

# Friends of 40PRADO Newsletter

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# 40 Prado Is Making a Difference!

We hope that everyone is enjoying this beautiful summer! As always, great things are happening at 40 Prado. We are happy to report that the Housing-Focused Shelter Program is producing some fabulous results. As of May 31, the HFSP had 86 households enrolled with an assigned navigator and a further 14 who are in the process of enrolling. Wow!

In the month of June, the Access Center had 397 unduplicated participants from 363 households. The average number of persons served per day was 137. The Access Center hosted 19 unduplicated children, with an average of 7 children daily. Also, 66 intakes were conducted over the course of the month. The Shelter Program hosted an average of 109 persons per night. There were 199 unduplicated participants from 172 households, with 18 unduplicated children and an average of 12 children per night. Friends of 40 Prado Board

## Spotlight - 40 Prado Kitchen

Some amazing things are happening in the kitchen at the 40 Prado Homeless Services Center! Kitchen Manager Kevin Hyland and his crew are serving up some wonderful meals and are rescuing thousands of pounds of food in the process.

What does it mean to rescue food? While San Luis Obispo County is rich in farm land that yields a bounty of agricultural products, not everyone has consistent access to nutritious food. Sadly, a great deal of safe and healthful food ends up in landfills every day. As a way of addressing these issues, SLO Food Bank operates programs to rescue food from local growers, community residents and markets. This program coordinates the collection of near-date food items from grocery chains and farms as well as the distribution to local organizations that feed those in need, like 40 Prado. They have put in place strict policies on handling to ensure that every step of the way is compliant with food safety regulations and standards. In addition to helping feed those in need, this program minimizes organic waste, which makes up more than a third of California's waste stream and emits greenhouse gas that affects air quality and climate.



According to Hyland, 98.5% of the food that is served by the 40 Prado kitchens is comprised of donated food. Since the beginning of 2024, 40 Prado has used an average of over 9,000 pounds per month of rescued food! This is fresh, unprocessed food that has been donated through the Food Rescue Program from retailers like Trader Joe's, Costco and Whole Foods, as well as local farms and growers.

Hyland went on to say that receiving these food donations is such an amazing gift. It allows the center to keep kitchen costs down while providing clients with nutrient dense food. He also stated that these food deliveries give them a license to be creative in the kitchen. They are never sure what will come in their delivery, so they are able to plan healthful menus around the produce and food items as they arrive. Hyland, a former hotel and restaurant chef, appreciates the opportunity to make a difference in the community. Together with his incredible staff, including Rick Scott (pictured above), Hyland is providing nutritious meals for those most in need in our community, as well as rescuing thousands of pounds of food from landfills.

In the month of June, the shelter served and average of 130 dinners per night, including Community Dinners & Warming Center Dinners. We are so fortunate to have Hyland and his kitchen crew at 40 Prado...keep up the good work!

### 40 Prado Success

Before going to 40 Prado Homeless Services Center, Randall was living out of his car in Santa Maria. Sadly, he was not able to live with his son because he was without housing. Realizing that he needed help to turn his life around, he went to 40 Prado. Within the safe haven of the shelter, Randall was able to focus his attention on gaining sustainable income. He soon got a job as a bus driver. After securing this stable employment, he was awarded a Section 8 voucher for housing.

Randall is a perfect example of the effectiveness of the new 90-day Housing-Focused Shelter Program. Randall worked closely with his housing navigator and eventually found a beautiful, 2-bedroom apartment where he now lives with his son. Through persistence, hard work and a commitment to completing his goals, Randall is now living happily in a place he and his son can call home.

Read more Success Stories on our website: https://friendsof40prado.org/



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.



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# The People's Kitchen of SLO

While the kitchen staff at 40 Prado provide the dinner meals at the center, The People's Kitchen coordinates the hot lunch service. For more than 30 years the People's Kitchen has provided a noon meal to the hungry. More than 30,000 meals are served each year. The success of The People's Kitchen has been due to the volunteer efforts of many individuals and organizations (White Heron Sangha pictured). The People's Kitchen currently has more than 40 groups helping provide a hot noon meal. The People's Kitchen served 678 first-time meals during the week of July 7-13. The most meals served was 112. For more information or to volunteer with The People's Kitchen, visit their website at https://www.slopeopleskitchen.org/



### **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**.