

**2015**

***LOCAL RESOURCES FOR  
ENDING HOMELESSNESS***

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Ventura Social Services Task Force  
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**Name of Agency: ACTION (Area Christians Taking Initiative on Needs)**

Brief description of services provided in Ventura:

- ACTION is a Ventura County nonprofit that networks with Christian churches to meet needs. We match volunteers up with those in need. The types of unmet needs vary greatly: From moving someone, home and car repairs, locating needed appliances or furniture, etc. We especially help with keeping people in their home and seniors living independently. We do not give financial support. We give the church a way to send their congregation out into the neighborhoods to put their faith into action and touch lives.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

Rachelle Melia

805 987-0300

[Rachelle.melia@actionvc.org](mailto:Rachelle.melia@actionvc.org)

[www.actionvc.org](http://www.actionvc.org)

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

- Labor intensive projects
- Volunteers who can help seniors do small tasks
- Handymen
- Electricians
- Plumbers
- Mechanics
- Gardeners
- Those with good interpersonal skills

We also have a shortage of people available during week days.

**Other:**

We host Community Christian Shoppe where toys are given to low-income families at Christmas time and Serve Day in June where we send thousands of volunteers out to serve people and agencies on one day.

**Name of Agency:** Bible Fellowship Church

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

**Name of Agency:** Catholic Charities Ventura County

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Oxnard Community Center: Provides rental assistance, utilities assistance, food distribution at the food pantry, pantry referrals, lunches for the homeless and case management.
- Ventura Community Center: Offers homeless prevention services such as, rental assistance and utility assistance, material services, emergency food pantry and case management.
- Moorpark Community Services Center (Moorpark Pantry Plus): Provides supplemental food, clothing, eviction prevention assistance, utility assistance and holiday programs with information and referrals.
- Older Adult Service and Intervention System (OASIS): A comprehensive program that provides a variety of human services to seniors, aged 60 and above, supports the independence and dignity of seniors, while protecting their quality of life through friendly volunteer visits, in-home needs assessment, on-going case management and transportation assistance to medical and other appointments.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

**Name of Agency:** Church of the Foothills

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Does not provide any services directly to the Homeless of Ventura or Ventura County

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

- Ventura Homeless Prevention
- RAIN
- Project Understanding
- Food Share
- CLUE-VC
- Turning Point Jan

Morris, Chairperson, Missions Board  
805-701-8696

[stitcherian@gmail.com](mailto:stitcherian@gmail.com)

Scott Marsi, Member, Missions Board  
609-713-0254

[Scott.marsi@huber.com](mailto:Scott.marsi@huber.com)

Kris Bergstrom, Pastor

[Krisbergsrom5@gmail.com](mailto:Krisbergsrom5@gmail.com)

**Name of Agency:** City of Ventura

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

The City of Ventura does not provide social services of any kind.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

<http://www.cityofventura.net/volunteeropportunities>

For Annual homeless count: <http://volunteerventura.org>

For Ventura River clean-up: <http://www.venturahillsides.org/volunteer.html>

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

- Annual homeless count. Sign up in December and/or January each year for the count on the fourth Tuesday of January.
- Occasional illegal camp clean-ups are scheduled (and advertised) on an as needed basis.
- Ventura River clean-ups

**Other:**

1425 Dowell Dr. Ventura, CA 92003

Community Services Manager - Peter Brown

805 658-4707

[pbrown@cityofventura.net](mailto:pbrown@cityofventura.net)

- River Haven - Partnership with Turning Point - including \$14k in annual funding (plus "donation" of land)
- Safe Sleep - Partnership with Salvation Army - including approx. \$15k in annual funding
- \$70k grant to VSSTF
- Winter Warming Shelter - Partnership with Society of St Vincent de Paul - annual funding amount varies, but approx. \$45k per year
- Staff participation on COC board, Ventura County Homeless and Housing Coalition, and various community meetings
- Partnership and job sharing arrangement with the city of Oxnard
- Homeless 2 Home Project
- Downtown Ventura Organization
- The City Center - A converted motel supported by 20 local churches
- El Patio Hotel - Serves low-income residents
- Encanto Del Mar affordable housing for the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura



**Name of Agency:** City of Ventura - Community Development

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Supportive Grants/Funding for: Safe Sleep Program, River Haven, VSSTF, Encanto Del Mar, El Patio Hotel and others.

