



# HOUSEWORK

*news from transition house • santa barbara, california • spring 2014*

## It's More Than Just Housing...

**T**ara's situation was complicated. A series of events caused Tara and her family to be evicted from their housing in 2012, at which time Tara's two children were placed in foster care. Tara suffered from domestic violence for years and abused substances to help cope with the pain. Tara's children were also victims of the trauma caused by witnessing domestic violence.

The loss of her children forced Tara to bravely confront the negative influences that were destroying her life, and she made the conscious choice to change her situation. She left her spouse and stopped using drugs. She continued visiting her children every week while they were in foster care and worked with Child Welfare Services (CWS) on a reunification plan.

If Tara was to reunite with her children, CWS required the family to reunify in a structured environment. That is how they ended up at Transition House. The family entered the T-House shelter in April of 2013.

Tara is not the first parent to be reunited with his or her children through a CWS-mandated plan involving Transition House. CWS recognizes that the multitude of issues such families face require structure and routine, support services, and, above all, a safe place to stay. Transition House has provided this opportunity to families for many years.

In Tara's case, poverty was not the only factor that led to her loss of housing. She suffers from a disability and survives on Social Security Income (SSI). Unlike many families that enter Transition House, Tara could not achieve permanent housing simply by finding work and saving money. The trauma she and her son and daughter, now ages 15 and 13, experienced created a troubled family dynamic that needed to be addressed and worked through over time. It wasn't enough that Tara loved her kids; she needed grow as an effective parent, develop parenting communication skills, and be strong for her children.

The shelter program provided that structure for her family.



Transition House case manager, Dee Eduarte (left), and Tara take a break from their regular planning meeting.

While her kids were understandably unhappy at reuniting in a shelter, soon they began to make friends and even do chores around the facility. Tara's sole focus was to work with not only her T-House case manager, but also with the wraparound services provided by CWS, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), and CALM (Child Abuse Listening Mediation) to stabilize her family. Tara firmly believes that if they had not lived for several months in the shelter, followed by four months in our transitional housing program, the Firehouse, her family would not have survived intact.

Tara's family is now living in a Transition House apartment at Mom's and continues to benefit from our programs. During her time in shelter, Tara was afraid to move back to housing. When she got her apartment, she was still scared

Continued on page 4

# Greeks 4 Kids Build Play Structure For Our Kids

By Caley Mark, Children's Programs Director

**W**ho founded *Greeks 4 Kids*? Charles Jones and Carl Provenzano, two UCSB students who are members of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, founded the organization in 2013.

## **Where did the idea for *Greeks 4 Kids* come from?**

*Greeks 4 Kids* was birthed from a powerful urge to make a physical, noticeable difference in our community. As UCSB students, we are extremely cognizant of the good fortune and unique opportunities we have been given and are also very aware that there are others out there who could desperately use aid. We decided to provide tools for underprivileged children so they can obtain a quality education and achieve the lives that they deserve.

## **What is your organization's mission?**

*Greeks 4 Kids* is dedicated to helping children in schools and hospitals who are in desperate need of books, toys, supplies, and friendship to remedy both educational and health challenges.



Charles Jones (left) and Carl Provenzano, founders of *Greeks 4 Kids*, with their new friend.

## **How many people participate in community service projects?**

Before each event we make an open invitation to the UCSB community to sign up, but only choose a limited number so that we do not overwhelm the children when we visit. We usually bring about 10-15 people to each project.

## **What types of projects have you completed in the past?**

We have made donations to Westside Children's Center, Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Storyteller Children's Center, and now to Transition House. At each agency, we bring our volunteers to interact with the children, meet the agency staff, and build any structures that need assembly. We have donated over \$5,000 worth of goods in the past year!

## **What types of activities to you do to fundraise for these projects?**

We host a variety of philanthropic events at UCSB to raise awareness for our cause in a fun, interactive fashion. Just this past fall, we hosted a week of philanthropic events, called "RALLY," that culminated in a volleyball tournament attended by the entire Greek system. We believe events like this showcase what *Greeks 4 Kids* values most: coming out and personally putting the effort in to help others. That is infinitely more rewarding than sending a check.

## **How did you hear about Transition House?**

We found Transition House by doing research online. We found your organization's website and saw that your mission statement coincided with ours and also felt that we could make a tangible difference in the lives of the children at Transition House.





***How many volunteers came to the T-House event?***

Fifteen volunteers came out to help construct the play structure.

***How was your group's experience working with Transition House?***

Our experience was incredibly positive and heartwarming. It was fantastic being able to interact with the children, and our volunteers still talk about what a rewarding experience they had helping the Santa Barbara community.

