

## **NEWS + SUMMER + 2022**

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UNIONSTATIONHS.ORG

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Union Station Homeless Services has gone through many changes in our nearly 50 year history. From a grassroots organization developed by people with compassion for their fellow human beings, we have grown into a thriving agency of almost 300 staff, working throughout San Gabriel Valley and LA County to permanently house individuals and families.

After leaving the hospital, Diamond moved into a room at our El Monte Project Homekey with her service dog, Maestro. She is currently studying for her exams to be a Nursing Assistant.

Diamond, working alongside Union Station staff, is on her way home — a place where she can be safe and thrive.

In recognizing how we have changed and grown, it was time for us to update our Mission and Vision statements to better describe who we are, what we do, and our vision for the future.

To see a glimpse of our mission-driven work, I'd like to introduce you to Diamond. Diamond lived and raised her family in Las Vegas. She had a job as a showgirl in the Jubilee show, a home, and two small businesses. She thought her life was set.

When her husband died, she learned that he hadn't paid his bills and she lost her properties. Wanting to start fresh, she moved to LA to begin a job in a medical office.

Life didn't go according to plan. Diamond suffered a stroke and was

left blind in one eye. When she left the hospital, she ended up on Skid Row in an SRO (room with shared bathroom and kitchen).

With the outbreak of COVID, she moved into a Project Roomkey motel and then an apartment that had mold and other issues, resulting in her being hospitalized again. Once more, she was without a home.

#### **Our Vision**

We envision a future where ALL people are valued and able to thrive in home and community.

#### **Our Mission**

Union Station Homeless Services recognizes the inherent value, dignity, and humanity of the people we serve. Together, with them, we work to end homelessness through housing solutions, supportive services, and connection to community. We advocate for equitable and just systems that ensure all individuals and families will have a safe place they can call home.

homelessness for people like Diamond, and the many others in our region who find themselves on the streets. It will take supportive services, housing, connections to community — but above all, it will be through recognizing the inherent value and humanity of all our neighbors, whether housed or not.

Together, we can all work to end

We want to say to everyone, "Welcome home."



Anne Miskey, Chief Executive Officer

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Sincerely,

anne Miskey

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#### INTRODUCING OUR BOARD OFFICERS

We are very proud to announce the new Executive Officers of our Board of Directors who begin their term on July 1, 2022:







MAXINE HARRIS, VICE CHAIR



TONY GRONROOS,
TREASURER

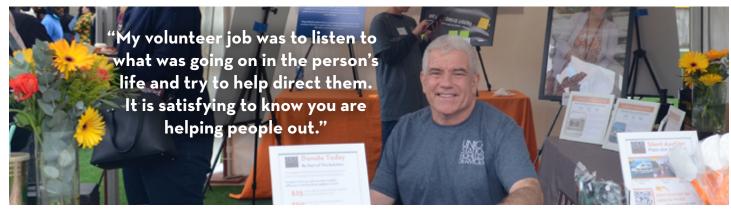


ANGELA SERRANZANA, SECRETARY

In addition, Nancy Naecker and Katherine Harrington are serving as Executive Members of the Board providing additional guidance and insights.

Learn more at unionstationhs.org/our-board and to join a board committee, contact Reann at rgonzales@unionstationhs.org.

### **VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: JOSEPH HERZBERG**



Over the years, Joseph Herzberg has volunteered with Union Station Homeless Services in many ways: he's served meals at the Adult Center, wrapped items for our silent auctions and helped with our events. Joseph's talents and commitment shined when he became a volunteer receptionist at the Admin Building. He answered phones and greeted guests with a blend of professionalism and empathy stemming from his skills as a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) as well as his bilingual skills in Spanish and English.

Luckily, he was able to volunteer at our booth at Masters of Taste, answering questions and sharing his knowledge about the critical work we do with the thousands of festival attendees. Thank you, Joseph, for all that you do. And, thank you to all our volunteers who work with us in so many different ways. Only with your help is it possible for us to make a difference in the lives of so many.

To learn more about volunteering, visit unionstationhs.org/help/volunteer.

### RECOGNIZED BY LA BUSINESS JOURNAL

We are proud to announce that the **Los Angeles Business Journal** has recognized **Amanda Green**, COO, as a finalist for 2022 Nonprofit Executive of the Year as part of the annual *Nonprofits and Corporate Citizenship Awards*. The publication was highly impressed with her leadership of an 18-person team responsible for Volunteer Services, IT, Food Services, Facilities & Capital Improvements. Office Administration, Event Management and In-Kind Donations.

