



## A WAREHOUSE IN ACTION DURING COVID

On March 14, 2017, Poverello House broke ground on a new food warehouse that was made possible with the support of generous donors. The nearly 20,000 square foot warehouse, with on-site freezers and refrigerators, has allowed Poverello House to successfully address the increased need during COVID-19.

*"The new warehouse allows for the effective use of the generous donations we receive from the community, creates a much better working environment for our staff and volunteers, and most importantly, it allows the staff and volunteers to provide the ever increasing hot and cold meals to our clients, both onsite and offsite, in a more efficient manner."*

**JOHN FRYE, JR.**, PAST BOARD CHAIR

*"Had it not been for our new warehouse, our volunteers and residents would not have been able to safely assemble more than 10,000 emergency food bags, since the beginning of the pandemic."*

**PAUL STACK**, CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER

*"The warehouse is the heart of the organization. The heart has to be strong to provide the services and necessities they need to thrive."*

**SARA MIRHADI**, CHIEF PROGRAMS OFFICER

*"Without the warehouse, there is no way we could help the amount of people that we do every day."*

**EMERY BISH**, CHEF

*"I am amazed that during this time of uncertainty, the generosity that the members of our community have shown. It has been a rewarding and humbling experience being able to help fulfill our donor's vision by distributing the resources they have provided to the people who need them most."*

**CORY AMOROSO**, VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR AND WAREHOUSE SPECIALIST

## INVESTMENTS FOR THE FUTURE

Poverello House has been a cornerstone serving the Fresno community since 1973. As Poverello House has evolved over the decades, the need for facility replacement and improvement to more effectively achieve Poverello House's mission is evident. These three projects show how we can impact tomorrow today.



### SOLAR

A 903-panel solar project will utilize the roofspace of the warehouse and two large shade structures in the courtyard area. This will provide shade for clients in the summer. The electricity generated will save between \$15,000-\$20,000 per month—a savings that will be reallocated to services and programs that benefit our clients.

### MIKE MCGARVIN, JR. VILLAGE OF HOPE RENOVATION

New housing structures will provide heating, air conditioning and electricity for clients receiving shelter in the Village of Hope. The new structures increase our emergency shelter capacity in the Village from 54 beds to 120.



### CLIENT SERVICES BUILDING

This 2,000 sq. ft. building will serve as an office space for 18-20 staff members. The MAP Point Program, as well as other case managers, will use this new building to provide direct case management, navigation and support services for our clients.

P. O. Box 12225  
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Poverello  
House



# HOPE IN THE AGE OF COVID-19



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## A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

This has been an unprecedented time for all of us—not just at Poverello House, but for everyone in our community at large. With each passing day, we try our best to navigate the challenges the pandemic has thrown at us.

Our staff and residents continually do everything necessary to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on our campus and have worked tirelessly to ensure that there has not been an interruption of services. We know our clients and our community partners are relying on us.

The next few pages will explain how Poverello House has succeeded in caring for all who pass our way during this pandemic. I believe that it is important for you—a longtime supporter and friend of Poverello House—to understand the steps that we have taken to clothe, feed and house some of the most vulnerable in our community. In doing so, I hope to show you how we make the best use of our resources, while still being flexible enough to deal with the daily challenges associated with COVID-19.

Throughout our history, Poverello House has relied heavily on the generosity of its community. The severe economic impact of the pandemic has affected the levels of our regular individual giving. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 precautions, we also had to cancel our annual fundraising events (the 5k Run for Meals and the Gift of Hope Gala). Due to the cancellation of these events, we are expecting a fundraising shortfall of more than \$200,000.

We hope that you will consider making a special gift to help us during this time when it matters more than ever before.

Humbly,

Zack

## BY THE NUMBERS

What Poverello House has done during COVID-19

### MARCH

**600** emergency food bags prepared prior to the state of emergency declaration

**400** additional meals were prepared daily for new emergency shelters that were opened because of the pandemic

**FOUR** handwashing stations were installed on campus with the help of Fresno County



### MAY

**4,441** nights of shelter were provided (an increase from 3,303 in May 2019)

**21,387** meals provided on-site

**1,922** showers provided to Poverello House and Naomi's House clients



### JULY

**7,257** hours worked by residents in our rehabilitation program to ensure that there was no interruption of services, as volunteer hours diminished during COVID

**616** loads of laundry were done for our residents and clients.

**47,711** meals provided (up from 21,410 in July 2019)



### APRIL

**3,793** emergency food bags prepared and distributed

**35,130** meals provided to community partners housing individuals during the pandemic

**34** beds added to campus

**1,094** clients served at MAP Point since pandemic started in Fresno County



### JUNE

**429** hours of case management provided for social services support

**73,443** meals were prepared to be served at Poverello House, delivered to community partners or distributed through our emergency food bag program



### AUGUST

More than **10,000** masks distributed to clients since the beginning of COVID-19

**33,320** meals provided to community partners, including **8,890** meals to the Marjaree Mason Center

## GIVE HOPE NOW

Now more than ever, the homeless and vulnerable population in Fresno County needs someone to lean on. For 47 years, Poverello House has answered the call. With the support of people like you, we enrich the lives and spirits of all who pass our way, every day.

### WILL YOU JOIN US?

**PLEASE VISIT:**  
[poverellohouse.org/donate](http://poverellohouse.org/donate)

\*MARCH 19, 2020: Gov. Gavin Newsom ordered a statewide shelter-in-place