

COMMITTED TO SERVICE

When Dianna Clay found out that she was recognized by the city of Stockton, the State Legislature, and U.S. Congress as MLK Person of the Year, she was honored.

“Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. represents a lot for me and our civil rights. I felt appreciated. I was very happy that someone saw something in me and it makes me feel empowered,” said Dianna.

At the community-wide MLK, Jr. Celebration in January, Ministers & Community United and Congressman Jerry McNerney also honored Dianna for her service and commitment to the citizens of the community.

Dianna has worked as a Representative Payee at the Gospel Center Rescue Mission for 21 years. But before becoming an employee, she was a client.

As we sat down to hear Dianna’s story, her commitment and heart for the Mission was apparent. She began the New Life Program on July 5, 1995, graduated on March 3, 1996, and became employed at the Mission on January 25, 1997 – and she rattled off these important dates like they were just yesterday.

Dianna takes on a challenging role at the Mission – helping clients budget their money, find housing, and pay rent, among other responsibilities. Dianna is great at her job because she can relate to her

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New Life Program Scholarships

On April 12 we will be hosting our annual Gala to fundraise for New Life Program scholarships. (Please see the next page for more details.) We hope you will join us in celebrating restored lives and learning more about our programs.

When a homeless person (including his or her children) enters our first 6-month New Life Program Addiction Phase, we call them a “student” because they are going through a major life change in which God puts them back on track for the purpose-driven and abundant life that He always had waiting for them. They are either funded from our General Operating Fund or by individually funded \$5,000 Scholarships.

The two funding sources are similar – both allow students to be loved and “sown into” by our staff, board, and volunteers. The difference, though, is that extra mentoring can occur between the student and scholarship donor, which can even extend for the following New Life Plus and Hope Housing Phases.

Here’s how it works: A scholarship grantor is paired with a student and can interact/mentor their student to the degree of their comfort and within the student’s New Life Program rules. This relationship can teach our students great family life and healthy work and social environments. Proverbs 13:14 sums up this relationship’s potential, stating, “The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, turning a person from the snares of death.”

If the Lord leads you, please consider funding a scholarship or simply contributing with the enclosed envelope and pooling your gifts to give a homeless person “New Life.” If you want to see this New Life, consider attending our graduation on March 16 at 1:30 pm, featuring our graduates and keynote speaker, County Supervisor Tom Patti.

Wayne G. Richardson

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clients. “I’ve been in their shoes. I used to receive benefits here when I was a client,” she said.

For the past 21 years, Diana has dedicated her life to helping others. “It’s a part of my life – to be of service. I seize any opportunity to help even when I’m not at work. If someone asks me for help, I will do what I can. If I don’t have an answer, I will find someone who does.”

When asked about her experiences as both a client and an employee at the Mission, Dianna spoke passionately about why she does what she does. Like her clients, she lived in the shelter and had to work through the influences that were right outside the gates of the Mission.

In addition to these accomplishments, Dianna has perfect attendance as an employee. She knows the

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~ Dianna

hard work it takes to get help; therefore, she desires to always be available to support those in need.

Dianna truly has made a difference in so many people’s lives because she was able to change her own – and she does it all with a humble heart. “It’s rewarding to be able to be in a position to help someone. It’s very satisfying when you know you’ve given 110 percent at the end of the day. It makes me feel good that I helped make a difference in my community.”

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



Last month student volunteers from Ripon Christian High School visited GCRM to paint the Men's Emergency Lodge. Thank you, Ripon students, for your service!

For more information about how you can help on our campus, visit gcrms.org/volunteer.



Lincoln Center President Phil Johnson and Community Relations Director Katie Drebert, center, with CEO Wayne Richardson and seminar attendees.

In January, 14 different nonprofit organizations were represented at CEO Wayne Richardson's Start-Up Fundraising Seminar, held at Papapavlo's. Thank you, Lincoln Center and SASS! Public Relations, for hosting and underwriting this event.

2018 Gala

Celebrating Restored Lives Through Scholarships

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018

5:30 pm RECEPTION

6:00 pm DINNER

STOCKTON GOLF &
COUNTRY CLUB

Keynote Speaker

TORI VERBER SALAZAR

San Joaquin County District Attorney

CALL (209) 957-7277

TO PURCHASE TICKETS

This event is designed to raise money for the students and celebrate their accomplishments, as well as bring awareness to the issue of homelessness in the community. Sponsors of this event provide scholarships for students to complete the New Life Program.

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



We have been blessed to work with SASS! Public Relations for the past three years. SASS! is a marketing, event planning, and public relations firm in Stockton that has helped us with all our marketing needs. From organizing our annual gala to producing The Vision, the people of SASS! have promoted GCRM and supported us in our mission. We are thankful for this uplifting, strong, dedicated partnership!

GOSPEL CENTER RESCUE MISSION

over 75 years of restoring lives

445 S. San Joaquin Street
Stockton, CA 95203
(209) 320-2310
www.gcrms.org

GRADUATION



Eleven students graduated from our various programs on January 19. Keynote Speaker Natalia Orfanos, of A.G. Spanos Companies, shared her inspiring story of hard work and encouraged students to be confident in their abilities. Each of the students spoke as they received their certificate as their families in attendance proudly supported them. Congratulations to Nicole Galarza, Kelsey DesRoches, Amy Downes, Lisa Ramirez, Melissa Lopez, Karen Northcutt, Michael James, Maurice Dinkins, and Russell Young! (Not pictured: Jeremy Moore and Monique Stuart)

Pictured with the graduates are COO Britton Kimball, Progressive Community Church Pastor Glenn Shields, Keynote Speaker Natalia Orfanos, CEO Wayne Richardson, First Baptist Pastor Brad Stahl, City Council Member Christina Fugazi, County District 1 Supervisor Miguel Villapudua, County District 4 Supervisor Chuck Winn, and State Senator Representative Benjamin Henderson.

THANK YOU Your donation to the Gospel Center Rescue Mission, via the attached envelope, can help people like Dianna find their identities, restore relationships, and transform their lives through the love of Jesus.

DONATIONS NEEDED

We're upgrading our Women's Shelter and need your help!

Donations are greatly appreciated for the purchase of a new HVAC system that will be installed in the building this spring.

