

## Dear Friends,

My name is John Brauer and I'm the new CEO at Union Station Homeless Services.

I am excited to join the Union Station family, and it truly is an honor to take the helm. Although I'm the "new kid on the block," it's already evident that Union Station is an exceptional organization—one that changes lives every day.

Marv Gross (Union Station's leader for the past 21 years) and the Union Station staff have done a phenomenal job. They can take pride in knowing that they've made real inroads to end homelessness in our community.

Last year, homelessness in the San Gabriel Valley decreased by 16%! This region—where we are the lead coordinator—was the only area in LA County to see a significant decrease in homelessness last year. That is truly something to be proud of.

But it is far too early to celebrate—there is still so much work to be done. On any given night, there are 3,200 men, women and children who are homeless in the San Gabriel Valley.

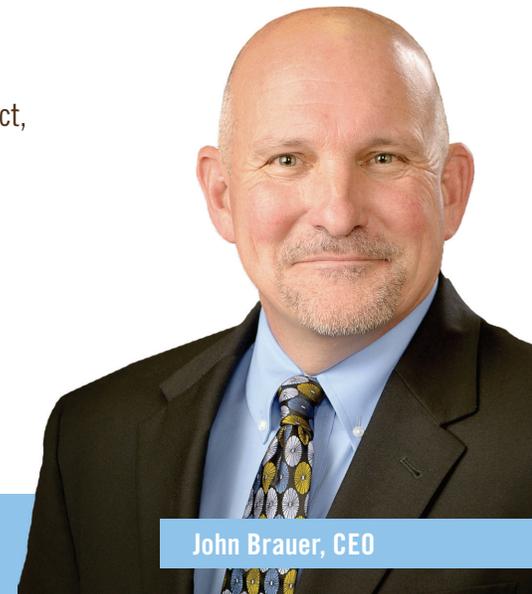
Our team stands ready to join forces with our State and local representatives, dedicated professionals, partner agencies, community stakeholders and YOU. We will work together tirelessly until that number is zero.

The community members of Pasadena and the San Gabriel Valley are known as innovators and thought leaders on a myriad of issues—and homelessness is no exception. Together, I'm confident we can make our community a model of success for our struggling members. Honestly, they deserve nothing less.

**“Together, I'm confident we can make our community a model of success.”**

With thanks and respect,

John Brauer, CEO



John Brauer, CEO

**P.S.** We can't do this alone. If you'd like to take a tour, volunteer, hear more about the issues, or discuss other creative ways to help solve homelessness, give us a call at (626) 240-4550.

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

# Get to Know John Brauer!

## **What brought you to nonprofit services?**

I owned a construction company and vacationed in Florida. I remember seeing a number of strip malls—it was depressing when I realized that's what I did for a living. I needed to start doing something that would make a real difference in the world. I went back to school and got a degree in clinical psychology. My first internship was at a nonprofit working with people with disabilities. The first day on the job was the BEST day of my life. I'd found my niche!

## **You lived in San Francisco for years, then a small town in Virginia. What's your favorite thing about being back in California?**

Thinking about playing tennis outside in the winter is amazing! And not only is there a Trader Joe's, there are three of them. It's so nice to have so many great stores, and the restaurants here are amazing.

## **What's the last thing you watched on TV?**

My wife and I love *The Good Wife*, which just had its season finale so we'll have to wean ourselves from that. We also like fun shows like *The Voice*. I love human spirit stuff—I like to see people rise!

## **How would your best friend describe you?**

Good question! Adventurous, fun, and willing to try anything once.

## **You're a professor. Tell us about your teaching.**

I teach graduate-level social work students in budget and finance for Florida State, and I also teach personnel management. I took this year off, but they've already asked me if I'll come back next year!

## **What do you do in your free time?**

Tennis! (I'm still looking for partners.) Plus I'm writing two books; one is fiction and the other is a textbook.

## **What's an interesting fact that we don't know yet?**

I put myself through college by buying and selling jukeboxes and pinball machines. We turned our entire house into an arcade, and when tuition was due I would fix them up and sell them off. We still have a jukebox, which we just dragged across the country. And I have boxes and boxes of 45s. I LOVE music!

## **What else do you want people to know?**

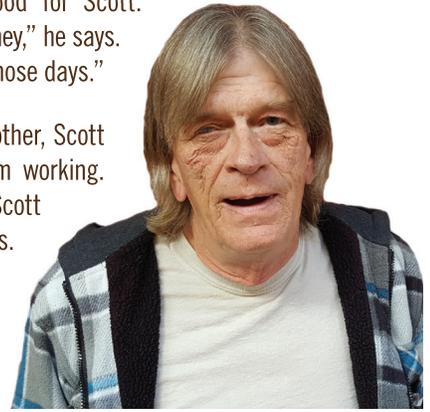
When you finally choose to join an agency that impresses you, you just hope they walk their talk and meet your expectations. Union Station is even better than I imagined! I'm so impressed by the people. I'm currently meeting our staff, and they are so smart and so compassionate—every day, I just feel lucky that they work for us.

