



Dear Friends,

Well, it's finally happened. The time has come for me to bid farewell to Union Station. After 21 exciting and satisfying years as CEO here, I will be stepping down to go into retirement on June 30.

Please know that I leave with wonderful memories of so many outstanding friendships I've experienced along the way. To have worked for over two decades with our remarkable, talented and diverse staff, our dedicated volunteers from all parts of the community, dozens of enthusiastic, highly effective Board and Committee members, our extraordinarily generous donors and, above all, our courageous clients has been an experience that fills me with tremendous gratitude. Thank you all for your partnership with me in what I believe has been a sacred effort to aid our homeless neighbors in rebuilding their lives and ending their homelessness.

In our work together, we've accomplished many successes. Two most recent indicators of success are portrayed by these facts:

- Homelessness in Pasadena has continued to decrease and is now at the lowest level on record.
- Though homelessness in Los Angeles County increased by 6% in the last year (after increasing 16% the year before), the number of homeless folks in the San Gabriel Valley has decreased by about 16% in the same period.

These results are due, in great measure, to Union Station's long-term work in Pasadena and our leadership since July 2014 of two new major initiatives to reduce homelessness throughout the San Gabriel Valley, part of a groundbreaking countywide effort.

**"In our work
together, we've
accomplished
many successes."**

— Marv

grandsons, travel a bit, take a course or two and enjoy a new type of day-to-day schedule.

Though no goodbye can ever be totally complete, I leave you with my deepest thanks, great affection and sincerest wishes for good health, happiness and fulfillment for all.

Sincerely,

marv

Marvin M. Gross, CEO



Marv Gross, CEO

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2**
- Volunteer Appreciation
 - 2016 Homeless Count Results
 - Leaving a Legacy
 - Uplifting New Adult Center Programs

- 3**
- Rockin' for the Homeless 5K Run/Walk 2016
 - Union Station Attends Housing California Conference
 - You Can Still Contribute!

- 4**
- Marv Gross Is Sailing Into Retirement
 - Marv Gross Fund for Families

**HELPING MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN
REBUILD THEIR LIVES
AND END HOMELESSNESS**

Volunteer Appreciation

Union Station took part in National Volunteer Week in April, spotlighting over a dozen individuals and groups who have recently volunteered with us. We can't thank our volunteers enough for their hard work and dedication to being part of the solution! Here are a few of our volunteer spotlights from National Volunteer Week:



"Basically, what I do is show up, smile, and do what needs doing. Seems simple, but I feel rewarded knowing that my presence, positive attitude, and willingness to work makes a difference!" — Sarah



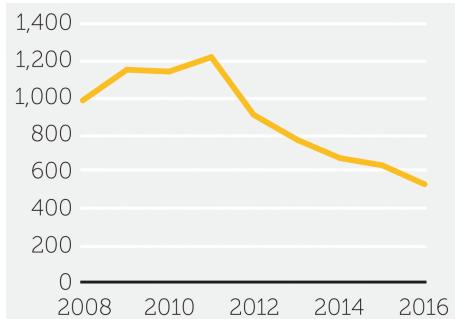
"The Rain Bird team especially enjoys walking through the Adult Center dining area, because you just never know who is going to strike up a conversation and tell you a story or joke that will brighten up YOUR day!" — Chris



"We see this time of preparing and serving food for families in need as a precious opportunity to be able to help out those who are trying to bring balance and support into their lives." — Ann

2016 Homeless Count Results

The 2016 Pasadena Homeless Count was published in April, and we're excited to share that the report shows a 16% decrease in homelessness across both the City of Pasadena and, according to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), the entire San Gabriel Valley since 2015. This drop marks a 56% decrease in Pasadena since the peak level in 2011. The city's goals of ending family homelessness and unaccompanied youth homelessness by 2020 are also on track. To see the full report, visit PasadenaPartnership.org.



Graphic courtesy of Pasadena Partnership

Sadly, however, homelessness across Los Angeles County has increased by 5.7% over the last year, according to LAHSA (lahsa.org).

UNION STATION LEGACY SOCIETY

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

Uplifting New Adult Center Programs

Residents at Union Station's Adult Center are enjoying an array of new activities! A weekly volunteer opportunity at the **Pasadena Humane Society**—across the street from the Adult Center on Raymond Avenue—is designed to meet the needs of shelter residents; it does not require the long, up-front training that most Humane Society volunteers go through, nor does it require consistent attendance. The volunteers assist in animal care, training, walking, and more, and have a current, long-time Humane Society volunteer as their mentor.

There is also a new **yoga program**, which is adaptive depending on each individual's needs and is meant to be accessible for people of all physical and mental health abilities. **Music lessons** are also available, including weekly guitar lessons and music sessions!

"It's an effort to assist the folks in meaningful and healing activities while they are waiting for permanent housing," said Sarah Tower, Director of Adult Services at Union Station.

"The goal is for everyone to be an integrated part of their community, but some of our residents—due to trauma and past experiences, fear of judgement, and other factors—don't feel comfortable joining in on their own. We want to offer things to help get them used to being a part of something positive, free of charge and conveniently located, and help them bridge out to the wider community over time."



