



The Crisis House Connector

June 2022 Newsletter

A Family's Journey Out of Homelessness



Crisis House's Outreach Team Saves a Family of Four!

Crisis House always strives to help families in need, especially when that family has been affected by COVID-19.

This month, Crisis House's East County Housing Connections Mobile Outreach Team saved a family of 4! The family had been experiencing homelessness since the start of the pandemic and had lost their housing due to COVID-19, forcing them to live inside their vehicle for 2 years.

Crisis House's team mobilized and placed the family in an emergency shelter. From there, we searched for permanent stable housing for the family in El Cajon and provided financial assistance funded by the San Diego County CARES Act.

After much searching, Crisis House was able to place the family into their own apartment in El Cajon days before the youngest daughter's 7th birthday. What a memorable birthday celebration for this family! Now housed, the children are looking forward to enrolling in Crisis House's Camp HOPE program soon!

This month, our Homeless Outreach Team also assisted in helping clear the homeless encampments to make room for safe parking on North Magnolia in collaboration with the sheriff's department, the HART Team, and other service providers. Our outreach team was able to place four households (6 people) into our emergency shelter program.

In 2021, Crisis House's General Homelessness Programming served a grand total of 832 people (including 32 children) and ended homelessness for 115 people (including 22 children and 6 veterans).

[Learn more about opportunities to support our homeless programs!](#)

Camp Hope at Skateworld!



This is how we ROLL!

This month, Crisis House features an event hosted by Camp HOPE for our Camp HOPE kids! Needless to say, we really let the good times roll at

Skateworld!

This event encouraged children, like Kaliyah, to challenge themselves to learn something new, and more importantly have fun with friends! Kaliyah was unable to skate at first, but after a few tumbles and a lot of support and encouragement from our team, she was able to skate around like a pro!

We focused on creating bonds between the Camp HOPE leaders and the camper children, building momentum for this year's long-awaited summer camp! Every month, Camp HOPE programming provides kids with various trauma-informed activities and ongoing mentorship leading up to our annual week-long summer camp experience!

Again, thank you to the [Cushman Foundation's Making a Difference in San Diego](#) grant for funding our Camp HOPE programming with \$150,000 over the past three years!

Crisis House prioritizes the needs of our community's children through Camp HOPE. This program provides trauma-informed camperships, year-round mentorship, counseling, and other activities to 125 children each year. This cost-free programming provided to underserved children in San Diego has a reputation of accomplishment in healing children struggling with the effects of trauma due to domestic violence.

[Learn more about opportunities to support Camp HOPE!](#)



Happy Retirement, Patricia "Pat" Zamora!



Photo (Above): Patricia Zamora (Crisis House staff) and her besties Cara, Patti, Kathi, and Dolores.

Thank you, Pat!

This month, Crisis House staff, friends, and family celebrated the ten meaningful years that Patricia "Pat" Zamora has served our community at Crisis House. Our Board President, Cathy Smith, graciously agreed to hold the celebration in her beautiful backyard around the pool.

Pat's formal roles were Domestic Violence Program Manager, Director of Programs, and she retired as the Domestic Violence Counselor, however, her expertise permeated the entire organization.

For instance, her 25+ years working in housing with HUD and the San Diego City Housing Commission were invaluable to our agency. She trained various case managers and housing specialists over her 10 years with Crisis House.

In our Executive Director's own words, Mary says *"Pat has an uplifting and motivational "can do" spirit and brought laughter to the office with her wonderful sense of humor and very engaging personality. Pat had a love for the women and children in our program and helped them move forward with their lives while inspiring confidence within them."*

Thank you, Pat, for all that you've done for Crisis House!

Photo (Below): Patricia Zamora (Crisis House staff) with Crisis House children



We're Expanding our Transitional Housing!



Crisis House was ranked the number one (#1) new **HUD Domestic Violence Bonus Project** to expand our New Journey program for transitional housing for survivors and their children. These 5 new units will serve fourteen households in 2022 - 2023.

Both of Crisis House's HUD-funded domestic violence programs were ranked and rated the highest performing projects in the entire San Diego County Continuum of Care (CoC).

Since 2012, 99% percent of our transitional housing participants have graduated into permanent housing, which increased to 100% in 2021! In 2021, our housing programs at Crisis House successfully ended homelessness for a total of 194 households including 249 children.

YOU and supporters like you made this all possible for us!



Star Supporter Spotlight



Gratitude abounds at Crisis House! We are extremely grateful to three specific donors this month!

First, we thank the **Cushman Foundation Making a Difference grant** for their final installation of \$50,000 towards supporting our Camp HOPE programming for children. They have generously donated a total of \$150,000 over the span of three years toward our community's children who have experienced domestic violence abuse.

Secondly, we are grateful for **The WD-40 Company's** continued generosity toward our Journey Domestic Violence programs and our Camp HOPE programming in their renewed grant of another \$20,000 this year! This funding is through The San Diego Foundation.

Lastly, we thank the **MUFG Union Bank** for their award of \$10,000 toward Crisis House programming and operating costs.