Peter Brown - Community Services Manager

501 Poli St.

Ventura, CA 93002-0099

805 658-4707

[Pbrown@cityofventura.net](mailto:Pbrown@cityofventura.net)

**Name of Agency:** City of Ventura - Police Department

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

1425 Dowell Dr. Ventura, CA 92003

**Name of Agency: Coalition for Family Harmony**

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Domestic Violence Emergency Safe House is a 30 day program to exit safely from an abusive relationship
- Rape Crisis Program provides intervention, emergency response, advocacy and accompaniment to victims of sexual assault 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Offers crisis counseling and intervention, needs assessment, emergency shelter, restraining order assistance, and linkage to appropriate community resources as well as counseling services for survivors of sexual assault and non-offending care givers and a 24 hour bilingual hotline.
- Batterer's Intervention Program helps participants modify behavior patterns and break the cycle of violence by learning new skills around power control, accountability and communication.
- Juvenile Probation Programs was created for juveniles on probation and designed to prevent recurring criminal and adverse behaviors by adolescents. Includes anger management, substance abuse and teen empowerment groups, along with individual counseling.
- Counseling to survivors and perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

Audra Lucas

[a.lucas@thecoalition.org](mailto:a.lucas@thecoalition.org)

805 983-6014 ext. 110

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

- Fundraising Volunteer
- Administrative Volunteer
- Auxiliary Board Volunteers

**Other:**

Main Office:

Executive Director - Caroline Prijatel-Sutton

805-983-6014

1030 North Ventura Rd. Oxnard, CA 93030

**Name of Agency:** Coastline Bible Church

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Senior Pastor - Rob Perkins

- Participate in the Family to Family feeding program where we cook & serve lunch to the homeless on the first Wednesday of each month thru the St Vincent de Paul program.
- Support the ministries of "the City Center" and "Project Understanding" which directly serve and interact with homeless people in our city.
- Also members of the ACTION network of churches within the wider area.

**Name of Agency:** Community Action Ventura County (CAVC)

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Our Homeless Resource Center offers year round day shelter and extensive opportunities for receiving assistance and referrals.
- Food pantry on Thursday's from 1-3

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

Director of Operations

Timothy Hawkins

805-436-4015

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

- Volunteers can help us organize food bags either Wednesday afternoons or Thursday mid-morning into the afternoon.
- Volunteers needed that have some knowledge and/or capability of helping/building kayaks.

**Other:**

Social enterprise putting homeless people to work building kayaks.

**Name of Agency:** Community Bible Church

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Food Pantry: Available on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Amanda Lawrence

**Name of Agency:** Community Presbyterian Church

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Food Outreach: Held every Thursday except for the fifth Thursday of the month. In the case of disabilities, home delivery can be arranged.
- Clothing: Available one Thursday a month.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Community Presbyterian Church

805-648-2737

CPCventura.org



**Name of Agency:** Family to Family, Inc

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- We provide hot lunch Monday, Wednesday and Friday, breakfast Saturdays and Sundays for anyone who is hungry.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

Jan Schmutte 805-654-8151

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

- Each meal is prepared by a group (church, etc) once a month. At this time we have a couple of days not covered.

**Other:**

805 658-2610

**Name of Agency:** First Christian Church of Ventura

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Other:**

**Name of Agency:** Habitat for Humanity

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Works in partnership with people from all walks of life to build simple, decent and affordable housing. Volunteers provide the labor, and Habitat raises funds from individuals, foundations, corporations, businesses, faith-based organizations and grants to build the houses. The houses we build are then sold to very low-income families at no profit and with a no-interest mortgage. We are currently building 8 homes (numbers 5764 overall in Santa Paula.
- In addition, Habitat of Ventura County offers support to low-income homeowners in need of home repairs through our Preserve A Home (PAH) program. Repairs include painting and landscaping; new energy-efficient windows; a new roof; replacing electrical wiring, building ramps and accessible showers, and much more. We have completed over 300 home preservations around the county, and are in the process of repairing between 35 and 40 this fiscal year - including 2 in the city of Ventura/

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

Tricia Keem, Volunteer & Resource Development Coordinator

[tricia@habitatventura.org](mailto:tricia@habitatventura.org)

805-485-6065 ext 208

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

- On the new construction site in Santa Paula - We build Wednesday through Saturday, and welcome both skilled and unskilled volunteers.
- With our Preserve A Home (PAH) program - These are completed all over the county, and involve home repairs of various sorts.
- At our 2 Restores - discount home improvement centers - in Oxnard and Simi Valley
- On committees that might be of interest, such as events, fundraising, family selection, etc.

