

# Trinity Center

Helping Those without a Home

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[www.trinitycenterwc.org](http://www.trinitycenterwc.org)

December, 2016

## Winter Update

At Trinity Center, we join the people we serve in extending our hopes for joy in this holiday season to you and your family. Thanks to your generosity, we begin our 5<sup>th</sup> year of changing lives. Our mission is to be the doorway to opportunity for homeless and working poor people by providing basic safety net services like food, clothing, and access to showers, laundry, mail, and most importantly, community. It is your support – **now needed more than ever** - that gives us all hope for a future of independence for those we serve as contributing members of our community.

### Member Success!

Take Dave for example. Dave came to the Trinity Center newly homeless. Supported by our Employment Advocate, he attended a career fair and obtained a part time job with Home Depot. As a direct result of his dedicated efforts and the support of our Employment Advocate, Dave maintained a steady income which made him eligible for subsidized housing through Shelter Inc. He was awarded a year-long housing voucher. Over the course of the next year, working closely with Trinity Center's Member Advocates, Dave secured a salaried position at Cisco which he has grown to love. Dave is now working full-time and is permanently housed in Walnut Creek—in a beautiful home with no financial aid.



18 Members secured housing in 2016 in collaboration with Shelter Inc. and Contra Costa County Homeless Services.

### Thanks to You!

Thanks to you, we are proud to report these recent accomplishments:

- the City of Walnut Creek, the National Guard, individual donors, churches and foundations collaborated with Trinity Center on providing a seasonal overnight shelter winter of 2016/2017
- We have pre development funding for a new community center and 45 units of affordable housing
- We have added two full time Member Advocates to work with members on developing plans for employment, housing, benefits, physical and mental healthcare
- We improved our facility through a grant from the City of Walnut Creek and added two new showers and bathrooms that meet ADA requirements, and added a new handicap ramp.
- In 2017 through Contra Costa County's Coordinated Entry System, we will:
  - offer space for Contra Costa Interfaith Housing's Housing Placement Specialist
  - launch a new program for substance use assessment and treatment referral and provide space for Drug and Alcohol Services
  - participate in a street outreach program in collaboration with the Walnut Creek Police Department and local businesses, County CORE Team and other service agencies.

### Help Make a Difference!

With your help we will continue to help more people like Dave to help themselves. Note: As of this writing one more of our members secured housing! Together we make a difference. Please use the coupon below to support of Trinity Center's vital work on behalf of our community. Visit our website for more details and volunteer opportunities. You are always welcome to visit Trinity Center to meet us and see the incredible work we are doing. To arrange a visit please email us at [info@trinitycenterwc.org](mailto:info@trinitycenterwc.org) or call 925-949-8712.

Yours in partnership,

Donna Colombo – Executive Director

### Yes! I want to help make a *difference* in my community!

I know there are many ways to donate but I prefer to enclose a check

Spring 2016

\$50  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1,000  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_  One Time  Monthly  
(Please make your check payable to Trinity Center)

[Salutation] [Lastname]

[Address], [City], [State] [Zip]

I would like to join the email list!

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Trinity Center's mission is to be the doorway to opportunity for homeless and working poor people.**

### **In 2016, you helped us**

*From January through October 2016, we distributed 16,082 meals, 5,237 showers, 2,879 loads of laundry, 14,115 articles of clothing, and 14,605 food pantry items.*

### **Volunteer for our Winter Evening Shelter Program**

*The Trinity Center Evening Program is housing 30-50 people at the Walnut Creek Armory. We need lots of volunteers to help with meals, drivers, overnight monitors. Many thanks to the City of Walnut Creek and the California State National Guard.*

We're using [SignUp.com](http://signup.com) to organize our upcoming Volunteer registration.

Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

- 1) Enter this link in your browser: <http://signup.com/go/MCZkCD>
- 2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.
- 3) Sign up! It's Easy – you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password.

Note: SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone.

If you need help signing up, please contact Chanel Gilbert, via email [chanelg@trinitycenterwc.org](mailto:chanelg@trinitycenterwc.org) or call (925) 949-8712.

**DONATE NOW**  
Secure donations through  
Network for Good

**Fremont Bank and Share the Spirit program donates to our Holiday Program**

**Thank You!**

**To all our volunteers, too many to mention, "we think you are awesome" Your caring, and your commitment inspires us!**

**Trinity Center is funded by:**

**City of Walnut Creek  
Contra Costa County  
Public and Private  
Foundations  
Faith and Civic Organizations  
Individuals  
Local Businesses**

## **Third Annual Gala**

Attend our May 18th, 2017 third annual Gala fundraising event at Boundary Oak Golf Club in Walnut Creek. Funds raised at this event support our vital member advocacy program and housing security fund.



## **Easy Ways to Support Us**

**Shop Amazon?** Use [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) for Amazon purchases for .5% of purchase donation

**Donate** appreciated stock (*call for information*)

## **Support Small Business & Trinity Center**

Walnut Creek Downtown and Trinity Center are partnering to offer a 10% discount shopping card to shoppers. Participating businesses will be listed on both the Walnut Creek Downtown and Trinity Center websites. A minimum 10% discount will be offered to shoppers through March 31, 2017. Some merchants may provide other offers. **Visit our website for a list of participating merchants and discounts:** <http://trinitycenterwc.org/walnut-creek-downtown-fundraiser/>

**Discount Shopping Cards – support local business and Trinity Center, cards valid through March 31, 2017, are now on sale for only \$20 at Trinity Center and at many churches and other local organizations.**

## **Housing Advocacy – Affordable Housing Needed**

### **St. Paul's Commons**

The Walnut Creek City Council Housing & Community Development Committee decided on Tuesday, December 1 to recommend increasing our City loan commitment to \$5 million. City Council will consider the request in January.

The Commons will be a mixed-use, transit-oriented development with community-serving spaces operated by St. Paul's Episcopal Church and 45 affordable apartments operated by Resources for Community Development (RCD). Located on Trinity Avenue on the grounds of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, St. Paul's Commons Community Center and Apartments is designed to fit into and enhance the Church campus as well as the surrounding neighborhood. The Community Center will house the Trinity Center program providing much needed space.

## **Staff**

Carol Lombard, Donna Colombo, Kevin Sugrue, Jessie Jones



Nathalie Sterne, Chanel Gilbert, Tommy Edwards

## **Board of Directors**

Andrew Mekjavich, Dave Stewart, Rev. Jeffrey Dodge, Ken White, Leslie Dawson, Mark Johansen, Mary Fenelon, and Susan Alker