



**Shelter for  
Homeless Women  
and Families with  
Children**

**OPENED 01/19/2021**



**community  
human services**  
hope. help. here.



Community Human Services (CHS) and Gathering for Women (GFW) partnered to open Casa de Noche Buena in Seaside, the first homeless shelter specifically for women and families with children on the Monterey Peninsula.

CHS has 50-plus years of experience providing affordable substance abuse, mental health and homeless services throughout Monterey County.

GFW offers a day center for homeless women in Monterey. Their services include case management, breakfast/lunch meal service, showers, laundry vouchers, clothes closet, job readiness training, and enrichment classes.

# Casa de Noche Buena

1292 Olympia Avenue, Seaside, CA



- ▶ County building leased to CHS
- ▶ \$1.3M renovation funded by HEAP & donations
- ▶ Shelter: 9 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, dining/classroom, laundry room, kitchen, lounge, two offices, a backyard, and a lobby/reception area.
- ▶ Services: Housing navigation, employment assistance, life skills education, information and referral to ancillary services.
- ▶ Children-specific Activities: Arts and crafts, games, books, movies, TV shows, outdoor play area, tutoring and homework help.

# Program Overview

- ▶ The shelter is currently accommodating up to 18 people, depending on the number and ages of children. Max occupancy of 35 once COVID-19 conditions improve.
- ▶ Guests can stay up to 90 days, or longer with justification.
- ▶ CDNB offers shelter, meals provided by GFW and a variety of supportive services designed to lead to permanent housing.
  - ▶ Linkages to health, mental health & substance abuse services
  - ▶ Income, employment, education & housing services assistance
  - ▶ Services and activities for children
  - ▶ Mail and Internet access
  - ▶ Laundry, clothing & personal items



# Eligibility

## Single Females

- ▶ Meets federal definition of homeless
- ▶ Female
- ▶ 18 years of age or older
- ▶ Living alone, without custody of child(ren)
- ▶ Ability to participate in and benefit from program

## Families with Children

- ▶ Meets federal definition of homeless
- ▶ Parent + Parent + Child(ren)  
or
- ▶ Mother + Child(ren)
- ▶ Father + Child(ren)
- ▶ Ability to participate in and benefit from program

# Barriers to Admission

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- ▶ History of violence
- ▶ Danger to self or others
- ▶ Registered sex offender pursuant to California Penal Code § 290.46
- ▶ Unwilling or unable to abide by shelter rules
- ▶ Previous termination may be a barrier to re-admission

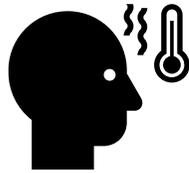
# Admissions During COVID-19

Accepting requests from guests for admission via phone - (831) 867-8200.

- 1) During initial phone call, staff:
  - Collects person's name and contact information
  - Conducts initial screening for eligibility
  - Places potential guest on Callback List
- 2) When rooms become available, staff:
  - Contacts people on list to Update info and confirm eligibility
  - Conducts initial assessment for COVID-19 symptoms
  - Schedules in-person intake appointment
- 3) Day of Intake
  - Guests arrive at intake appointment with personal belongings ready to be admitted.
  - Review and receive Program Handbook and COVID education/prevention materials
  - Tour facility
  - Move into room

# Modified Shelter in Place

- ▶ Guests isolate in their rooms until they receive a COVID test 3-5 days after admission.
- ▶ Guests sign in and out with name, date, time, and purpose of the absence every time they leave the shelter.
- ▶ 4-step process every time a guest returns:



1. Wash hands with soap and water, or use hand sanitizer
2. Complete symptom screening questionnaire
3. Have temperature taken and recorded
4. Have possessions screened for drugs, alcohol, weapons, etc.







## Statistics as of 09/20/2021

- ▶ Current Census: 14
  - 7 Single Women
  - 7 Family (3 adults/4 children)
- ▶ Total # Guests Served: 41
- ▶ Total # Children Served: 12
- ▶ Total # Meals Served: 10,500
- ▶ Housing Exits: 27
  - Permanent - 15
  - Transitional - 4
  - Other Shelter - 1
  - Homelessness - 7

# *Thank You!*

Casa de Noche Buena  
831-867-8200



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