

40 Prado Rose to the Challenge!



Hopefully, you all made it through stormy January and managed to stay safe and dry. The storms brought an influx of clients to 40 Prado. Director Jack Lahey commented, "It was amazing to see our services run well and for the storm not to halt our ability to meet the needs of our folks. Massive shout out to People's Kitchen for getting a truck to deliver lunches through the flooding! Big thanks to SLO City Councilmember Andy Pease and Daisy Wiberg for volunteering with us at the warming center!"

January saw the HIGHEST numbers 40 Prado has ever had for services. For example, the numbers for January 9 were as follows: Participants in Day Services: 135, Meals Served: 401, Beds Occupied: 118, Warming Center: 49, Safe Parking Programs: 90, Total Estimated Households Provided Safe Parking/Shelter on 1/9: 259. No one turned away! Thank you to the staff and volunteers.

Friends of 40 Prado Board

Spotlight - Meet the Friends of 40 Prado Board Officers



Board Chair, Chris Gomez, joined the Friends of 40 Prado board in 2017 and has served as chair since 2020. He is passionate about the wrap-around services offered at the 40 Prado shelter, and thrilled to be a small part of the positive impact it has on the community. Chris works as a Senior Reactor Operator at Diablo Canyon Power Plant and has been with PG&E since 2008. Prior to that, he served on a submarine in the US Navy for six years. He has a bachelors in Business Management from Excelsior University. Chris lives in San Luis Obispo with his wife, son, daughter and two dogs.



Secretary, Dr. Deborah McNeil-Amorteguy, began working in Ojai after graduation, but a week-end trip to San Luis Obispo created the magic needed to turn everything upside down and convince her to make her home here. She has been living and working in SLO since 1991 and is very active in the community. Deborah and her husband, Michael, have two children. Time outside the office is shared with her family and friends, hiking, traveling, reading, cooking and local wine tasting. Her volunteer work includes fundraising for the American Heart Association and the California Dental Association Foundation. Additionally, she has served as a member of the Friends of 40 Prado Board for ___ years, and she regularly serves lunch at the center with People's Kitchen.



Treasurer and Fundraising Chair, Robert Igel and his wife Vanessa, moved from Chicago's harsh winters and humid summers to the fun and sun of the Central Coast in 2015. Like so many, once they saw the area, they had no intention of ever leaving! They had always enjoyed volunteering and wanted to find ways to not just live here, but to be a part of the community! In 2017, they started volunteering to serve breakfast a few times a month and, in late-2018, Rob joined the board and jumped into leading the planning for our annual Community in Concert event. Rob stays very busy as a System Engineer at Diablo Canyon, but he believes the continuous success stories of those being helped by 40 Prado's resources makes his – and the board's – contributions more than worth it!



Communications Committee Chair, Brynne Speizer, is honored to serve on the Friends of 40 Prado Board. Prior to her current role at Wacker Wealth Partners where she is a Wealth Advisor and CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ (CFP®) professional, she worked as a staff fundraiser for various nonprofits. Brynne understands firsthand the power of unrestricted, private donations. She is grateful to have the chance through the Board to help shore up financial support to one of the most vital resources providers in SLO County. She has many personal heroes and role models, but notes that it is often her niece and nephew who consistently challenge her to be the best version of herself every day.

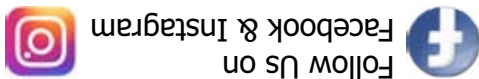
40 Prado Success Story

Rose first came to the shelter in May of 2019. Before her arrival, she was in another emergency shelter out of the county but was eventually timed out. It has been about nine years since Rose had permanent, stable housing. A car accident left her with multiple medical issues, and she also struggled with her memory. Rose tried re-establishing herself in this county but was unsuccessful in doing so on her own and realized she needed more support. In February 2022, Rose enrolled in Case Management and was motivated to stabilize herself physically, mentally, and emotionally. Connecting with Behavioral Health resulted in a great deal of positive change.



Rose was finally housed on December 14th, 2022 using her section 8 voucher and TMHA's housing program. She was assisted financially in getting her security deposit and first month's rent paid. When she first saw the unit, she was in disbelief and couldn't believe that was to be her home. Once she signed her lease and was assisted with transporting her items to her new unit, she was very excited for this big transition. Rose was so happy to finally have a place of her own. She knew exactly how she was going to decorate her room - starting with some Christmas decorations. Her transition from an emergency shelter to permanent, stable housing has been difficult due to a change of routine. However, Rose is confident that with the help of her case manager, she will be able to do things independently and find a new routine. While she is thrilled to have a home of her own, she stated she is grateful for the help she received at the emergency shelter and is already missing everyone!

Friends of 40 Prado is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, tax ID 77-0540323. We provide support funding for 40 Prado Homeless Services Center. CAPSLO manages their day-to-day operations. The People's Kitchen coordinates hot lunches served daily at 40 Prado by organizations throughout the county.



San Luis Obispo, CA 93406
PO Box 12444



It was all hands on deck at 40 Prado to battle the storms. Thanks to staff and volunteers, no one was turned away!

Donations/Volunteer Opportunities

To make donations or to find out more about Friends of 40 Prado, go to friendsof40prado.org or follow us on Social Media. To volunteer, please call (805) 544-4355 x121 or email volunteer@capslo.org.