***What are your plans for the future of Greeks 4 Kids?***

While we both have career plans after college that lie outside of the nonprofit sector, we both know that Greeks 4 Kids will always be a part of our lives. We intend to find others to run the local branch of our organization after we graduate, while we help to expand it and still attend all of the projects that we can.

***Anything else you would like to share about your organization or your experience with T-House?***



Transition House is a perfect fit for our mission. As members of the community, we wish to step forward to give food and shelter to our homeless neighbors. All of our volunteers had an amazing time building the play structure and storage shed, while interacting with the children on site. We hope that the children get much enjoyment out of the items we donated for years to come! 🏠



## Housing Authority Teaches Financial Literacy Workshops at Transition House

During the months of March and April 2104, eight workshops focusing on developing financial literacy were offered at Transition House’s onsite Family Support Center.

These workshops were offered to both Housing Authority and Transition House clients, and free childcare was provided.

Workshop topics included Financial Goal Setting; Budgeting and Savings; Checking and On-line Banking; Debt Consolidation; Credit Basics and Credit Cards; Investments and Retirement; Home Mortgage Process; and Accomplishing Your Goals.

Twenty-one adults participated in this enjoyable and beneficial educational program. The kids had fun, too! 🏠



## Check It Out! We’ve Had a Facelift!

Thanks to funding from the City of Santa Barbara, Transition House was recently able to rehabilitate the interior of our emergency shelter. We painted all throughout the facility and also replaced old linoleum flooring with wood vinyl. The environment is so much warmer now—and feels less institutional, too. Special thanks to our incredible project managers, Tracey Taylor and Hector Torres from the Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara. 🏠

**TARA, continued from page 1**

to be on her own. The supportive services provided with her apartment have made the transition easier. She and her daughter spend many evenings in the onsite computer lab and they now enjoy cooking their favorite meals together.

When she looks back now on her time in the shelter, Tara laughs and says the worst part for the kids was having to get up earlier than they would have at home. Tara describes her case manager as a friend—she was always there to listen and give advice. She helped Tara get to all her appointments and do something Tara had never done before—build a savings account!

Tara’s goals moving forward are clear. She says she is striving to “do the right thing” as a parent and as a person. She says she didn’t always know how to do this in the past. She has been sober for almost two years and she intends to stay that way. She wants her kids to see her maintain her sobriety and she wants to be a good role model for them. Above all else, she never wants to lose her kids again.

She thinks about working or volunteering part time in the future if she is able. She says her dream job would be to work with animals—she can’t imagine anything more fulfilling than rescuing stray animals and taking care of them.

She also says that despite the fact that her family is doing much better, she still needs case management. She isn’t quite ready to be on her own yet.

For Transition House staff, Tara’s family reminds us of why we do what we do—why we build housing with support services, why we provide shelter with intensive case management, why we believe in the power of people to take back their lives in the face of incredibly adversity. Yes, Tara’s situation was complicated. It’s not quite so complicated anymore. Tara and her children are progressing and succeeding, and we feel lucky we get to be a part of their journey. 🏠



## Youth From California Learn about Homelessness


By Nicole Janowitz, Volunteer Coordinator

**O**n March 1, 2014, Transition House was invited as one of eight social service agencies in Santa Barbara to give a workshop at the SoCal Social Justice Weekend. The event was hosted by the Congregation B'nai B'rith. Three hundred Jewish teenagers ages 14 to 18 years from throughout southern California attended this special event.

Congregation B'nai B'rith has a long history supporting Transition House. They are one of 12 faith-based communities that founded Transition House. B'nai B'rith still provides dinner and brown-bag lunches to the families in the Transition House shelter once a month.

Executive Director Kathleen Baushke and Volunteer Coordinator Nicole Janowicz represented Transition House at the SoCal Social Justice Weekend. All workshops were organized as a one hour program. In three rotations of the program, Transition House was able to reach out to about 70 teenagers.

Our presentation started with a short quiz on homelessness, designed to demonstrate misperceptions people often have about the homeless. This was followed by a brief presentation on Transition House's clients and services, as well as the history of B'nai B'rith's service to Transition House. The teenagers were enthusiastic and eager to learn more about homelessness in Santa Barbara and the ways in which Transition House helps its clients to regain permanent housing. They also talked about how they could get involved with the issue of homelessness in their own towns.