# A Life Transformed

Growing up in West Covina, life was good for Scott. "I came from a family where we all made money," he says. "I didn't know what suffering was about in those days."

While living with and caring for his grandmother, Scott suffered a heart attack that kept him from working. When his grandmother passed away, Scott was unable to make the house payments. He spent the next 18 years homeless.

While on the streets, Scott developed cataracts in both eyes, rendering him blind. He also lost most of his teeth.



Thankfully, Scott found Union Station Homeless Services. At our Adult Center, Scott received food and shelter, and began to rebuild his life. He got his teeth repaired. Our care coordinator, Jonathan, took him to see an eye doctor, who performed corrective surgery for Scott. "Jonathan was the first person I saw after the bandages came off," recalls Scott.



**Scott in his new home**

After 18 years of homelessness on the streets of Pasadena, Scott now has a home and a fridge full of food!

"Since I moved into housing, I've put on weight, my personality's changed, I'm more relaxed, happier... I'm more outgoing." Plus, his apartment manager really likes him. "I'm always the first person to pay rent each month," says Scott proudly.

Because of your generosity, Scott once again has a place to call home. Thank you! To read his full story, visit [unionstationhs.org/scott](http://unionstationhs.org/scott).

# A Breakfast to Welcome John

On November 10, Union Station hosted an intimate breakfast to welcome John Brauer as CEO. Guests included current and former board members, government officials, major donors, and leaders from our key nonprofit partners!



A luxury food and beverage festival  
on the field of the iconic Rose Bowl

Walk the field of the stadium and  
enjoy offerings from over 75 Culinary,  
Beverage and Sweet Masters!

All proceeds benefit  
Union Station Homeless Services

# MASTERS



# O F T A S T E

**MAY 7, 2017**

Buy tickets now at **MastersOfTasteLA.com**



**Purchase by January 31 for an early bird discount!**

## Thank You to Jim & Amanda McCarthy!

In November, board member Jim  
McCarthy and his wife Amanda hosted  
a scotch tasting at their home. Not only  
did their guests learn all about scotch,  
they also committed more than **\$6,500**

to Union Station,  
which will help  
us make vital  
upgrades to the  
showers and  
lockers at our  
Adult Center!



## Join Us for an Open House!

Join us for an open house and tour of **Marv's Place**, Union Station's  
newest permanent supportive housing program for families, and meet  
Union Station's new Chief Executive Officer, John Brauer!

### Marv's Place

131 North Mar Vista Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91101

**Wednesday, February 15, 2016**

Choose from two available times:  
7:30 AM – 9:30 AM or 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Complimentary food and refreshments.

Ample street parking available.

RSVP encouraged, but not required:

[giving@unionstationhs.org](mailto:giving@unionstationhs.org)



# YOU CAN BE #PARTOFTHESOLUTION

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(626) 240-4550

## Dinner in the Park

The best way to give thanks is to give back! Showing community spirit and compassion, hundreds of volunteers of all ages gathered together on Thanksgiving to serve meals and cheer at Union Stations' 46th annual Dinner in the Park.

Over 2,000 meals were served to individuals and families experiencing homelessness or poverty, senior citizens, and those who were alone for Thanksgiving or unable to afford a holiday meal.

Special thanks to our Dinner in the Park sponsors! (see right)

Thanks also to Citizen's Business Bank, Individual Food Service and Centerplate! For a full list of sponsors, visit [unionstationhs.org/DIP2016](http://unionstationhs.org/DIP2016).

Union Station's first annual **Christmas at the Station** was also a huge success! Hundreds of people in need were able to enjoy a traditional Christmas dinner at Union Station's Adult Center on Raymond Avenue.



TSUTAYO ICHIOKA  
& SATSUKI NAKAO  
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

There's no place like  
**goldstar** [HomeStreet]  
BANK



## Evening for the Station

For the 17th annual Evening for the Station, Union Station Homeless Services hosted a night of comedy at ArLight Cinemas in Pasadena to demonstrate that *Homelessness Is No Laughing Matter!* Over 400 community, business and civic leaders attended the event.

Thank you to the sponsors of Evening for the Station!

**Headliner Sponsor:**  
Georgia B. Ridder Foundation,  
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For a full list of sponsors, visit [unionstationhs.org/comedy](http://unionstationhs.org/comedy).

## Charitable Gift Annuities: Give and You Shall Receive!

*Give to Union Station Homeless Services and receive a fixed income for you and your family for life!*  
Are you over 65? Did you know that you can make a generous gift of cash or stock through Pasadena Community Foundation (PCF) and designate Union Station to receive an immediate grant? In return, PCF will make payments to you which are guaranteed for life. To learn more, contact Dana Bean at (626) 240-4558 or [dbean@unionstationhs.org](mailto:dbean@unionstationhs.org).