They also recognized **Avery Dennison** and Union Station for an Outstanding Collaboration between a Business and a Nonprofit. For over 25 years, Avery Dennison has supported our work, sponsored events, hosted holiday drives for our residents, and volunteered quarterly.

Thank you, Avery Dennison and Amanda, for being committed to rebuilding lives and ending homelessness with us!



#### **FAMILY CENTER RENOVATIONS**

The Family Center has been home for families experiencing homelessness since 2003. Through a generous grant from the **Ayrshire Foundation**, we were able to upgrade and refurbish the facility with additional storage and upgrades to kitchen equipment. With all new carpet tiles and lighter, brighter paint throughout both buildings, the Family Center is now even more inviting and welcoming for the more than twenty adults and children who moved in at the end of April.

But the work isn't finished. The Ayrshire Foundation has stepped up again with another very generous grant to continue renovations and upgrades, including more privacy and security for our families.



## **OPENING DOORS AND EMBRACING COMMUNITIES**



Dana Bean, Board Chair Jesse Torres, Council Member Kevin De Leon, Anne Miskey, and Board members Katherine Harrington and Nancy Naecker

## Our New Tiny Village is Open

The Eagle Rock Tiny Village located between the on-and-off ramps of the 134 freeway is now open with more than 40 residents. These tiny shelters offer people a door that locks, a warm bed, and the dignity that comes with access to a bathroom, a shower, a daily meal - and community. This is the first time Union Station Homeless Services will be working in the wonderful community of Eagle Rock. We want to thank the Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council, Jane Demian, Councilmember Kevin de Leon and all of the incredible students, parents, volunteers, and community leaders who have worked together to help us get the site ready to welcome our neighbors.

Help our new Tiny Village residents feel at home by donating items from our wishlist: unionstationhs.org/TinyVillageWishlist.

New Project Homekey Site Opens in El Monte

In April, we opened our new El Monte Project Homekey. At the site of the M Hotel, 31 formerly unhoused neighbors have now moved into their new homes.

"We are thrilled to partner with the City of El Monte in opening Motel M, a new Project Homekey site," said Anne Miskey. "Our 50 years of experience has shown that the combination of housing, plus wrap-around services such as physical/mental health and addiction support, job training, and connection to community are highly effective in permanently ending homelessness for individuals and families."

Welcome El Monte residents home with shelf-stable items: unionstationhs.org/ElMonteWishlist.



# YOU CAN BE

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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& Communications Officer
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Community Engagement
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#### **NEWSLETTER**

Anne Miskey
Dana Bean
Sevag Abajian
Katie Cookerly-Dietrich
Christina Herman
Aaron Hill
Pamela Davis Kuhr
Brenda Lynch
Cathy Medina



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# BATTER UP! UNION STATION PARTNERS WITH LA ANGELS

Summer is upon us and that means baseball season is here too! Union Station has partnered with the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim to offer discounted tickets to select home games this season. And for every ticket purchased, \$4 comes back to Union Station! It's a win-win for all of us!

Tickets can be purchased here: unionstationhs.org/laangels.

# LOOKING FOR NEW WAYS TO GET INVOLVED?

After nearly 50 years of serving unhoused individuals and families in Pasadena and beyond, Union Station is honored by your continued commitment to supporting our housing, employment, and community re-integration programs.

Have you ever wondered if there is anything else you can do? There is! By joining Union Station's Legacy Society and/or Sustaining Neighbors Monthly Giving Program, you are making a commitment to providing life-saving services for years to come.

## UNION LEGACY STATION SOCIETY

**Legacy Society** members choose to designate Union Station Homeless Services as their beneficiary through planned gifts such as bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable

remainder trusts, gifts of stock, donor advised funds, and IRA rollovers. Including Union Station in your will in any way brings housing, safety, and dignity to those who may experience homelessness in the future.

To learn more, please visit: unionstationhs.org/LegacySociety.

**Sustaining Neighbors** bring the gift of housing and safety to neighbors experiencing homelessness throughout the year. With a gift as little as \$5/month, you can rest assured you are the reason why someone else sleeps safer at night and begins to rebuild their life tomorrow.

To support Union Station's efforts all year long, please visit: unionstationhs.org/Sustaining\_Neighbors.

