

# THE SEASON OF THANKSGIVING







There is a false narrative that can be believed regarding those experiencing homelessness and those who are in need. This narrative is that they are ungrateful or have a strong sense of entitlement for the help they receive. However, those we serve at Poverello House are grateful for many things in their lives just like anyone who is housed might be. We asked clients on our campus if they would be willing to write and share what they were thankful for with the community. It was not hard to find more than enough people who wanted to do just that! As you look at the photos and read the signs, we hope that you will reflect on the value and dignity of all people; and how alike we are to those experiencing homelessness or other challenges that we may not be.











#### SHOWER AND LAUNDRY FACILITY RENOVATION UPDATE

You may know that Poverello House has been renovating the shower and laundry facility on campus. Each year, over 25,000 showers and nearly 10,000 loads of laundry are provided for those experiencing homelessness in the community. The current facility was built nearly 30 years ago, and it was time for a full renovation. The project is currently in progress! All demolition has been completed, new plumbing is being installed, and infrastructure components are being finished. The next steps include pouring a new foundation, building the shower stalls, and installing the new commercial laundry equipment (we will quadruple our laundry capacity!). It has been a major construction zone on the campus, but the project is on pace to finish by the end of the calendar year. We would like to thank Airport Specialty Products (the General Contractor)





Donations are accepted Monday – Friday 8am-5pm and Saturday – Sunday 8am – 1 pm at 412 F St. Fresno. Donation Iane is located on C Street between Ventura and San Benito. Or donate by visiting www.poverellohouse.org for their hard work. We would also like to thank those that have generously contributed nearly \$200,000 for this project! We are still raising capital funds to pay for the renovation. If you would like to contribute to this exciting project, please contact our CEO, Zack Darrah, at (559) 498-6988 or by email at zdarrah@poverellohouse.org.



#### NOVEMBER WISH LIST

Blankets • Men's Jeans • Men's Shoes
Body Wash • Reading Glasses • Twin Sheets
Coats • Beanies • Gloves

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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER THE HABITUDE OF GRATITUDE



Zack Darrah. Chief Executive Officer

As I reflect on my time at Poverello House and all that we have been through, it has continued to be an incredible journey. We encounter countless needs daily. We have encountered а pandemic, deep-rooted brokenness, despair, and plenty of heart-wrenching realities. I know that I have asked you to help us through this time. The truth is that you have responded and have been there for

Poverello House through it all! While you have responded to significant asks during unprecedented times, my heart has been filled with gratitude and thanksgiving beyond what I can express in a short article.

I recently came across something that the great Baptist preacher and author, Charles Spurgeon, once said. He said, "it ought to be as habitual for us to thank as to ask." This is a simple yet powerful statement. As much as my role at Poverello House is to ask for help, I genuinely hope that my "habitude" will be that of "gratitude." As we embark on the Zack

Thanksgiving season, I want to continue to share my gratitude for you. Maybe you have given many hours of your time serving meals here. Maybe you have donated blankets or socks for those we serve. Maybe you have provided financial support. No matter how you have contributed to our work, I want you to know that I am grateful for you beyond words. I thank God for you often, handwrite countless thank you cards and notes to many of you, and continue to be inspired by your incredible generosity.

May our habitude of gratitude guide our Thanksgiving season this year. May our thanking far outweigh our asking. May you be richly blessed for continuing the work of enriching the lives and spirits of all who pass our way for nearly five decades.

In humble gratitude,

Humbly,

## HOW CAN YOU HELP DURING THE HOLIDAYS?

Volunteer Poverello House welcomes those with a heart to serve. Visit our website to register online for required orientation. In-person volunteer opportunities are available Monday - Sunday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. Special Holiday volunteer opportunities include: Thanksgiving Lunch, Gift Wrapping, the Christmas Eve Toy Giveaway, and other holiday events.

**Donate** Poverello House accepts monetary donations. These charitable gifts allow Poverello House to provide life-sustaining services to the hungry and homeless. Online giving is another option available on our website. We also accept food, clothing, and household items at our donation drop-off site.

Follow us Stay informed about all things happening at Poverello House by following and sharing on social media sites: Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. We are located at 412 F Street in Downtown Fresno.

For more information about Poverello House programs and services or to learn how you can support our mission by volunteering or making a monetary donation, call 559.498.6988 or visit www.poverellohouse.org.



#### **POVERELLO NEWS - NOVEMBER 2021**

Papa Mike's Café

Fruit Jello Salad Fresh Roll Homemade Cranberry Sauce Homemade Pie With Whipped Cream

Main Courses Roasted Turkey With Apple Sausage Stuffing

Glazed Ham With A Pineapple Glaze

Halibut With Herb Butter

All Meals Served With Roasted Mashed Sweet Potatoes With Giblet Gravy, and Vegetables

