas Eve gift giving at Prado. As you can see from the photo, we received an abundance of children's toys, clothing, backpacks, purses, toiletries, books, and other gifts. Every child client at Prado was asked to make three gift wishes, and we were able to provide the gifts they wanted with a very few exceptions. The gift giving was a great success, and would not be possible without the support of our generous community.



## Success Story

As we embark on the 6<sup>th</sup> year of our newsletter (!) we would like to focus our success story on the staff at Prado Day Center. These wonderful people ensure that the homeless in our community have a place to come for food, warmth, a shower, laundry and many other services, as well as a caring person to greet them when they arrive.

Their job is not easy, and the hours are long. Staffing changes during the past year have made for

work schedule changes and fewer people taking on more and more responsibility. Most clients are cooperative and eager to help, but some have serious medical or mental health problems that can be a real challenge for staff. We send our heartfelt thanks to all these people who work so hard to improve the lives of others:

- Homeless Services Manager: Shawn Ison
- Case Managers: Mary Lou Zivna, Andrew Anderson, Pamela Hughes
- Full- and part-time staff: Dee Barrios, Erin Cooper, Kathryn Mueller, Darlene Mims
- Staff shared with Maxine Lewis shelter: Tommy Miner, Tina Henson, Chelsea La Pierre

- Substitute staff: Darlene Bowman, Brian Wilkinson, Cynthia Pretzel, Anthony Pinkerton, Dawn Latimer

## Donations / Volunteer Opportunities

For more information about Prado Day Center, visit [www.pradodaycenter.org](http://www.pradodaycenter.org). To make donations, go to [www.pradodaycenter.org/donate.html](http://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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*United Way presents the "Make Change Count" meter check to Friends of Prado Day Center board.*



*Thanks to the Dubril family, who hosted the annual ChiroFeed on Dec. 13.*



*The children at the Christmas Eve gift giving were greeted by Santa – on wheels!*