

UNDER THE STARS



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Red Rabbit Advocacy

Red Rabbit Advocacy is a non-profit organization founded by Jessica Velez to provide supportive services for people experiencing homelessness in and around San Joaquin County. After living in her trailer for 3 years, she decided enough was enough and got her life back on track. Since March of 2021, Red Rabbit Advocacy has focused on the immediate needs of its clients and provides comfort, emotional support, and spiritual encouragement while continuing to advocate for long term solutions.

Anyone who is willing to take a leap of faith and rediscover their own abilities to succeed should be provided a path to life recovery. No person is better than another. We have all been down at one point or another and we are here to give our time and effort and love to those who are ready for a change and willing to do the necessary work to climb out of the pit they may find themselves in. Red Rabbit Advocacy is here for you. We are the same. The only difference is that we have made it out and are here to show you how you can do it too.

HOUSING DEPOSIT ASSISTANCE

If you are a Medi-Cal recipient and have Health Plan of San Joaquin or Health Net, there are deposit funds available to you. If you are able to secure a lease for housing with a landlord and have this insurance, we can provide a referral for up to \$5,000 move in costs to support a move in to a new home.

Sober Living Homes

Medi-cal is now covering extended stays in sober living homes if you are a Medi-cal recipient. Depending on your coverage, it can pay for up to 18 months of residency in the SLE. The main requirements for living in an SLE is maintaining sobriety and making sure you are home by curfew. There are basic chores to keep the home clean and no outside company is to be brought to the home. The limits for individuals in the home is 6 per bathroom, so you will be bunking with other people in the same room. This option is a stepping stone to start to acclimate to a structured indoor living environment. Once you become stable in the home, then you will be able to make decisions clear-minded that will get you back on a positive track to restore your life.



Understanding the New Laws

As I am sure most of you are aware of by now, the laws regarding homelessness have changed. There is no more leeway being given to people stuck in the streets. The Federal Courts have ruled in favor of cities being able to enforce no camping regulations. Stockton and the rest of San Joaquin County has begun massive displacements and with only 24 hour notice.

The first initiative is the "Take back out Parks" movement to clear out all city parks. Tickets are being issued and people are being taken to jail. You are not allowed to be in the same location longer than 1 hour and must move 300 feet each hour. You are also no longer allowed to sleep in your vehicle for longer than 1 hour. Continued.....

Understanding the New Laws

If you are cited or ticketed, please reach out to us. Do not ignore this ticket. The way this plays out is you get your ticket, you fail to go schedule a court date, then you have fines that build up or warrants issued and are subject to arrest. Once you fail to appear in court, the potential for you to then be placed with probation for supervision is possible. We don't need you in jail. We are here to help you find the right path to course-correct your current situation. If we are able to help you sign up for housing and/or get placed in a sober living home, we can help fight your ticket with appearing in court and providing proof that you are attempting to do all you can to get off the streets.

"STAR OF THE MONTH"



Michael
Lopez

formerly
at
Trinity
Parkway
Camp,
Stockton
CA



We met Mike doing outreach at the Trinity Parkway encampment about 2 years ago. He was using fentanyl and stealing to pay for his habit. One day Mike had had enough and checked himself in at Dameron Hospital and started on Suboxone. He then stayed at Gospel Rescue Mission while he waited for a bed at CMC Respite Center where he stayed for 2 weeks before enrolling in RTW, where he has stayed since January of this year. He is working part-time and goes to Delta College full time. He has continued to push forward walking and taking the bus to handle his business. Because of his tremendous turn around, we were able to donate a vehicle to help Mike stay moving and continue giving back to our community.

How to Contact Red Rabbit

If you need assistance with placement at sober living, shelters, rehabilitation programs, document retention or any other questions, please reach out to us.

www.redrabbitenterprises.com

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 692713, Stockton CA 95269

Phone No. (209) 451-3845

Email: info@redrabbitenterprises.com

Write-4-Red Rabbit

If you are interested in writing an article for our newsletter, please reach out to us. This newspaper is for you to learn and share within our homeless community. Anything you want to share that is newsworthy or helpful to one another, we want you to contribute.

"Some Words From Mike to All of You..."

"I started doing methamphetamines when I was 13 years old and later on I graduated to fentanyl. I'm now 53 and I finally have discovered that the key to a successful recovery. It's willingness. The more you're willing to give up and the more you're willing to do, the easier it is to make it. Too many of us when we try to get clean and sober we want to hang on to our past, we want to hang on to who we were. You have to be willing to let all that go to be able to be who you truly are, to be able to become who you want to be.

Too many of us when we get into recovery we're only willing to do this when it's convenient or we're not willing to do certain things we don't like. We are still trying to control everything around us, were still trying to do what we want to do only when we want to do it. You have to be willing to do whatever it takes whether you like it or not in order to achieve your goals and to maintain your sobriety. It wasn't until I was willing to give up everything and do whatever I had to do no matter what it was that I was able to get clean and stay clean. So for anyone struggling today this is what I would say: Sobriety isn't impossible for anyone, but the more willing you are the easier it will be. So why make life harder because nothing good comes free."