**Other:**

**Name of Agency:** Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Resident Services assists public housing residents and Section 8 Housing Voucher Clients to move towards self-sufficiency through the provision of educational, employment, financial, social and recreational programs.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Senior Developer:

Dan Hardy (also works with County Continuum of Care Housing Committee)

805-648-5008

Housing Authority does not provide any emergency assistance. Assistance is provided based on the date and time that application is received.

**Name of Agency: Interface Children & Family Services****Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- 2-1-1 Information and referral connects callers with information about services available to them, including basic needs resources (i.e. food, clothing and shelter), physical and mental health resources, domestic violence services, substance abuse services, employment support, rent and utility assistance, senior services, services for persons with disabilities, support for children, youth and families, legal assistance and much more.
- Mental health services in family-friendly locations throughout Ventura County.
- Interface Family Violence Response Team: Offers 24 hours a day/7 days a week advocacy and response to domestic violence calls when requested by law enforcement and medical providers.
- Safe Haven Emergency Shelter provides 30 days of emergency shelter for victims and their children who are fleeing domestic violence. Provides emergency assistance, safe housing, counseling, advocacy and support 24 hours a day, 265 days a year. Clothing, food, toiletries, toys and other necessities are available for new arrivals and are provided throughout the stay.
- Safe Journey Transitional Shelter serves domestic violence survivors who have already completed their stay in an emergency shelter.
- Support Group for Women: Weekly, confidential support groups for victims of domestic violence.
- Child Sexual Abuse Prevention "My Body Belongs to Me" for children from preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade and their families.
- Teen Dating Violence Prevention is a universal primary prevention program that encourages teens to declare their personal relationships and spaces as violence-free zones.
- Community Awareness & Outreach: Presentations, informational booths and resources free of charge on topics related to family violence prevention.
- Anger Management Program consists of 15-sessions where individuals learn to effectively manage their anger while dealing with feelings of stress and rage.
- Batterers Intervention Program is a 52-week series of structured, interactive classes.
- Co-Custody Parenting is a 10-session group program.
- Parenting Education over the course of 10 sessions provides participants alternatives to physical punishment, applied understanding of child development, increased communication skills, appropriate child discipline and behavior management.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

[hrstaff@icfs.org](mailto:hrstaff@icfs.org)

**Name of Agency:** Interface Children & Family Services Cont

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

- 2-1-1 Information and Referral
- Family Violence Intervention Services
- Mental Health
- Youth Crisis Outreach Program
- Oxnard Resource Center
- Center for Community Development
- Youth Court Programs

**Other:**

Executive Director — Erik Sternad

4001 Mission Oaks Blvd. Ste. #1

Camarillo, CA 93012-5121

805 484-6114

[esternad@icfs.org](mailto:esternad@icfs.org)

**Name of Agency: Kids and Families Together**

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Pre & Post Adoption Counseling
- Individual, Couple and Family Therapy
- Foster Parent Mentoring and Support, Education and Training
- Clinical Case Management for Foster and Kinship Families
- Permanent Connections for Foster and Emancipated Youth
- Facilitated Support Groups for Foster Care and Adoption
- Book and Video Lending Library
- F.O.O.D Share pantry for Emancipated Youth and Kinship Families
- Kids & Families Together Newsletter with useful information on local and national resources

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

- Family Therapy Services: Families participating in a therapeutic process. Attachment and trauma focused interventions based on a relational model of change. Contact: Melana Luke 805 -643-1446 ext 116
- Early Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment - EPSDT (In partnership with Ventura County Behavioral Health: Family-driven services, in-home and/or in-office providing counseling and case management and support services focusing in childhood attachment. Contact Savannah Migliuri 805 643-1446 ext. 149 or Melana Luke 805 -643-1446 ext 116
- Family Attachment Model — FAM (in partnership with Ventura County Children & Family Services): Available for Pre and post adoptive families, guardianship and long term placement. An 18 session in-home service. Contact: Melana Luke 805 -643-1446 ext 116
- Relationship Assessment Program RAP (in partnership with Ventura County Children & Family Services): Available to birth families from within the Child Welfare System. An 18 session in-home therapeutic support program. Contact Alex Lemus 805 643-1446 ext 142
- Support & Education and Training — SET (in partnership with Ventura College): Available to Foster and Kinship Caregivers within Ventura County Child Welfare. Providing weekly in-home services specializing in topics relevant to caregivers of children who have experienced attachment trauma. Contact: Melana Luke 805 -643-1446 ext 116

**Name of Agency: Kids and Families Together Cont...**

- In Home Placement Training IPT - (in partnership with Ventura County Children & Family Services): For newly licensed or re-licensed Foster Caregivers within Ventura County. Providing an individualized 6 hour training focused on therapeutic parenting techniques. Contact: Melana Luke 805 -643-1446 ext 116
- Peer Education Training — PET (in partnership with Ventura College): Available to Foster Parents within Ventura County. Connects new foster parents with experienced foster parents providing support and information to help caregivers raise children and navigate the Child Welfare System.



