

P.A.T.H. Newsletter

produced by...

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Edited by,
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www.redbluffpath.org

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PATH DINNER, A GREAT SUCCESS!

Thanks to so many people for the success of our annual PATH Dinner & Auction. The food was awesome. We are so lucky to have Allene Dering's son, Rick, and his crew come and prepare a dinner for 300 people. This was no easy task, it takes a lot of work, so thanks Rick & crew. We had over 40 drawing items to choose from, which Darlene Martin spent days preparing beautiful baskets & gift items. Those attending purchased lots of tickets. The Live Auction was done by Ali Abassi. He did a fantastic job to help make our auction successful and fun.

New this year, was a dinner booklet. It provided detailed information which helped people know what was going on for the evening. Thanks Marcy Bettinelli for designing our booklet.

This year's dinner brought in more donations and sponsors than we have ever had before, so from the PATH Board, we thank everyone who was involved. We are already looking forward to next year's event.

GOOD NEWS FOR PATH!

We have some great news to share with everyone. PATH has located a building and we will be opening a second hand store. The building is at 632 Main Street (formerly North Valley Mattress). We will be preparing the building during the month of May, and plan to open June 1st. Our name will be "Main Street Treasures." Our main emphasis is furniture, housewares, books, and anything for children. The one thing we are *not selling* is **clothing**. We decided there are already many places in town that do

clothing, but not many do furniture. We hope to have our PATH truck do pickups, so we don't have drop offs at the store. We are, therefore, asking that if you have donations, please call PATH at 530.527.3073.

We are really in need of any type of shelves, or racks that we can use to display items for sale. If you have any, please let us know as soon as possible.

We are excited about this new venture for PATH. We have been talking for sometime about this, and are ready to get to work. This is also an opportunity for us to be able to train some of our transitional housing clients, and help them build new skills. We are hopeful that this venture will bring some additional income to help us run all the PATH programs.

MORE GOOD NEWS FOR PATH!

Tom Gabel from I-5 Tires has donated a 1999 Dodge van to PATH. He has already paid for the registration in PATH's name, and is having it detailed. Next he will be taking it to Craig Smith at Elite Automotive, who will go over it to make sure it is in good running condition. Craig is donating the repairs. We are very excited to have this van. It will be used to carry clients back and forth to the shelter when we are in locations too far to walk. It will also be used to take clients to Social Security and Veterans medical appointments in Redding, and special educational trips. What a blessing this is!

THE "SHARES CARD"

The Shares Cards are still doing great. PATH just received another \$2300.00 for the last quarter. Thanks to all of you who are remembering to use



them at Food Maxx. If you visit other towns, they work in Lucky, Save mart Supermarkets, and Smart foods as well. This is the easiest fundraiser PATH has ever had. It doesn't cost anyone extra time or money. If you need another card, call me, Allene at 529-5599. Encourage your friends, family, & neighbors to use one. This supermarket company is sincere in wanting to help the community.

THE PATH WALK

The Walk seems like it is a long way off, but September 15th, will be here before you know it. Now is the time to start getting your teams together. We'll be holding it again in conjunction with "Recovery Happens." They serve a free meal, and also entertainment. It makes it a really fun and relaxing day in the park. Contact Pam Klein for more information at 527-6439 or visit our website.

JENNIFER'S STORY

On November 17, 2010 my two children were removed from our home in Corning and placed in foster care in Red Bluff by Child Protective Services. The fact is my children were exposed to a life where substance abuse and domestic violence were prevalent. Looking back, their first few years of life were filled with chaos, fear, and neglect.

Child Protective Services gave me what some might call an ultimatum, but I saw it as an opportunity of a lifetime. In order to live a meaningful life, I knew what I had to do. I chose to rebuild my life free from physical and substance abuse, which would allow me the opportunity to reunify with my children. This meant I would have to leave the father of my children and, in my situation, I had to leave behind my home. I needed to learn how to become self sufficient and live a drug-free life.

I first heard about P.A.T.H. when I had nowhere else to turn. I was homeless, alone, and struggling

to cope with the loss of my children. Maintaining hopefulness was very difficult. After a few weeks of homelessness I had exhausted the generosity of the few friends I had. I ended up living on the streets. At that point, I found out about the P.A.T.H. Homeless Shelter, which is where I spent my evenings. It was then that I discovered P.A.T.H. also had a women's home for transitional living called the P.A.T.H. Sale House and not long after I was accepted to stay there.

