

NEWS + SUMMER + 2017

CONNECT ONLINE:







R25 F ORANGE GROVE BLVD PASADENA CA 91104

is there for me.

They're my family."

- Don

INIONSTATIONAL OF

(626) 240-4550

Dear Friends,

The San Gabriel Valley is an amazing collection of 31 cities and five unincorporated communities, and Union Station is proud to be the lead provider of services in this area.

But what makes our community so incredible isn't the 200 square miles of territory it covers or the majestic mountain backdrop, but the people who call this area home. SGV is among the most generous metro areas in the county based on the sheer number of nonprofits that exist here and the percentage of income that we give away to support them.

City of Pasade to purchase a on his mortga.

Your support of Union Station for over 44 years speaks volumes for who we are as a community. I'd like to tell you about one person that you've helped that is living a full life today because of your quiet support.

Don and his son, Robert

Don has had a rough life. Upon birth, Don was taken from his mother and put into the foster care system. He was molested by two employees while living in a group home, which led to feelings of depression and inadequacy. His hair and teeth began

falling out as a child due to a severe lack of calcium, and he didn't learn how to read, prompting him to drop out of high school. At 18, Don aged out of foster care and lived on the streets of Pasadena.

on the streets of Pasadena. He turned to drugs and alcohol, and for the next 16 years he was homeless and spent a year in prison.

After Don was released from prison, he came to Union Station and began attending AA and NA meetings.

Fast forward 15 years. Don now has two children, and thanks to the City of Pasadena, received a first-time home buyer credit and was able to purchase a home. Don is still sober today and has never been late on his mortgage payments.

States Don, "I don't have a father or a mother that I can call up and say, 'Hey, can I come raid your fridge?' But I've got a friend named Liz (a long-time Union Station employee) and an organization that takes donations from all the good people out there called Union Station. Union Station is there for me. They're my family."

Don's story isn't unique, but the love and

support that this community has shown him is. Thank you for being a part of Don's success, and for that of hundreds of other "Dons" out there. Together, we are changing lives, one person at a time.

With respect and gratitude,

John Brauer, CEO

To read more client stories, visit unionstationhs.org/clients.



John Brauer, CEO

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REBUILD THEIR LIVES
AND END HOMELESSNESS

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Thank You, Volunteers!

April was **Volunteer Appreciation Month**, and Union Station took part by spotlighting individual and group volunteers through social media and e-blasts!

With unwavering dedication and passion for every task they perform, our volunteers are incredible examples of the legacy of service here at Union Station

Every minute of volunteer service helps bring us one step closer to ending homelessness, and we cannot thank them enough!



"I am so grateful to be a part of the Union Station volunteer community, working together to give others hope, support, and the opportunity to succeed."

Susie Campana



"What nobody tells you about volunteering in the kitchen at USHS is that it is *so fun* you will *want* to get up early to do it!"

- Sarah Emery Bunr

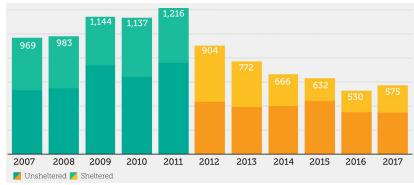


"Union Station is inspiring because it allows me to see so many good people volunteering their time and money to helps others. It puts a face on the goodness of humanity."

- Greg Prou

Visit **unionstationhs.org/volunteer** to learn more about volunteering at Union Station.

2017 Pasadena Homeless Count



Graphic courtesy of Pasadena Partnership (PasadenaPartnership.org)

The 2017 Pasadena Homeless Count was conducted on January 24th, and the recently-released results show a slight increase over last year, rising from 530 people to 575. This uptick comes after five years of steep decline, down from a peak of 1,216 in 2011.

Many factors affected this year's single-night count. Most importantly, the count was conducted on a particularly cold and rainy night when Pasadena's bad weather shelters were open, while those in some neighboring cities remained closed. This situation led to a greater number of sheltered homeless individuals in Pasadena on the evening of the count. Furthermore, analysis of the count shows a very slight reduction in persons living on the streets, indicating that the small overall increase can be attributed mainly to this increase in the sheltered population.