**Name of Agency: Lift Up Your Voice — Circle of Love Program**

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Circles of Love (aka Make a Buddy) — Take one homeless individual who is ready to get out of homelessness, ready to get healthy, prepare for a job, apply for services and housing and add one to six members of your congregation who are ready to mentor and support that individual as he or she goes through the process. Mix in a case manager ready to guide you through and a lot of love and someone who was once homeless will be homeless no more. That's the solution to homelessness that the City of Denver undertook so successfully, now deemed to be a best practice for faith communities involved in homelessness, and you can now be part of it here in Ventura.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

Call or email Kathy Powell at [KathyPurplePrincess@gmail.com](mailto:KathyPurplePrincess@gmail.com) or 805-910-8860

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

- Circle members might drive an individual to a doctor's appointment or to a follow-up meeting with a case manager, help a homeless individual fill out an application, write a resume, search for a job, open a bank account, or search for an apartment or negotiate an agreement with a potential roommate.

**Other:**

**Name of Agency:** Orchard Church

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

- 2 community serve days a year where we do projects at places like Tenderlife, City Center, Riverhaven and local parks and schools.
- Weekly food collection for the Project Understanding food pantry.
- Support Project Understanding at Thanksgiving and with 2 x's a year breakfast in a baggie (about 1000 bags each time).
- Host a tutoring site for Project Understanding that serves 100 low income children. (as well as snacks and occasional food, counseling and speech therapy)
- Hosts and contributes with time, funds and people to the Action Ventura Community Christmas Shoppe that is designed to assist 600 families with toys, meals (breakfast and lunch day of event, (pictures with Santa, prayer, gift wrapping, freebies, live music and more. We work with 12 other congregations for this event.
- Serving a home cooked meal at Riverhaven each month and both serve and share the meal with the residents. Hosts the Thanksgiving meal for the residents and their families...a sit down full Thanksgiving meal for about 60. We do the same thing for Christmas and also have individual gifts for each resident.
- Have served a monthly meal at Tenderlife...currently on hold.
- Have a regular outreach to Cabrillo Village with tutoring, sports and special events.
- Other outreach efforts as a special needs arise.

**Name of Agency:** Our Lady of Assumption

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

Sharon Fleur

805-642-4104

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

- Interviewing of clients
- Return phone calls
- Prepare thank you letters for our benefactors
- Help with the SVdP bundle Sundays
- Computer management
- Office management
- Home visits
- If more volunteers were available would like to extend office hours so that the office could be open every day for at least a couple of hours.
- If someone has a green thumb we could use some help with flower beds.

**Other:**

**Name of Agency:** P.A.T.H. Program

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Outreach services
- Screening and diagnostic treatment services
- Habilitation and rehabilitation serviced
- Community mental health services
- Alcohol and drug treatment services
- Staff training
- Case management services
- Supportive and supervisory services in residential settings
- Referrals for primary health services, job training, educational services
- Relevant housing services

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Ken Porter (contact for all or Ventura County)

1911 Williams Dr., Suite 165, Oxnard, CA 93036

805-981-8868 (work)

805-766-3566 (cell)

[Kenneth.porter@ventura.org](mailto:Kenneth.porter@ventura.org)

## **Name of Agency: Project Understanding**

### **Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- First Step Center projects help people identify resources for which they are eligible, whether in a Project program or through referral to another agency.
- Homeless to Home project helps homeless people to find housing and establish a sustainable lifestyle
- Food Pantry project helps at-risk individuals and families stay housed by assisting with the fundamental need if food. Project helps these people establish and maintain good nutrition though a monthly food grant.
- Homeless Prevention: Project provides housing assistance to prevent eviction of individuals and families.
- Tender Life Maternity Home project provides housing and nutrition for homeless pregnant women though childbirth and for a recovery period. During and after residents pregnancies, provides training in life skills and employment application.
- S.H.O.R.E. (Supportive Housing Opportunities in a Residential Environment) project provides housing and case management to homeless individuals and families in coordination with Housing Authority of San Buenaventura.
- Tutoring project provides free weekly tutoring to children Kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup>. Most tutoring relationships are one-to-one with the same tutor. Twelve Tutoring Centers are open after school in Ventura, Saticoy, El Rio and Santa Paula.