We simply could not continue to save lives every day without your help!

*Thank you, **The Cushman Foundation, The WD-40 Company,** and **MUFG Union Bank** for your partnership!*

Welcome to the team, Rocío!

We are continuously grateful for our wonderful Crisis House team that



chooses to serve our community each and every day.

We are especially excited to introduce our new hire, **Rocío Lopez**. Rocío is our Journey On Advocate and Emergency Housing Coordinator, responsible for short-term hotel vouchers for our women and children fleeing domestic violence abuse. Rocío is a recent UC Berkeley graduate, triple majoring in Public Policy, Sociology, and Human Rights. She has previous experience with non-profits serving youth and families experiencing domestic violence, human trafficking, sexual assault, and immigration issues.

Fun fact: Rocío has 3 cats all named after famous contemporary artists!

Again, a very warm welcome to our newest addition to the Crisis House team, Rocío!

Farewell and Best Wishes, Andrea!



Andrea Garcia has been an employee at Crisis House since 2019.

While she was originally hired as a part-time Grants Manager, in 2020 she was promoted to a full-time Development Manager. In this role, she was responsible for grant writing and reporting, facilitating donor fundraising, executing capital campaigns, maintaining social media platforms, and working closely with Executive Director, Mary Case, on other projects.

In Mary's words, "*Andrea is a stellar employee, smart, competent, and flexible. She is a very caring and compassionate person and she was*

passionate about the great work we do at Crisis House, which attracted several new Foundations to support our cause. I feel confident that the strong friendship we developed will keep us connected for many years to come. You're a shining star, Andrea, and you deserve the best life has to offer."

Thanks to supporters like you, she raised over **\$2 million** for Crisis House through various grants, capital campaigns, local donations, and other fundraising initiatives.

We wish her the best of luck as she begins her doctorate at the University of

2023 Hearts of Gold Gala



Mark your calendars!

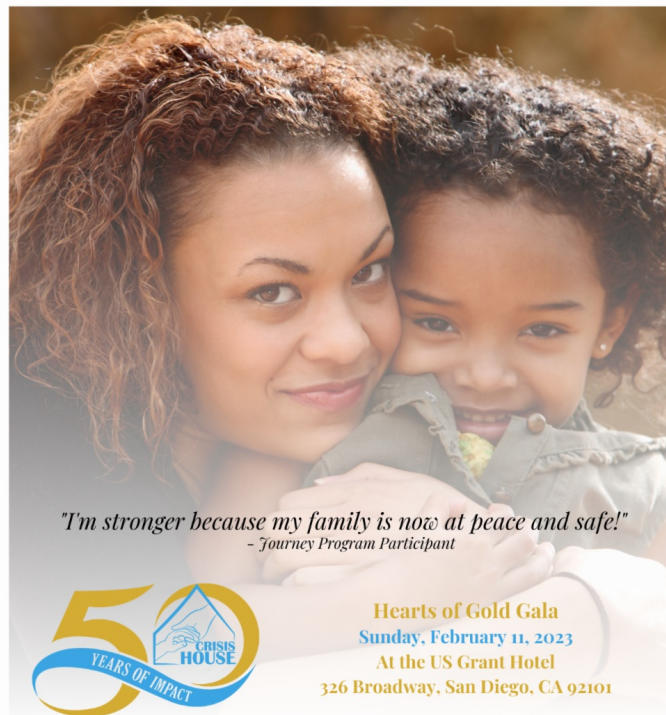
Our annual [Hearts of Gold Gala](#) is **February 11th, 2023!** The festivities will take place at the beautiful US Grant Hotel in Downtown San Diego.

We are adding dancing to this event in celebration of Valentine's Day and kicking up our heels for the first time since COVID isolation. The Master of Ceremonies and auctioneer will be Clint Bell and our Honorary Chairperson is our Board Member, Mary Jean Anderson.

The event will honor five Hearts of Gold Honorees including, **the City of El Cajon, The David C. Copley Foundation, The Walter J. and Betty C. Zable Foundation, Regional Taskforce on the Homeless, and Grossmont Healthcare District.** Each of these donors was instrumental in our recent New Property Purchase campaign and agency relocation from El Cajon to Santee, during which we successfully raised a total of \$1.1 million toward preserving our legacy of service.

Stay tuned for more information on our special celebrity guest!

We are excited to finally reunite with you in celebration of new beginnings and beautiful community partnerships.



"I'm stronger because my family is now at peace and safe!"
- Journey Program Participant



Hearts of Gold Gala
Sunday, February 11, 2023

At the US Grant Hotel
326 Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101

Make A Difference Today!

<https://www.crisishouse.org>

Remember to Follow us on Social Media!

Follow us!

Here's a reminder to **follow** and **"like"** us on social media! We are on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Twitter. Click on the icons below to join in on the action online! We'd love to share our stories with you.

Please **share** our posts with your community, as well!



*Crisis House remains committed to serving those experiencing
homelessness and domestic violence abuse at:*

**9550 Cuyamaca Street Suite 101
Santee, CA 92071**

[Donate](#)