In the hands-on part of the workshop program, the teenagers participated in making drawings to decorate the onsite education center at Transition House, called the Family Support Center. As an inspiration for the drawings, Transition House staff shared the following quotation from the California Housing Law Project: "A common activity for children, homeless or otherwise, is to draw. When homeless children are asked to draw what Heaven looks like, they often draw houses. They do not draw mansions or palaces; they draw plain houses. This is their hope, a hope maintained in the midst of adversity." The oil pastel drawings the teenagers created included houses and other positive images such as flowers, rainbows, and hearts, as well as motivational messages such as "Believe in yourself!," "Be happy!," and "Live, Love, Laugh!" This artwork decorates our Family Support Center, our onsite education center where parents attend evening anti-poverty classes while their children stay in childcare. The teens' artwork helped to make the center a friendly and inviting place for families in need to study and grow. 



# Anchors Aweigh! for Transition House




Florence Michel, Kathryn Dinkin, Missy Sheldon, Walter Clapp



Pat St. Clair and Judy Cresap



Kathryn Dinken and Gayla Visalli model clothing from Lana Marme

**O**n May 1, the Transition House Auxiliary hosted the 16th Annual Mad Hatter Luncheon, “Anchors Aweigh!,” to raise money for Transition House’s children’s programs. The enormously successful event was ably emceed by Andrew Firestone and included a fashion show featuring fabulous clothing from Lana Marme of Montecito. Mindy Denson hosted the show. A highlight of the luncheon came when Mike Sheldon, owner of Network Hardware Resale and a sponsor of the event, raised his hand and offered a challenge grant to the attendees. Roughly \$20,000 was raised, which was then matched by Network Hardware Resale. Gratitude goes to co-chairs Diane White and Kathryn Dinkin and to all the members of the Auxiliary. Transition House also wishes to thank Network Hardware Resale, Andrew, Lana, and Mindy for their dedication to making this fundraiser a big success. 

## Thank you to our generous Mad Hatter sponsors and donors:

### Mad Hatter \$5,000

Montecito Bank & Trust  
Network Hardware Resale  
Kathryn and Jeffrey Dinkin  
Missy and Chuck Sheldon  
James V. and Beverly R. Zaleski Foundation

Nancy Sheldon  
Laurie and Joe Tumbler  
Village Properties  
Kerrie Kilpatrick-Weinberg  
Wells Fargo

### Cheshire Cat \$500+

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Tom and Nancy Crawford  
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Felicie and Paul Hartloff  
Hollister & Brace  
Nasif, Harris & Co.  
Santa Barbara Foundation  
Gail Shannon  
Anna and Don Ylvisaker  
Sue Eubanks

### Friends

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Boone Printing  
Darlene Amundsen  
Monique Littlejohn  
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Brostram’s  
Hummingbird

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Il Fustino Oils  
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Calla Gold  
C’est Cheese  
Aqua Nail Bar  
Halper Fine Art  
Sabrina Tinajero  
Scarlet Begonia Restaurant  
Onward  
Natasha  
USS Midway  
Lana Marme  
Betty Johnson  
Coast 2 Coast  
Soosan Marshall  
Pat and Rich St. Clair  
Mimi and Julio Veyna  
Transition House Board of Directors  
Louie’s

Queen Mary  
Olio e Limone  
Waxing Poetic  
Ellen and Bob Lilley  
Tre Lune  
Thrivent Financial  
Magic Nails Salon  
Jane Macedo de Veer  
Cabana Home  
Tim Tremblay  
Tammy Dobrotin  
Just Folk  
Santa Barbara Symphony  
Imagine  
Chaucer’s  
The Berry Man  
Maravilla Senior Living  
Aquarium of the Pacific  
The Laugh Factory  
Pacific Plastic Surgery  
Opera Santa Barbara  
Onward Art & Design  
Opal  
Erin Graffy  
Kristen Cottes  
Victorian Vogue

Maison K  
Chocolates de CaliBressan  
Hampstead Village, LLC  
J’nelle Holland  
Leslie Dinaberg  
Lissa Liggett  
Caron Miller  
Donna Sunday  
Plum Goods  
Organic Soup Kitchen  
The Brander Vineyard  
Dr. Jeffrey Kopelow, DDS  
Jordano’s Foodservice  
Susan Levine  
Trader Joe’s  
Renaissance  
Summit Funding  
Tileco  
State Farm  
Steve Epstein  
Evolutions Medical & Day Spa  
Stradling, Yocca, Carlson & Rauth, LLP  
Por La Mar Nursery  
Best Dressed Monk  
Costco