### **Who to contact to volunteer:**

[info@projectunderstanding.org](mailto:info@projectunderstanding.org) , For tutoring, Maria Gonzalez,  
[mgonzalez@projectunderstanding.org](mailto:mgonzalez@projectunderstanding.org)

### **Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

- Interviewing new clients at First Step Center
- Helping with food and clients at Food Pantry
- Delivering food to Seniors and Disabled Adults
- Tutoring children at a Tutoring Center
- Providing administrative support in the main office
- Repair and maintenance at Project facilities
- Preparation and service for fund raising-events

### **Other:**

Office — 819 E. Thompson Blvd (corner of Thompson & Ash) 805 652-1326

Pantry — 38 Teloma Dr. (corner of Teloma & Telegraph)

**Name of Agency: Salvation Army**

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Ventura Transitional Living Center provides transitional housing and comprehensive support services for the homeless families and single women getting back on their feet
- BellWay Graduate House provides housing for graduates of the Transitional Living Program
- School on Wheels provides free tutoring to homeless students
- Family Assistance provides case management, grocery assistance, clothing vouchers and bus tokens
- Sunday Worship and Services
- Disaster Services provides disaster response teams that are on-call to serve at all disasters and civil disorders which place a community at risk or which may disrupt or destroy family security and well-being.
- Food Pantry is open 3 days a week where assistance is given with food for individuals and families.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Ministry Leaders:

Jerry and Laura Bloom

[Jerry.bloom@usw.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Jerry.bloom@usw.salvationarmy.org)

[Laura.bloom@usw.salvationarmv.org](mailto:Laura.bloom@usw.salvationarmv.org)

Transitional Living Center - 155 South Oak St. Ventura, CA 93001 805-648-4977

Ventura Corps — 650 South Petit Ave. Ventura, CA 93004 805-659-3598

**Name of Agency:** San Buenaventura Mission

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- St Vincent de Paul Conference
- Support with monthly food collection for Catholic Charities
- Thanksgiving baskets
- Parishioners assist with Family-to-Family on various days of the week during March

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

John Baker or Fr. Tom Elewaut 805 643-4318

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

**Name of Agency:** Saticoy Church

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**



**Name of Agency:** School on Wheels

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Educational support for school aged children and youth who are homeless. This includes tutoring, new backpacks filled with school supplies, a scholarship program for higher educations and enrichment activities, "blended learning" (online academic assessment and tutoring) and help with school enrollment.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

Terrie Soto

[www.schoolonwheels.org](http://www.schoolonwheels.org)

805-641-1678 (office)

805-366-9846 (cell)

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

- Tutors
- Tutor Coordinator
- Occasionally filling backpacks and misc. specific projects

**Other:**

**Name of Agency:** Seventh Day Adventist Church

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Food and clothing pantry available for homeless and needy people
- Seldom provide money and when this is done it is by vote through Church Board
- Supports Project Understanding with cash and food donations
- Supports The City Center with cash and monthly meals
- Supports Harbor Church by serving breakfast every other month
- Purchase dunes for River Haven
- Individuals obtain clothing such as hats, gloves, jackets, brown lunches and go out to camps and areas where the homeless gather and distribute the items to them.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

**Name of Agency:** Temple Beth Torah

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Food Pantry and clothing room Monday to Thursday 9-11
- Donation of various items for support (food, clothes and hygiene)

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

805-647-4181

7620 Foothill Rd, Ventura CA

- Donate to Project Understanding food pantry, donate money for VSSTF Housing Fund thru Ventura Church of Christ
- Tutoring with Project Understanding
- Meals to River Haven 1 x a month
- Employment, Aptitude and Job Center thru Total Life Christian Center
- Food Collection thru Catholic Charities, Family to Family, St Vincent de Paul

**Name of Agency:** The City Center Transitional Living

- **Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**
- We provide a temporary, safe place to call home for homeless families. During their residency, needed stability is found and they can focus on getting their life under control and obtaining the help and necessary skills to get back on their feet.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

Dee Cox (805) 223-1404 or [nanadeeofthree@gmail.com](mailto:nanadeeofthree@gmail.com)

Olga Hamra (805) 832-1404 or [olgahamrava@yahoo.com](mailto:olgahamrava@yahoo.com)

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

- Cleaning
- Room renovation
- Painting
- Handy man work
- Cooking meals
- Clothes pantry
- Grant writing
- Life skills coach
- Financial literacy
- Resume assistance
- Clean up grounds
- Resident mentoring