The P.A.T.H. Sale House provided me with a stable residence as well as support and guidance through case management. The P.A.T.H. Sale house provided me with the stability and support I needed to begin cleaning up all the wreckage I created.

I continued to actively participate in an outpatient substance abuse program and regularly attended nurturing parenting classes. I established a relationship and began to create a close bond with the foster family, who took such loving care of my children. I was on the sidelines of my children's sports activities cheering them on. I attended school functions and doctor visits. I didn't just change my lifestyle, I proactively participated in my children's life.

I exceeded the expectations of many people and, as a result, I was awarded custody of my children in June 2011. As you can only imagine I felt a great sense of achievement that motivated me even more to be the mom my children need and deserve.

My children and I lived at the P.A.T.H. Sale House until I was able to secure our future. I registered for the 2012 Spring Semester at Shasta College. I currently attend school full time to earn an associates degree in business administration. I found an apartment and we moved in February 2012.

P.A.T.H. supported me in all my decisions that led to my success in rebuilding my life and family.

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When I was at my lowest, most desperate point the P.A.T.H. Homeless Shelter provided a safe, warm place to sleep. When I needed stability and guidance on building a solid foundation for my family, the P.A.T.H. Sale House was there to support me every step of the way. P.A.T.H. has freely given me the tools to make positive changes in my life and for that reason alone I am committed to giving back what was so freely given to me.

REPORT FROM TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAMS

The Sale House is running smoothly at this time. All of our rooms are filled and we are working with two of the women to re-unify with their children. One of the women who just graduated the program has been re-unified with two of her children, a goal she had while she was at the Sale House. Two of the women are attending classes at Shasta College, one is working full time and another is looking for full-time work.

At the Pathways Men's Transitional Housing we have a great group of men who are working toward their goals and programs. We had some success with a couple of the men who have been working on a volunteer and/or a part time basis in hopes of the work turning into a more permanent position. One of the men began working on an on-call basis for the last two weeks and it may become a permanent job as well. One of the male residents is also in school at Shasta College attending full time with the help of Department of Rehab.

We have many talented and skilled men and women who are available to do odd jobs such as clean-up, simple mechanics, bike repair, painting, some construction and gardening. Please call if you need help. Contact Marcelina Lee at 727-7191.



WINTER SHELTER

It was a great year with dedicated staff and volunteers who were able to share in the lives of strangers and felt like the clients became their family. We hope for the best for each and everyone of them and pray for their safety.

Thanks to Gary Pickart for coordinating our meal plans. We really appreciated the meals provided by the volunteer cooks.

As the path shelter nears the end of the season, we say goodbye to all of our clients and wait for the new season to begin.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Volunteer Blanket Laundry Person(s) - November thru April - 1 day a week. Ted and I have been doing the Laundry for the PATH shelter for about 7 years. We pick up the Laundry around 7:00 am at the Shelter. We pick up on Monday's, but that day could change to fit your schedule. We like to get there early before they close at 8:00 am so people can help us load the bags. We usually have between 4 & 10 bags each week. PATH provides the money and laundry supplies. We use a laundromat, wash, dry and bag the laundry and return them when the shelter opens at 5:00 pm. **Note:** *Once the laundry is picked up, it needs to be returned the same day.* It has been a rewarding job to do; we have met a lot of interesting people and enjoyed being able to give something back for all the BLESSINGS we have received. We are getting older now, and I had back surgery last year. Thus we are finding it more physically difficult to keep doing this rewarding service. Please consider helping PATH in this endeavor. Mary Stevens

BOARD OF DIRECTOR CHANGES...

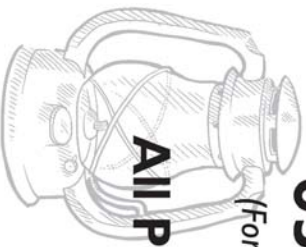
After most of 12 years of Allene Dering being President, she has handed the gavel to EC Ross who is now President. He will bring many new experiences to the position. The board is looking forward to his leadership.

Main Street Treasures

OPENING SOON...

632 Main Street

(Formerly North Valley Mattress)



All Proceeds to benefit...



POOR AND THE HOMELESS

Come in and check out the treasures

- Used Furniture
- Brica-Brac
- Books
- (no clothing sold)



- Household Items
- Craft Items
- Children's Items

Donations accepted by appointment

When items are ready for pickup, please call...

530.527.3073

P.O. Box 315, Red Bluff, CA 96080

POOR AND THE HOMELESS
TEHAMA COUNTY COALITION