Despite growth in the overall number of homeless individuals and families, there is much to be excited about in the findings from this year's count. For example, not only was chronic homelessness in Pasadena reduced by 15% last year, but Pasadena also achieved functional zero for veterans (one of the most vulnerable subpopulations) as well as for unsheltered homeless families.

The fundamental takeaway from this year's count is that while our mission to end homelessness in the San Gabriel Valley isn't over, we've seen incredible progress so far. With your ongoing support, we will continue to fight toward this goal until it is reached.

To read the full report, visit **PasadenaPartnership.org**.

Hilton Foundation Grant

We wish to extend a very special "Thank You!" to the **Conrad N. Hilton Foundation** for helping Union Station prepare for the future.

Their generous gift of a two-year, **\$300,000** capacity-building grant will provide Union Station with the support we need to grow as a leading provider of homeless services in the San Gabriel Valley for years to come!



March Home on June 10th



On Saturday, June 10th, walk through Pasadena for **March Home: Ending Homelessness One Step at a Time** and help us raise awareness and funds for our life-changing programs!

Registrants should arrive at 7:30am in front of City Hall to sign in. The program begins at 8:00, and the first group of walkers will depart at 8:30, traveling past three of Union Station's permanent supportive housing programs. The event will conclude at City Hall and feature a finish-line festival with guest speakers, music, kids fun zone, food trucks and more!

March Home is a family-friendly 5k walk, with prizes awarded to our top fundraisers. Be an agent for change! Sign up today to walk as an individual or a team and help us end homelessness in our community.

To learn more, visit unionstationhs.org/MarchHome.







Masters of Taste

Over 2,000 LA foodies walked the field of the Rose Bowl on May 7th at Union Station's 2nd annual Masters of Taste.

83 Culinary, Beverage and Sweet Masters provided delicious tastings for guests as they supported Union Station in our largest fundraiser ever. Even rain couldn't keep the crowds away from this new annual tradition!

This event wouldn't be possible without the amazing support from our community and sponsors. Over \$475,000 was raised in support of our life-changing services. **Thank you!**



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Want to visit the restaurants you met on the field? Find a full list of our Culinary, Sweet and Beverage Masters on Yelp at bit.ly/MoTYelpCollection.

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Help us meet our goal!

If you missed out on some of our recent events, such as Masters of Taste, or won't be able to join us at March Home on June 10th, you can still support Union Station's efforts to help men, women and children rebuild their lives and end homelessness. Visit **unionstationhs.org/donate** by June 30th to learn how!



One month of supportive and housing retention services for a formerly homeless adult



\$25U

A Welcome Home Kit for one family moving into permanent supportive housing



\$100
Two weeks of meals for a parent and two children living at our Family Center



Business attire for one job-seeker in Union Station's Sources Career Development program



One school uniform set for a child at our Family Center



\$10 200 cups of coffee for residents at our Adult and Family Centers

Leaving a Legacy

Would you like to leave a positive, lasting mark on our community? It's easier than you might think! Including Union Station Homeless Services in your will helps ensure that the less fortunate members of our community always have food, shelter, and a path to self-sufficiency.



To learn more about planned giving and our Legacy Society, call Dana at **626-240-4558** or visit **unionstationhs.org/legacy**.

New Multidisciplinary Outreach Team

Union Station is committed to serving our most vulnerable community members, but sometimes, homeless individuals are not able—or perhaps not yet ready—to come to our program sites.

Our new **Multidisciplinary Outreach Team (MDT)** is designed to reduce barriers to services and to reach our most vulnerable neighbors. The new outreach team will allow us to deploy physical and mental health care, substance use services and housing services directly to people living on the streets.

Our team, which will serve people who are homeless in the San Gabriel Valley, will include a nurse practitioner, licensed substance use counselor, mental health specialist and peer navigator (a formerly homeless person with lived-experience).