

GLIMPSES OF HOMELESSNESS THROUGH THE LENS OF PAPA MIKE

When we see a homeless person on the street, we often only notice the negative things about them, such as the trash piles and the lack of cleanliness. We often ask ourselves, "how can they live like that," "or why don't just get a job." Another common sentiment is that "they need to make better choices." We forget that under the dirt and trash, they are real people who have talents, dreams, and hope for a better life. Our founder, Mike, "Papa Mike" McGarvin saw the beauty in every homeless individual he encountered. He used his photography to capture the uniqueness of every person. Some of the pictures were heartbreaking, but some showed the joyfulness of loving a pet, receiving a sandwich, and feeling of bliss from a homemade shower. Papa Mike used the camera to portray the humanity of the homeless population. Below are some of his classic, iconic photos:



OUR NEW FACILITIES MANAGER, SHANE GUTHREY

Poverello House is excited to announce that we have a new Facilities Manager, Shane Guthrey. After years of struggling with sobriety, Shane graduated from the men's residential program in January 2014. Since then, Shane has worked at Poverello House. He started as Grounds Keeper and worked his way up to Maintenance Specialist. Shane lives in Reedley, California, with his wife and three children. He is an inspiration to his family and is an example of perseverance and success to the men of Poverello House's residential rehabilitation program. Shane often refers to Poverello House as his home away from home. Shane believes in the dignity of every person, and his plan as Facilities Manager is to significantly improve the quality of Poverello House property and facilities.



MINDFULNESS WORKSHOP



Naomi's House has started a weekly Mindfulness Workshop for women. Those who attend experience a guided meditation and participate in mindful activities such as art, gratitude exercises, life skills and community strength. This is one way to offer enrichment opportunities that encourage

personal growth. If you are interested in volunteering your time to enrichment programs such as this, please reach out to Abigail Nolte, our Community Engagement Coordinator at anolte@poverellohouse.org

JULY WISH LIST

Canned, Dry, and Frozen Foods

Granola Bars

Bottled Water

Disposable Razors

Men's and Women's Underwear

Socks

Toilet Paper

Paper Plates

Travel Size Shampoo and Conditioner

Body Wash

Twin Sheets

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

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Zack Darrah, Chief Executive Officer

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

In the last newsletter, I shared that I would have some exciting news for you by this time. First and foremost, we are opening a new Client Services Building on our campus! This building boasts over 2,200 square feet of space that will provide direct case management, navigation and support services to clients every day. The MAP Point program will relocate into this building as well as all other case managers and navigators. The building will provide desperately needed space, an indoor lobby and office space to ensure client privacy. We have to thank New Hope Community Church who generously donated the triple-wide trailer unit to Poverello House. Their donation was certainly part of the "...Providential and community support" that

has sustained our work for nearly 50 years.

Even more exciting news is that we will be moving forward on adding solar to our campus! We will be working with Barrier Solar, a locally owned business, to build the more than 900 panel system. This system will offset approximately 95% of the electricity use on the campus. It is expected that this will save nearly \$150,000 year-over-year for the next several decades. This will allow for funds to be utilized to provide direct services and support for the hungry, homeless and hurting that we serve every day. Poverello House will also be able to power our campus using clean, renewable energy and drastically reduce our carbon footprint.

This is just a snippet of exciting work happening on our campus and beyond. I assure you that we will have yet another exciting announcement by the time I write my next article that will make the entire community proud. These first eight months have been truly incredible. Thank you for continuing to advance the mission of Poverello House as we "enrich the lives and spirits of all who pass our way" together.

Humbly,

Zachary D. Darrah
Chief Executive Officer

HAPPY BIRTHDAY PAPA MIKE!

On July 24, Papa Mike would have turned 77 years old. Papa Mike was a professional photographer, a loving husband and father, and the founder of Poverello House. He was a father figure to countless individuals. Every day we strive to celebrate his legacy by providing services with a warm heart and kind smile. We love and miss you every day.



STATS FROM MARCH 20TH TO JUNE 20TH



185,023
Total Meals



9,073
Total Nights of Shelter



6,413
Emergency Food Bags



3,450
Clients served at MAP Point



POVERELLO HOUSE STAFF