**Other:**

**Name of Agency:** The River Community

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Family Food Pantry
- Outreach Ministry Bags of Love
- Office open all week as a referral source for those that are homeless
- Working with H2H and referring clients as needed

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Lead Pastor

Jim Duran

805-648-7955

[jimduran@me.com](mailto:jimduran@me.com)

In communication with the city to begin a pilot program to assist those living in parks

**Name of Agency:** Trinity Lutheran Church

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

**Name of Agency:** Turning Point Foundation

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Our Place Shelter provides emergency housing and drop in services.
- Quality of Life enrichment activities and community integration for mentally ill and dual diagnosed adults living in Board and Care Homes with staffing provided by persons with lived mental health experience.
- The Wellness Center focuses on empowering members to develop their own Wellness and Recovery plans, develop Center activities and schedule, and take ownership of the Center recovery programming.
- Rehabilitation Centers provides two community rehabilitation centers that offer unique socialization activities and rehabilitation services.
- River Haven Community is a self-sustaining tent community where basic needs can be met in a stable, sanitary environment free of violence drugs and alcohol until residents are able to access housing.
- Countrywide Supported Housing is a supported transitional housing program, where clients pay 30% of their income for rent and can stay as long as two years.
- Homeless to Home provides Housing First Harm Reduction with street outreach and housing stability case management services to house and support clients in their housing.
- New Visions Clubhouse Ventura
- Oxnard Clubhouse

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Monarch Meadows: A rehabilitation garden at California University Channel Islands. It offers serenity and healing for mental health clients.

Administrative Offices

805-652-0000

505 Poli St. suite 401 Ventura, CA 93001

## **Name of Agency: US Veterans Affairs**

### **Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

If you are a Veteran who has lost your home, receive the support you've earned to get back on your feet. Contact VA's National Call Center for homeless Veterans at 877 4AID-VET (877-424-3838) to speak to a trained VA responder. The hotline and online chat are free and neither VA registration nor enrollment in VA healthcare is required to use either service.

- VA's Compensated Work Therapy (CWT) has three unique programs which assist homeless Veterans in returning to competitive employment, Sheltered Workshop, Transitional Work and Supported Employment.
- The Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program provides grants and per diem payments to help public and nonprofit organizations establish and operate supportive housing and service centers for homeless Veterans.
- HUD-VA Supportive Housing (VASH) Program is joint effort between the Department of Housing and Urban Development and VA. Vouchers allow Veterans and their families to live in market rate rental units while VA provides case management services. A housing subsidiary is paid to the landlord on behalf of the participating Veteran. The Veteran pays the difference between the actual rent charged by the landlord and the amount subsidized by the program.
- The Acquired Property Sales for Homeless Providers Program makes all foreclosed properties available for sale to homeless provider organizations at a 20 to 50 % discount to shelter homeless Veterans.
- The Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program provides grants and technical assistance to community-based, non-profit organizations to help Veterans and families stay in their homes.
- Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) offers outreach, exams, treatment, referrals, and case management to Veterans who are homeless and dealing with mental health issues, including substance use.
- Homeless Patient Aligned Care Teams (H-PACTs) Program provides a coordinated "medical home" specifically tailored to the needs of homeless Veterans that integrates clinical care with delivery of social services with enhanced access and community coordination.
- VA's Homeless Dental Program provides dental treatment for eligible Veterans.
- Project CHALENG (Community Homelessness Assessment, Local Education and Networking Groups): Brings together providers, advocates, and other concerned citizens to identify the needs of homeless Veterans and work to meet those needs through planning and cooperative action.
- Veteran Outreach provides eligible justice-involved Veterans with timely access to VA's mental health and substance use services when clinically indicated, and other VA services and benefits as appropriate.
- VA's Substance Use Disorder Treatment provides substance use services in the community to aid homeless Veterans' recovery.



**Name of Agency: US Veterans Affairs cont**

- The Health Care for Re-Entry Veterans Program helps incarcerated Veterans successfully rejoin the community through supports including those addressing mental health and substance use problems.
- The Readjustment Counseling Service's Vet Center Programs feature community-based locations and outreach activities that help to identify homeless Veterans and match homeless Veterans with the necessary services.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

**Name of Agency:** United Way of Ventura County

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Volunteer services to the cities of Ventura County. Includes Interface, Rescue Mission Alliance, Domestic Violence Shelter, Caring Neighbors, Many Mansions, Lutheran Local Services, Area Housing Authority, YMCA and others.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

