



# Poverello News

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

## AUGUST WISH LIST

Canned, dry and frozen goods

Coffee

Granola bars

Men's underwear

Bottled water

Juice boxes and drink pouches  
for the Every Neighborhood  
Partnership Saturday  
Sports Program

Travel-size hygiene items  
(razors, shaving cream,  
shampoo, conditioner, lotion,  
bar soap, toothpaste,  
toothbrushes, combs, lip  
balm, cotton swabs)

Toilet paper and paper towels

Cleaning supplies

13-, 33-, and 50- gallon  
garbage bags

Office supplies and stationery



Hours are

7 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and  
7 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekends.

Donation Gate is located on  
419 G. Street

## SMALL SERVICES, BIG IMPACT

Poverello House has been providing services to those in need since 1973. These services include providing emergency shelter, nutritious meals, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, and linking people to vital resources. But Poverello House also provides additional services that improve the quality of life for many of its clients. For example, we provide free showers and laundry to the homeless. In 2019 Poverello House has already provided more than 10,000 showers and 1,193 loads of laundry. An additional essential service is allowing clients to use the Poverello House address to collect their personal mail. This enables clients to receive important documents such as birth certificates, identifications, and benefits in a safe and secure environment. It also helps family members keep in contact with their relatives. In one month, Poverello House processes over 3,000 pieces of mail. We also provide emergency food bags to families and individuals who need extra help. In 2019 we have provided 205 bags of food for those who needed to feed their families.

Showers, laundry, mail service, and emergency food bags are some of the services that can make a big impact on a homeless person's life. Having an opportunity to take a shower, have clean clothes, and identification can help someone get a job, receive benefits, attend school, and reconnect with their families. Providing an emergency food bag for a family can help put a meal on the table while waiting for the next paycheck. These daily things many of us take for granted can have a significant impact on a client's life and future, taking them from being hopeless to hopeful.



Shower facilities



Laundry service

# OUR OTHER SERVICES

In addition to three meals a day on campus, other services are offered for people who need help with everyday living. These services include clothing, laundry, mail, medical services, showers, restrooms and transportation.

**Clothing:** Men's clothing giveaway is open every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to noon (and for emergencies). Items available for men include underwear, T-shirts, shorts, pants, shirts, socks, shoes, and sweaters and coats in the colder weather. Women's and children's clothing is available at Holy Cross Center for Women on campus.

**Laundry:** Laundry services are available weekdays from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the first five clients to drop off their laundry (near the food warehouse). Residents from the Poverello House Rehabilitation Program will wash, dry and fold laundry. The laundry staff also handles laundry for the residents, linens for beds, towels for showers, and laundry from the kitchen. This is all done with four washers and four dryers.

**Mail:** Clients can get back in touch with family and friends and receive important documents by receiving mail at the Poverello House contact office in the dining hall. Hours for mail pick up are Monday through Friday from 9:30 to 11:15 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. Clients must provide a photo identification to pick up mail.

**Medical Services:** Free medical services are provided Weekdays, 8 to 11:30 a.m. for dental service and 1 to 4 p.m. for

general medical needs. In addition, specialists in oncology, urology, diabetes, ophthalmology and hematology are available through referral. Fifteen doctors, eight dentists and a dental hygienist donate their time to assist Poverello House clients. Prescriptions are issued as needed.

**Showers:** Men's showers are offered daily from 7 to 11 a.m., weekdays, and Sunday from 7:30 to 10 a.m. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, clients can pick up a toothbrush, toothpaste, razor and deodorant. Signups for women's showers are from 8 to 10 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Holy Cross Center for Women across from the dining hall. Sanitary hygiene items are also provided.

**Restrooms:** Located near the main dining hall, restroom facilities are available to all clients on campus. Hours are Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week, Saturday 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Additionally, restrooms are located in the shower areas.

**Transportation:** Poverello House transportation (by van) is provided to clients going through the Multi-Agency Access Program (MAP) for appointments; such as medical appointments, mental health services, Department of Motor Vehicles for Identification and to find permanent housing. Poverello House also provides nonurgent visits to the hospital and other social services as needed. Transportation is available during normal business hours.

## MEET DANIEL - DRIVEN TO SUCCESS



The subtle smile beneath his gray mustache offers a glimpse at how Daniel, a 64-year-old transporter for Poverello House's Multi-Agency Access Program Point, has been positively affected by the Men's Residential Rehabilitation Program.

Daniel arrived at Poverello House in 2016. While in the program, he learned how to put his life back on track. He reinstated his driver's license, got a job at MAP Point, bought a car and rented his own apartment. "It's surreal walking in with nothing and having what I have today," says Daniel. "Now, I have the respect of my family."

During his interview for the position in 2017, the staff noticed of his dedication to change his life and help other people improve their lives. Daniel was hired as a MAP Point driver. Now he drives throughout rural Fresno County dropping off and picking up clients who need services help end their homelessness. Just like Daniel, they are trying to change their lives so they can become thriving members of our community.

Success is found in many forms, and Daniel is a testament to the positive impact of Poverello House programs and services. For more information about the Men's Residential Rehabilitation program and MAP Point, or to support these programs that change lives, visit [poverellohouse.org/donate](http://poverellohouse.org/donate)

## GIFT OF HOPE GALA



Make plans to attend the fourth annual Poverello House “Gift of Hope Gala” Saturday, October 12, 2019 at the Downtown Fresno Radisson Hotel. It’s a special evening event to raise money for the Poverello House.

Last year’s event was a tremendous success. Nearly 400 people attended the sold-out event, raising more than \$125,000 to support our programs and services.

Support from events like this helped Poverello House provide nearly 30,000 nights of shelter to men, women and children in need last year.

Table sponsorships (starting at \$1,500 for a table of 10) and individual tickets (\$150 each) are still available at press time. You can also help support the evening’s success by donating live or silent auction items. For more information or to purchase tickets, please call Krista Beavers at (559) 498-6988 or email her at [kbeavers@poverellohouse.org](mailto:kbeavers@poverellohouse.org).

## FROM THE DESK OF CRUZ AVILA



In the past 6 years, Poverello House has seen many changes. We expanded our homeless services by adding Map Point, Emergency motel voucher program, and the Triage Center at Naomi’s House. Our campus also expanded by building a new warehouse and permanent bathrooms in the Villages. Some

changes were difficult such as the passing of our founder Mike “Papa Mike” McGarvin and the homeless clients who passed before we could help them. As CEO of Poverello House, I have experienced many changes such as getting married, losing my father, and becoming a father. Another change I experienced was that on July 31, 2019, I ended my role as the CEO of Poverello House. Although I was excited to start a new chapter in my life, I will always be grateful for my time at Poverello House. Being CEO of Poverello House was a true blessing an incredible experience that will stay with me for the rest of my life. I want to thank the Board of Directors for allowing me to truly feed the soul of those in need. The staff and their dedication to transforming the lives of the homeless and becoming the true beacon of HOPE. The volunteers and community for the constant support of Poverello House and its dedication to “enriching the lives and spirits of those who pass our way.”

 Cruz Avila, CEO

## POVERELLO HOUSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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*Emergency food bags are one of many services Poverello House offers its clients.*