

“Dedicated to ending homelessness in Ventura”

NEWSLETTER



(June 2019 - VSSTF - Faith

committee newsletter)

CITY COUNCIL GIVES GREEN LIGHT TO VENTURA’S FIRST PERMANENT SHELTER

In a 7-0 vote the Ventura city council approved lease and operating agreements to provide the city’s first permanent, case managed shelter using city and county funds. The shelter is to be up and running December, 31, 2019.

Special recognition was given by the mayor to the faith community for their efforts in bringing this shelter to fruition. 28 years ago the faith community, along with community agencies, began advocating and urging the need for a case managed permanent shelter that would enable obtaining housing. We thank here some of the early advocates-Judy Alexandre, Rev. Rick Pearson, Nick Deitch, Clyde Reynolds, The Salvation Army, Karol Schulkin, Kate Mills, Neal Andrews, Debora Schreiber, John Jones, Kathy Powell, Rabbi Lisa Hochberg-Miller, Jan Christianson, Sue Brinkmeyer and many, many others not mentioned here—including some of you. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

FAITH COMMITTEE WORKSHOP- THE PERMANENT SHELTER AND HOW WE CAN MAKE IT A SUCCESS

Save the date. Thursday September 12 at Poinsettia Pavillion-- 3451 Foothill Rd.

5:30 Registration

6-9 Program

Join us for an informative workshop presented by the operator-Mercy House -and hear how we can support and contribute to our new permanent shelter.

Community Action of Ventura County

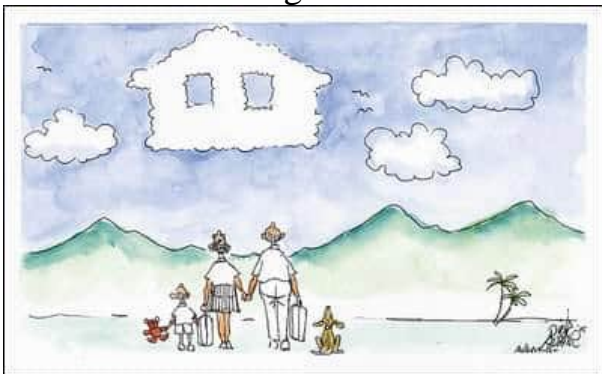
Community Action of Ventura County is a non-profit agency located in the city of Oxnard serving low-income and homeless residents in the county of Ventura. Our mission is to help our community establish pathways out of poverty through advocacy, partnerships, and services that promote dignity and self-sufficiency. These services include: Utility assistance, Weatherization of

homes, Homeless prevention programs and a Day center to meet the essential needs of local homeless individuals along with food assistance. Through our homeless services, we provide year-round daytime shelter where case managed individuals can obtain a mailing address, computer access, laundry and shower services. Our Day Center is open: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 7am-12pm; Tuesdays & Thursdays: 7am-2pm. The extended hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays are to align with additional services provided on those days that include our BikeHub and Community Market. Our BikeHub is open to the community on Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am-2pm so that they may repair or fix their bikes for a small fee or in exchange for volunteer hours. Our Community Market (food pantry) is open on Thursdays 1pm-3pm.

For more information: www.ca-vc.org, 805-436-4000

For updates: Facebook @capventura

HOMES FOR ALL ..Advocates for Very Affordable Housing in Ventura



“What’s Your Housing Plan?” This simple question is a continual one posed by Mercy House, operators of Ventura’s first permanent shelter, to all of its residents. And truly, the success of the upcoming shelter will depend upon the ability of transitioning residents to find very affordable living situations. Realizing the need for very affordable

housing and sensing the City Council’s willingness to face the problem, a group of concerned advocates began meeting about five years ago. Comprised of members of the faith community, Housing Authority Representatives, low-cost housing developers and many other individuals in the community desiring to house the homeless and near homeless, this ad hoc group has been a force in making inroads into creating affordable opportunities. Some of their advocacy work through the years includes pressing for inclusionary housing in new building proposals, identifying suitable land parcels to place new housing and changing zoning restrictions with the city. Still, the need for Homes for All exists today so that transitioning residents from the shelter will find a place to call home along with the currently unhoused and burgeoning numbers of nearly unhoused Ventura residents.

WE WELCOME YOUR INPUT

If your congregation or organization has an event, volunteer opportunity or need to benefit Ventura's homeless, please submit the information by email to our editor John Jones at johnsandersjones@gmail.com by the 15th of any month. Your voice is important.