**Name of Agency:** Unitarian Universalist Church

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

- Photo Projects: features places homeless children sleep and the faces of homelessness.
- Circles of Love: Individuals are invited to assist case managers in helping people work their way out of homelessness.
- RiverHaven: Individuals are welcome to provide dishes for community meetings on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays.
- SafeSleep: Houses of faith can volunteer to open their parking lot for people to sleep in their vehicles 7 pm — 7 am
- One Stop: Attend a training session at the church and then volunteer at One Stop Tuesday or Wednesday mornings.
- Family to Family: Serving 150 200 homeless or nearly homeless individuals first Mondays 9:30 — 1.
- Park Outreach: Tempt people who spend their days in the parks to move forward by providing lunch at River Church Thursdays at 11; serving providers will be there.
- Donating nearly \$50,000 each year to agencies working to end homelessness and poverty. (for example the Ventura Homeless Prevention Fund)

Sue Brinkmeyer

818-281-6249

[susanbrinkmeyer@icloud.com](mailto:susanbrinkmeyer@icloud.com)

**Name of Agency:** Ventura Baptist Church

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

**Name of Agency: Ventura County Behavioral Health - STAR Program/Rise Program**

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- STAR serves consumers of all ages who are entering the county's behavioral health care system. The program coordinates access so that consumers receive timely, appropriate, and consistent information, thorough screening, triage, assessment, and/or linkage to appropriate mental health services and supports in an efficient, high quality, culturally sensitive manner county-wide. "Recovery Coaches", who are individuals with "lived experience", assist in engaging persons in treatment who have traditionally been un-served and underserved, while helping to ensure that the concepts of empowerment, wellness and recovery are incorporated from the beginning of the consumers experience with the Behavioral Health Department system. STAR has increased the county's ability to provide consistent, coordinated outreach, assessment, supports and referral to our community, including an increase in service to un-served and underserved individuals.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Gloria Lozano (Santa Clara Valley Only)

805 981-9216

[Gloria.Lozano@ventura.org](mailto:Gloria.Lozano@ventura.org)

Also, launching a new program called Rapid Integrated Support & Engagement (RISE) primarily funded by the Investment in Mental Wellness Act of 2013. The new team will provide multiple services including extensive countrywide outreach to clients who are at risk of or currently experiencing a mental health crisis. The main goal is to successfully link clients to the appropriate level of mental health care they require by providing robust transitional case management and clinical services in field settings. The RISE team will be specifically focusing on those who traditionally fall through the cracks" without special intervention, i.e. homeless, post-psychiatric inpatient hospital clients, etc. The RISE team will also be available to respond to sub-acute crises in the community that do not require the deployment of the existing Adult Mobile Crisis Team. The RISE team is working closely with law enforcement and other community partners, including Homeless 2 Home street outreach teams to ensure effective and efficient service delivery in Ventura County.

The Behavioral Health Advisory Board is also looking at Laura's Law and whether it would be a useful tool for our community. Laura's Law opens the door to court mandated outpatient treatment for consumers who are gravely disabled by their mental illness.

**Name of Agency:** Ventura County Health Care Agency - One Stop Center

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Medi-Cal
- Medical Clinic for homeless
- Medication assistance for homeless
- Medical benefit application assistance for those without health insurance
- Free TB testing
- Free HIV testing by arrangement
- Housing Options
- General relief application assistance (Ventura)
- Food stamp application assistance
- Behavioral health assistance
- Risk assessments
- STAR assessments by appointment
- RICA
- Veteran assistance
- Legal assistance by arrangement
- Job Club
- Sack lunches and more...

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Kate Mills

805 652-6694

[Kate.Mills@ventura.org](mailto:Kate.Mills@ventura.org)

**Name of Agency: Ventura County Human Services Agency Homeless Services**

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) funds are available to local residents who are currently homeless or facing homelessness from rental housing within 21 days. May include rental deposits, utility payments; and/or moving and storage costs.
- RAIN Transitional Living Center provides temporary housing and services for individuals and families transitioning from homelessness to self-sufficiency. Provides for adult men and women recovering from injury or illness. Provides case management and counseling, a clean sober environment, nutritious meals, transportation for jobs and job searches and care for children.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Karol Schulkin

[Karol.Schulkin@ventura.org](mailto:Karol.Schulkin@ventura.org)

Brenda Davidson — R.A.I.N.

RAIN — 805 383-7505

Connects individuals and families seeking help to a network of agencies that provide health care, mental health services, drug and alcohol abuse treatment, temporary housing, and other benefits, and seeks to help clients' secure permanent housing.

