

Memorandum from



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

*... and Maxine Lewis
Memorial Shelter ...*

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*** Transition Plan in Full Swing! ***

The new Homeless Services Center at 40 Prado Road is closer and closer to being a reality. The Homeless Foundation of SLO County has nearly achieved its goal of raising \$4.5 million dollars for construction of the new center, and hopes to have “shovels in the ground” sometime this fall. Once all of the capital is raised for construction, interested members of the Friends of Prado and Homeless Center boards will merge into a consolidated board. This larger board will continue to raise funds for Prado and Maxine Lewis in the short term – until construction is complete – and then raise funds for the new center.

A transition team of people from the Friends of Prado board, the Homeless Foundation board, and CAPSLO is busy planning the merger of all Prado and Maxine Lewis donors. Soon all donors to Friends of Prado, Maxine Lewis, and the Homeless Foundation will become "Friends of [new name] Center".

By consolidating all day and night services in one location, the new center will be much more efficient than the separate day and night centers that now exist. We will no longer have to transport people between

two locations. All meals can be prepared on site. There will be more office space for case managers and other service providers.

In order for the new center to be open, operating, and serving clients, we need to keep it funded – not an easy task given the federal government’s limited interest in supporting transitional centers. We now need, and will continue to need, **at least 50%** of all operating expenses to come from the private sector! Therefore, we want to remind you that **the work will not be done when the new center is built!** After all, it’s not the building that’s important, but what goes on inside, and that will take ongoing commitment from all of our community.

All donations received by Friends of Prado Day Center are now being used for operating expenses at Prado Day Center, and – as much as possible – for operations at Maxine Lewis as well. **We need your support** to keep things running smoothly, both during the construction of the new center and after it is built. And we thank you for your ongoing, faithful support of homeless services!

Special Thank You ...



Many thanks to our regular breakfast volunteer clients Kevin Doberer, Karin S., and Jon Decker (from left to right). These hard-working clients set up, serve, close up, clean up, keep us organized and rotate our donations so we use

all items before expiration. They are a great help to our staff and a tremendous asset to our program!

Recuperative Care Project

Homeless people often have nowhere to go to safely and quietly recuperate from illness or surgery, and they may have difficulty navigating the challenging medical system to schedule follow-up appointments.

Beginning August 1, Maxine Lewis Shelter will provide a safe place for up to six of these clients to rest and recuperate – both day and night – from illness or after surgery. A case manager will ensure that they follow up with primary care, drug/alcohol, and mental health appointments, and will provide transportation, further ensuring success in their recovery.

Discussions are ongoing to expand the project to the new center once it is constructed.

Success Stories

Staffperson Susan reports: One of our [Prado] clients has just secured housing with a 3-month summer sublet, entirely paid for with his earnings as a caregiver. He is also looking forward to celebrating his daughter's graduation from law school. He is very grateful for his time at Prado and the perspective of knowing others in similar or even worse situations.

Staff person Fernando reports: Recently a client came to the office and expressed his gratitude for the services at Maxine Lewis Shelter. Although he has been sober for several months now, sobriety has been difficult for him because he used to run into acquaintances who are deep into alcoholism and drug use. It

became easier for him to remain sober when he came to the shelter, and he appreciates that it is a sobriety-based program.

Donations / Volunteer Opportunities

For more information about Friends of Prado Day Center, visit www.pradodaycenter.org. To make donations, go to www.pradodaycenter.org/donate.html. If you would like to volunteer at Prado Day Center or Maxine Lewis Memorial Shelter, please call Amanda Bailey at 544-4355 x121.

Since 1997, **Prado Day Center** has provided essential day-to-day services for homeless and working poor members of our community--food, showers, phone messages, and many other services. **Friends of Prado Day Center** provides support funding for Prado Day Center. **CAPSLO** 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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*Save the Date
for the
9th Annual Culinary Carnival
February 25, 2017!*

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