

# Poverello News

(559) 498-6988 • [www.poverellohouse.org](http://www.poverellohouse.org)

## HOW WE SEE OURSELVES DURING HARD TIMES: SELF-EXPRESSION FROM THE WOMEN AT NAOMI'S HOUSE

During the COVID-19 crisis, many of us have moments of fear, isolation, and hopelessness. But we also have moments of hope, joy and grace. The homeless women sheltering at Naomi's House experience the same feelings as we do. Naomi's House is an overnight emergency shelter for single homeless women. We increased our shelter capacity to provide a safe alternative to the street. Art therapy helps adults explore their emotions, improve self-esteem, manage addictions, relieve stress, and improve symptoms of anxiety and depression. To help the women process their feelings during the COVID-19 crisis, Rosemarie Duarte, the Manager for Naomi's House, asked the women to express their feelings through art and writing. Below are a few of the reflections from the women:



# 5K RUN FOR MEALS CANCELED

As the COVID-19 crisis evolves and following the recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), we have come to the difficult decision to cancel our annual 5k Run for Meals scheduled for June 6th. We would like to thank our 2020 5K Run for Meals sponsors and all those who continue to support and participate in our annual fundraiser.



## THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 5K SPONSORS

Buford Oil Company  
Ashwood Construction Inc  
Curtis and Lane Davies Family  
Lasar Underground Construction, Inc  
Gary McKeighan Insurance  
Wally's Tire and Wheel  
Fresno Housing Authority  
Advanced Footcare and Clinical Research Center  
MJR – Creative Group



**MAP (Multi-Agency Access Program)**  
at Poverello is now open **Saturday and Sunday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm**

## MAY WISH LIST

### Poverello House

Canned Food – proteins/hearty soups  
Granola Bars  
Packaged Snacks  
Socks  
Flip Flops  
Toilet Paper  
Baby Formula  
Blankets  
Coffee  
Women's Underwear (all sizes)  
Bath & Hand Towels

### Donations are accepted

Monday - Friday  
8 am - 5 pm  
Saturday - Sunday  
8 am - 1 pm

### 412 F. Street, Fresno

Donation lane located on G Street between Ventura and San Benito

## POVERELLO HOUSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Zack Darrah,**  
Chief Executive Officer

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I hope that this month's newsletter finds you doing well amidst the COVID-19 crisis that is upon us. When I first started in this role, one of the first items I reviewed was our mission statement. It is a beautiful mission statement that certainly was what I saw happening at Poverello House from the very first day:

*"Believing in the dignity of every person, at Poverello House we work to enrich the lives and spirits of all who pass our way by stewarding the resources made available to us through Providential and community support."*

Since the first day of this crisis, we have not wavered in our commitment to those we serve. We have served faithfully, tirelessly, passionately and selflessly. Our mission statement is true whether we are encountering a worldwide pandemic or encountering the crises of our clients we have been proud to serve for nearly 50 years. During this time, I have become keenly aware of the reality that it is all possible only by the last words found in our mission statement.

There have been many challenging days throughout this crisis. However, the *Providential and community support* that has been poured out onto us affirms my soul that we all believe in this work together. The financial blessings from above and from you have ensured that Poverello House's mission will weather this storm. We will do it together. It goes far beyond the finances though. The prayers, the fresh cookies, the encouraging cards, the face masks for our staff and clients, the special meals, and so much more are part of the incredible support you have given. My gratitude is far deeper and far beyond what I can express in words. Thank you for being our heartbeat during these unprecedented times.

We are not out of this crisis yet and the need continues to grow even as I write this. As the crisis continues, so does the concern for ensuring that we have the resources we need to serve all who pass our way. These days, there are many more passing our way than ever before. I ask that you will continue to remember us in your generous giving, your thoughts and your prayers. May you be healthy, safe and richly blessed.

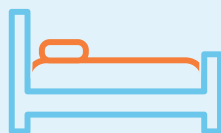
Humbly,

Zachary D. Darrah  
Chief Executive Officer

### DURING THE FIRST 30 DAYS OF THE COVID-19 CRISIS (MARCH 20TH – APRIL 20TH)



**93,424**  
Total Meals



**3,174**  
Total Nights of Shelter



**3,788**  
Emergency Food Bags



**1,094**  
Clients served at MAP Point



# MANY THANKS TO EVERYONE THAT HAS HELPED OUR CLIENTS, RESIDENTS AND STAFF STAY SAFE DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS!