# 2013 Transition House Annual Report

## 2013 Shelter Dinner Providers

All Saints-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church	Old Mission Santa Barbara
Amie Parish	Organic Soup Kitchen
Calvary Chapel	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Carpinteria Community Church	Our Lady of Sorrows
Congregation B'nai B'rith	Pascucci
Cottage Hospital 5 South	Rorden & Friends
El Montecito Presbyterian Church	Santa Barbara Church of Christ
Feed Your Soul	Santa Barbara Community Church
First Congregational Church	Society of Friends - The Quakers
First Presbyterian Church	St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Free Methodist Church	St. Anthony's Community Association
Goleta Presbyterian Church	St. Mark United Methodist Church
Grace Lutheran Church	Theresa Pietsch
Jessica & Friends	Trinity Episcopal Church
Kathy Bailey & Friends	Trinity Lutheran Church
Knights of Columbus	UCSB's Community Board of Affairs
Live Oak Unitarian	Unity Church of Santa Barbara
Living Faith Church	Vedanta Society
MA Center (Mother's Kitchen)	
Montecito Covenant Church	
Nick, Laura, and Friends	
Ocean Hills Covenant Church	

## \$50,000 AND ABOVE

Alan Ellington Estate  
Santa Barbara Foundation  
Transition House Auxiliary  
Wood-Claeysens Foundation

## \$10,000 TO \$49,999

James S. Bower Foundation  
Diana Brelsford  
Patricia Carlson  
Crawford Idema Family Foundation  
Katherine Demny Trust  
Ann Jackson Family Foundation  
Anne and Ratus Kelly  
Mithun Family Foundation  
Outhwaite Foundation  
George B. Page Foundation  
Walter and Holly Thomson Foundation  
Towbes Foundation  
Volentine Family Foundation  
Weingart Foundation  
Williams-Sonoma  
Yardi Systems, Inc.

## \$5,000 TO \$9,999

Baroness Leni Fe Bland  
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Allen and Roberta Gersho  
Goleta Presbyterian Church  
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Kevin and Masha Keating Family Foundation  
Lehrer Family Foundation  
Montecito Bank & Trust  
Rick and Regina Roney  
Schlinger Chrisman Foundation  
Jay and Ruth Shobe  
Sotheby's International Realty  
Tomchin Family Foundation  
Towbes Group  
Venoco, Inc.

## \$1,000 TO \$4,999

Rebecca and Peter Adams  
Aizenstat/Hansen Family Fund  
David H. Anderson  
Donald Anderson  
Arkay Foundation  
Glen and Amy Bacheller  
Robert and Alisa Baur Center Foundation Incorporated  
BEI Sensors  
Arnold and Jill Bellowe  
Kathleen Bernstein  
Richard and Marguerite Berti  
Richard and Patsy Blake  
William and Kathy Borgers  
Henry Bowis  
Jim Buckley  
Frank and Bonnie Burgess  
Peter Castellanos  
James Celmayster  
Sharon Chance

Gregory and Christine Charlton  
Malinda Pennoyer Chouinard  
Caldecot and Isabella Chubb  
Thomas and Nancy Crawford  
Jeff and Kathryn Dinkin  
Dolotta Family Charitable Foundation  
El Montecito Presbyterian Church  
Edward and Suzanne Eubanks  
Lynda Fairly  
FLIR Systems, Inc.  
Dennis and Patricia Forster  
Gelson's Markets  
Allan Ghitlerman  
Google, Inc.  
James Griffith  
Benjamin Halpern  
Melissa Jones Hamilton  
Lawrence and Astrid Hammett  
Jeffrey P. and Julie M. Harris  
Paul and Felicie Hartloff  
Melissa Henny  
Milt and Cecia Hess  
James and Sandra Hirsch  
Robert and Shauna Hirsch  
Donald and Diane Jackson  
Dr. Richard L. and Jan Ann Kahler  
Robert and Janet Kates  
Elizabeth Kilb  
Knights of Columbus 1684  
La Centra-Sumerlin Foundation  
Latkin Charitable Foundation  
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Dora Anne Little  
Jacob and Linda Locker  
John and Lucy Lundegard  
M&M Foundation  
Bob and Betsy Manger  
David Mankin  
Dale and Rosanne Marquis  
John and Dinah Mason  
Richard and Gail McLaren  
Edwina Mindheim  
G. H. Mitchel  
Montecito Bank & Trust  
William P. Neil Foundation  
Nonprofits' Insurance Alliance  
Edward L. Ostdick  
Outrider Foundation, Inc.  
William and Myra Petersen  
Ruth Priest  
Catherine Ramus  
James Rapp  
Charles and Robin Rickershauser  
Dr. Anthony D. and Kyra L. Rogers  
Samar kand Retirement Community  
Santa Barbara Plaza  
Victor and Susan Schaff  
Richard and Maryan Schall  
Charles and Diane Sheldon  
Julio and Shirley Soares  
Tana Sommer-Belin  
David and Carolyn Spainhour  
Peter and Stephanie Sperling  
St. Raphael's Church



