genesis house undergoes transformation

capital improvements and c.a.r.f. accreditation highlight a busy year at substance abuse treatment program

By Valerie Catania, Chief Program Officer

Since 1976, Genesis House, a 36-bed state licensed residential drug treatment facility located in Seaside, has been serving the residents of Monterey County. The facility itself is three adjacent two-story apartment buildings and offers 28 co-ed beds and 8 perinatal beds for pregnant and parenting women.

However, years of long-deferred maintenance necessitated an ambitious cosmetic and structural remodel. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the local community, we were able to systematically begin implementing these changes. Over the past several months we painted and remodeled the majority of client rooms, refurbished the entire kitchen and living room area, and replaced one of the exterior staircases. We are also poised to upgrade the outdoor children’s play area and paint the exterior of the buildings.

The timing of this project could not have been better as Genesis House is in the late stages of achieving CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) accreditation. CARF is a private, non-profit organization that promotes the quality, value and optimal outcomes of health and human services through accreditation. Our Off Main Methadone clinic last received this important accreditation 2011.

The benefits of becoming CARF accredited are myriad and include the assurance to persons seeking services, funding sources, referral agencies, continued on page 2
payors, regulators, other providers, and the community that our program meets this internationally accepted standard. CARF also provides guidance for providing high quality services focused on the persons served. It also emphasizes an integrated and individualized approach to services and outcomes and breaks down barriers to treatment. Ultimately this accreditation will open up increased funding and reimbursement opportunities by creating stronger relations and partnerships with purchasers and regulatory bodies.

We would like to thank all of the amazing volunteers that made this project possible. Special thanks go out to Hayashi and Wayland, John Haupt & Blauch Construction, Mike Fuez & Otto Construction, Shoreline Church, Carpenters Union 605 and Fred Taylor, Manuel and Danny Infante, Bruce, Yvonne and Laurel Bowen, Amadore Bautista, and Ralph Perez.

An open house is being planned for Genesis House this Fall so please keep your eyes open for this announcement. We hope you can join us for what is sure to be a special day and the culmination of a long but highly beneficial project! If you have any questions about CARF or Genesis House please contact our Chief Program Officer, Valerie Catania, at vcatania@chservices.org or by calling 831-658-3811.

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All Women’s Ball!

On January 19th, The 7th Annual All Women’s Ball was held at All Saints Church in Carmel. For the first time ever, Community Human Services was the beneficiary of this truly amazing event. The evening raised close to $4,000 for our Elm House and Safe Place Programs and we’d like to thank all the volunteers and attendees who made this evening possible. Thank you!
friends of CHS - $1-$99

in-kind donations

businesses

foundations, churches & service clubs

To find out how you can donate or get involved with CHS, please visit our website at www.chservices.org.
Driscoll’s grant spurs targeted farm worker outreach

Community Human Services has traditionally provided services to a high number of farm workers and farm worker families. However, a recent grant for $3,000 from Driscoll’s allowed us to review and revise our methods of outreach to this vital segment of our society.

CHS approached several of the large farm-related businesses in the county and teamed up with them to spread the word about the services we provide among the farm worker communities. Dole, D’Arrigo Brothers, Taylor Farms, and Merrill Farms all helped to distribute bilingual CHS informational flyers to their employees.

We also worked with the Grower-Shipper Association in Salinas and the Monterey County Office of Education Migrant Education program to distribute flyers and increase awareness of the programs we offer to farm workers and their families.

Thanks go out to Driscoll’s and to all of the entities listed above for their support of CHS and willingness to help their employees. Thank you!

new program officers

Community Human Services is proud to introduce two new members to its management team. Clive Stewart and Margie Allen were both recently appointed as Program Officers at Genesis House and Family Service Centers respectively.

Mr. Stewart began as Relief Staff at Genesis House in 1997 and became a full-time Counselor in 2004. He is well respected among clients and staff and is looking forward to the challenge of overseeing Genesis House.

Said Stewart, “This place is like a home to me. I have seen the miracles that happen here and am excited to start this new stage of my career.”

Ms. Allen is new to the Monterey Peninsula but not new to Mental Health Counseling and the type of work being done at the Family Service Centers. She has spent the last 10 years as a Program Officer in Gilroy at a non-profit agency similar to CHS.

“I have always enjoyed the Monterey Peninsula and am thrilled at the opportunity to join an organization with a history like Community Human Services. I inherited a wonderful staff and I look forward to continuing the tradition of providing affordable mental health services to the people of Monterey County and expanding services where needed.”