

Dear Friends & Neighbors,



As the holiday season approaches, we at El Camino Homeless Organization are reaching out to you with a heartfelt appeal for your support. This year, our mission is to bring the gift of hope, security, and warmth to the many individuals and families who have sought refuge within our shelter walls. The essence of the holiday spirit lies in giving, and together, we can make a significant impact on the lives of those who need it most.

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Imagine facing the bitter cold without a place to call home. For many people in our community, this is their reality. ECHO is more than just a roof over someone's head; it is a sanctuary, a place where they find compassion, support, and the encouragement and tools they need to rebuild their lives and get back into permanent housing. ECHO had a record year in 2023, assisting over 180 individuals and families with children back in housing in our community. Our goal this holiday season is to help even more individuals and families transition from homelessness to stable housing, providing them with the foundation they need for a brighter future.

ECHO had a record year in 2023, assisting over 180 graduates of our program into permanent housing.

Your support can help ECHO house the next 180 individuals and families with children. Whether it's a one-time gift or a recurring contribution, every dollar you donate will go toward securing safe and stable homes, helping someone on their journey and providing the support they need.

To donate, please visit our website at www.echoshelter.org/donate or fill out the enclosed donation form and return it in the provided envelope. Your contribution, no matter the size, will bring us one step closer to providing permanent homes for those working hard to transform their lives.

This holiday season, let's come together as a community and make a lasting impact on the lives of those individuals and families needing our help. Your kindness and generosity will not only provide them with shelter but also empower them to build a brighter future.

Thank you for considering our request. We are deeply grateful for your support, and we wish you and your loved ones a warm and joyous holiday season.



Warmest regards,

Wendy Lewis, CEO

2023

Assisted 180 Individuals and Families Move Back into Permanent Housing

Make a difference today!

\$100

Provides a night of shelter, including a warm bed, a hot meal, and access to essential hygiene resources for one person.

\$500

Supports case management services, helping individuals create personalized plans to secure stable housing and employment opportunities.

\$1,000

Supports ongoing services – 130 community shelter beds, 350 meals a day 365 days a year, and the resources to help individuals maintain their housing stability.



Success Stories

Meet James and Bruni, two incredible individuals who have shown us the power of love, hard work, and determination. Both of them had experienced over a decade of homelessness, but their story took an inspiring turn when they met at ECHO.

Their journey started with utilizing ECHO's Outreach Services, and they found a safe haven at the ECHO campus and support they desperately needed. But their big break came when they were accepted into the 90 Day Emergency Shelter Program.

James had a dream – to purchase a vehicle. Together, they made saving and budgeting a top priority, determined to break free from the cycle they found themselves in. Through their determination, they achieved that goal, proving that dreams are attainable even in the face of adversity.

Their path to permanent housing wasn't without its challenges. They applied to numerous apartments, but each attempt seemed to be a closed door. In June, their luck began to change when they started working with the Villa Paseo Senior Living Center. After three months of hard work, persistence, and patience the couple received the approval they had been yearning for.

The day they received the keys to their new home was a dream come true and they now have a place to call their own. The joy and relief they felt at finally having a safe and stable environment cannot be overstated. They are now experiencing the peace and security they had been longing for.



Meet Tara, a shining example of resilience and determination. When Tara came to ECHO, she had nothing to her name and little hope for a fresh start.

But with the support of her case management team and the stability of ECHO's 90 Day Emergency Shelter program, Tara's life took a remarkable turn. She quickly found employment, secured permanent housing, and is now thriving in a job she loves. Tara's recent promotion is a testament to her dedication and hard work.

What's more, she has her sights set on a scholarship to continue her education. Tara's story is an inspiration, and we couldn't be prouder of all she has achieved during her time at ECHO.

Let Tara's success story be a reminder that with the right support and determination, incredible transformations are possible. We celebrate Tara's achievements and look forward to seeing her continue to shine!