Photo courtesy of Pasadena Humane Society



Rockin' for the Homeless 2016

Over 300 runners and walkers participated in the 2nd annual Rockin' for the Homeless 5K Run/Walk and Kiddie Dash, hosted by Union Station's Young Leaders Society. Participants dressed in their favorite rock star gear to race at Hahamongna Watershed Park.

Combining exercise with a rockin' good time, this family-friendly event also hosted a Kiddie Dash and obstacle course, with medals and goodie bags for all who participated. Runners, walkers, volunteers and onlookers alike enjoyed the fun music provided by Head Lite View, and post-race treats from food trucks Kona Ice and Crepe'n Around.

The event raised over \$22,000 in support of Union Station's life-changing programs and services.

A huge thank you to the Young Leaders Society for their leadership and to our event sponsors!

"Electric Bassist" Sponsors — \$1,000

Grace Kim

Brad & Vicki Schwartz

Liz & Rhodes Trussell

"Back-up Singer" Sponsors — \$500

Asiana Airlines

The Fletcher Jones Foundation

Vickie & Alex Taylor

"Rock Band Roadie" Sponsors — \$250

Douglas & Veronica Jones and Family

In-Kind Sponsors:

Athleta

Crepe'n Around

Kona Ice

Nidra

Premier Wellness Chiropractic

Road ID

Roam.e Mobile Boutique

Run With Us Pasadena

Trader Joe's

To see pictures of the event, visit
unionstationhs.org/event/rockinrun.

Union Station Attends Housing California Conference

There is an affordable housing and homeless crisis in California. In March, more than 1,200 stakeholders, including affordable housing advocates, tenants, developers, lenders, lawmakers, and community leaders met in Sacramento for the Housing California Annual Conference, the nation's largest statewide conference of its kind.

Our own Sieglinde von Deffner, Union Station's Coordinated Entry System regional coordinator, and our program alumnus, Juan King, attended the event, thanks to a generous scholarship from the Residence United Network, the first-ever statewide coalition of affordable housing consumers.

Juan, who is a CSH Speak Up Advocate with the Corporation for Supportive Housing, had the opportunity to speak in a few of the breakout sessions while in Sacramento. He shared with the crowds that he had given up because the world had given up on him.

A native of Altadena and the brother of the late Rodney King, Juan King discovered he had cancer after more than 25 years of living on the streets. Thanks to the support he received at Union Station and partner agencies, Juan received housing and the cancer treatment he needed to rebuild his life. Today he is committed to advocating for others experiencing homelessness. To learn more about Juan's story, visit unionstationhs.org/client-stories/juan.



Juan King shares his story with State Senator Holly Mitchell.
Photo courtesy of Corporation for Supportive Housing



Juan and the CSH Speak Up advocates in Sacramento

You Can Still Contribute!

If you missed out on our recent events, such as Rockin' for the Homeless or Masters of Taste, you can still support Union Station's efforts to help men, women and children rebuild their lives and end homelessness. Visit unionstationhs.org/donate to learn how!



\$1,000

360 warm,
nutritious
meals for those
experiencing
homelessness



\$500

New bedding
and toiletries
for a family
moving into a
new apartment



\$250

School supplies
for homeless
children



\$100

Career
counseling
for a formerly
homeless
job-seeker

YOU CAN BE #PARTOFTHE SOLUTION

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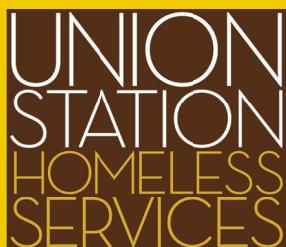
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HOUSING + EMPLOYMENT + LIFE SKILLS

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Bon Voyage, Marv!



Marv Gross Is Sailing Into Retirement

Join us to celebrate Marv Gross and his **21 years** of faithful service to our homeless community members!

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 6:30 pm
BROOKSIDE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

Tickets: \$40 Scholarships available. Sponsorships encouraged.
Buffet and Reception | Cash Bar | Free Parking
Purchase your tickets today!
unionstationhs.org/event/marv | 626-240-4558

Marv Gross Fund for Families

Union Station's Board of Directors is very proud to announce **The Marv Gross Fund for Families**. Contributions to the fund will honor Marv and enable Union Station Homeless Services to continue to support the growing number of families who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness in our community.

The Marv Gross Fund for Families will support the needs of families we serve through our Homeless Family Solutions System, Family Center, Euclid Villa, and any additional programs for families we establish in the future. The fund will cover costs associated with helping families rebuild their lives, such as housing, rent, utilities, move-in costs, furnishings, supportive services, and enrichment activities. Your gift will have a lasting impact by helping our families today, tomorrow and for many years to come.



Make a meaningful contribution to Marv Gross Fund for Families today. To donate, contact Dana at **626-240-4558** or dbean@unionstationhs.org, or visit unionstationhs.org/marv.

Donors to the Marv Gross Fund for Families are invited to a **special reception at 5:30pm preceding the retirement party on June 15**. A staff member of Union Station will contact you with further details and confirm your attendance. Tickets to the retirement party at 6:30pm are not included.