## PROGRAM SERVICES AND EXPENSES

Program	\$1,978,822
Management and General	171,006
Fundraising	165,276
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2,315,104</b>

## INCOME AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Individuals	\$334,058
Foundations	396,109
Corporations	85,184
Federal	348,047
State/Local	223,700
Churches	18,723
Rental Income	389,366
Fundraising	199,181
In-kind	326,028
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,320,396</b>

## TRANSITION HOUSE

Warren R. and Mary L. Staley  
 Robert A. and Elaine B. Toledo  
 Trinity Lutheran Church  
 Laurie and Joseph Tumbler  
 Tumbler Family Foundation  
 UBS Financial Services  
 Underground Hair Artists  
 Union Security Insurance Company  
 United Way Grants  
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 Foundation, Inc.  
 Karl and Kristen Weis  
 Wells Fargo  
 Brian and Loa Louise Wintz  
 Kerim and Jessica Yacoub  
 Jason Yardi  
 Beverly and James Zaleski

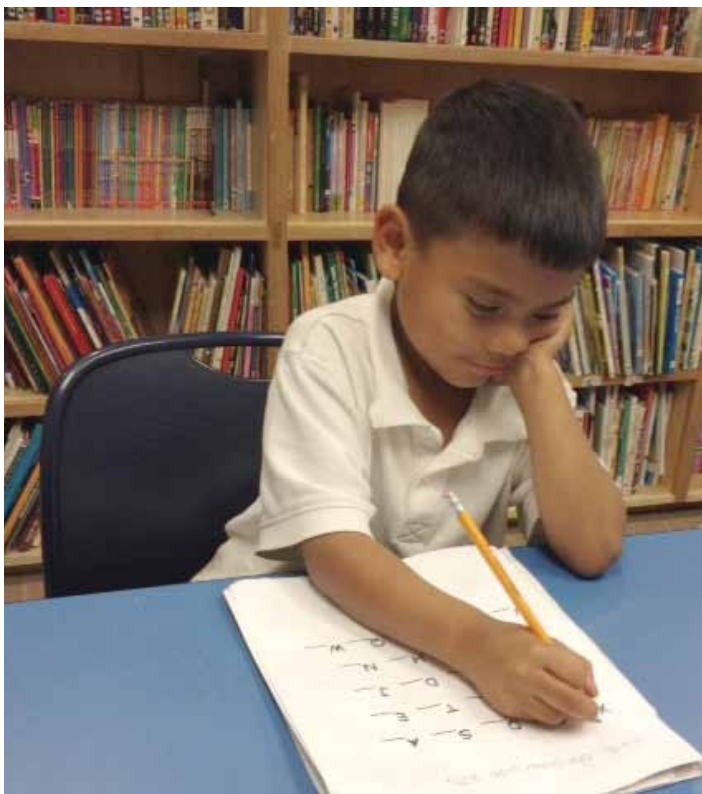
### \$250 TO \$999

Ellen Ahlers  
 All Saints-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church  
 David and Sue Alvarado  
 Jim and Debbie Arnesen  
 Bernadette Bagley  
 Steven and Geraldine Barger  
 Dave Barnett  
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 Turpin Family Charitable Foundation  
 Sandra Tyler





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TRANSITION HOUSE

ANNUAL REPORT

2012 Emergency Shelter Statistics

Number of clients served

Children	196
Adults	113
Total families	84
Two-parent families	28
Single-parent families	54

Ethnicity

Asian/Pacific Islander	2%
African American	4%
Anglo	38%
Latino	52%
Native American	2%
Other	2%

Adults Only

Drug/Alcohol Issues	32%
Mental Illness	19%
Dual Diagnosis	25%
Other disabilities	47%
Domestic violence	35%

Employment

Number of families maintaining or increasing income	92%
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Education level for adults

High school	68%
Attended college	33%
Average grade completed	11 <sup>th</sup>

Residence before Transition House

Santa Barbara City	63%
Goleta	17%
Carpinteria	3%
SB County/Ventura	14%
Other zip codes	3%

Disposition upon exit from the shelter

Housing in SB	51%
TH-owned housing	25%
Other program	1%
Relative	3%
Other shelter	2%
Motel	10%
Unknown	8%

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pillows • towels

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administrative offices at

425 E. Cota Street Monday through  
Thursday 9AM to 5PM, Friday 9AM to 4PM

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