**Name of Agency:** Ventura County Jewish Family Service

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Clinic Counseling
- School Counseling Services
- Low-Cost Legal Services
- Social Skills
- Homeless Outreach
- Senior Case Management
- Holocaust Survivor Services
- Community Based Social Work
- Internship program
- Information and Referral
- CEUs and Workshops

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Main Office:

857 E. Main St. Ventura, CA 93001

805-642-6565

Satellite Office:

80 E. Hillcrest Dr. Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

805-496-3896



**Name of Agency:** Ventura County St. Vincent de Paul

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Housing Assistance can include access to shelter, transitional housing and eviction prevention resources. A primary objective is to try to prevent, if not eliminate, homelessness in the community or for people who need a place to stay, social workers will try to help them get resettled.
- Prevention and intervention for housing issues is administered. This includes landlord/tenant mediation and emergency rental funds.
- Employment and education assistance is key to increasing your income and therefore gaining self-sufficiency. Every family needs to have a job that provides them enough income to pay their rent, food, or energy bills. Saint Vincent works with local employers and non-profits in Ventura California in an effort to help the unemployed and people who work part time.
- Health care and mental health support as well as referrals are offered to clinics and medical providers in southern California.
- Men Advancement Program provides males with transitional housing, clothing and living opportunities. It includes case management services. All of this is offered in an effort to provide support and direction in an effort to help men find more permanent housing.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

[info@svdpsc.org](mailto:info@svdpsc.org) or call 805 509-4400

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

- Work in a food parish
- Visit retirement and convalescent homes
- Conduct a food, clothing, blanket or toy drive for those in need
- Plan service opportunities for youth members
- Deliver food or meals to shut-ins
- Drive senior citizens to the grocery store or doctor's appointments

**Other:**

**Name of Agency:** Ventura County Probation Agency

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Andy Souza

805 662-6987

[andy.souza@ventura.org](mailto:andy.souza@ventura.org)

**Name of Agency:** Ventura County Veteran Services Office

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Professional Veteran Claims Officers who are fully accredited by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA). Veteran Claims Officers provide information, referrals, claims preparation and submission, and follow-up service to ensure Veterans, their dependents, and survivors receive the benefits to which they are entitled.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Claims Officers work with the following accredited organizations — American Legion, California Department of Veterans Affairs, Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Military Order of the Purple Heart, AMVETS, Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. They also work directly with the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs.

**Name of Agency: Ventura Homeless Prevention****Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

- Ventura Homeless Prevention keeps people who would, if not for us, fall into homelessness. 23,000 residents of Ventura live each day just one paycheck away from homelessness. An illness, accident, or temporary job loss can cause them to fall behind in the rent. It's a temporary setback, but with no savings, they find themselves facing eviction. Experience has shown that a one-time infusion of 700.00 or less can give people a chance to get back on their feet. Ongoing case management ensures that the household remains stable, and over 90% of those the Fund has helped remain in their homes one year later. If people are allowed to fall into homelessness, a downward spiral often begins. To prevent this, it is crucial that we get people back into housing right away. Ventura Homeless Prevention protects landlords against financial loss that comes as a result of renting to someone who has been homeless, thus making more landlords willing to rent to this segment of the population and making more rental units available for those who have been homeless.

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

Sue Brinkmeyer.

818 281-6249

[sbrink@glendale.edu](mailto:sbrink@glendale.edu)

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

- Serve on committee, or work within Ventura Homeless Prevention

**Other:**

To donate to the program: Mail checks to Ventura Homeless Prevention at 5654 Ralston Ventura, CA 93003.

[www.vhpf.net](http://www.vhpf.net)

**Name of Agency:** Ventura Unified School District

**Brief description of services provided in Ventura:**

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

JoAnn Young- Myers

Student Support Services Homeless Liaison

805-641-5000 ext 1106

- Steward B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, Section 722 (g)(3) - A law that considers the needs of homeless families that frequently move. If a homeless student moves during the school year he or she may continue at the original school for the remainder of the year or enroll in another school where he or she currently resides. The school choice decision is based upon consideration of the child's best interest and parent's request.
- CA Education Code 490069.5(e) - Homeless and Foster Youth can enroll and begin attending classes before records have arrived at the new school. Schools of students in foster care must immediately forward records to the new school within 5 working days after a request
- Homeless and Foster Youth - Rights are granted to homeless families under the "McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act".

**Who to contact to volunteer:**

**Areas where volunteers may be helpful:**

**Other:**

Student Support Services Homeless Liaison

Jo Ann Young-Myers

805 641-5000 ext 1106

