

SUMMER 2026 UPDATE

Moving Forward: A New Chapter

**LETTER FROM THE CEO**

Growth, Leadership & Community

Dear Friends,

As I reach my first year as CEO of St. Mary's Community Services, I find myself reflecting on the lessons this work has taught me.

Throughout my career, I have worked alongside individuals, families, service providers, healthcare systems, educators, and government partners addressing some of our communities' most complex challenges. Yet this past year has expanded my perspective in ways I did not anticipate.

Leading an organization experiencing significant growth has given me a front-row seat to the realities of homelessness and poverty. Every day, I see the intersection of housing, healthcare, behavioral health, employment, education, public policy, and individual decision-making.

One lesson continues to stand above all others: every person wants to be seen.

In conversations about homelessness, we often focus on numbers. But behind every number is a person—a veteran, a parent, a young adult, a senior, someone's son or daughter. While every journey is different, homelessness is rarely the result of a single event. More often, it is the accumulation of challenges, unmet needs, trauma, and circumstances that become increasingly difficult to overcome without support.

This reality has reinforced my belief that addressing homelessness requires both compassion and accountability. It requires recognizing the dignity and value of every person while helping individuals build the skills, stability, and support systems needed to move forward.

It has also reinforced that no organization can solve homelessness alone. Progress happens when nonprofits, healthcare providers, employers, schools, government agencies, faith communities, and neighbors work together.

As SMCS continues to grow, I am reminded that buildings, programs, and services are only tools. The real work is helping people feel seen, respected, and valued. Because when people feel seen, possibility follows.

Thank you for being part of this work and for believing that every person is worth investing in.

Warmest regards,

Krista M. Fiser, MA

Chief Executive Officer

St. Mary's Community Services

PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT

No Organization Can Solve Homelessness Alone

Homelessness is often discussed as a housing issue, but those working closest to the challenge understand it is far more complex. Stable housing is essential, but so too are healthcare, behavioral health services, education, employment opportunities, social connections, and community support. Because the needs are interconnected, the solutions must be as well.

At St. Mary's Community Services, strategic partnerships are not simply enhancements to our work—they are fundamental to it. The progress we make every day is possible because organizations throughout our community bring their expertise, resources, and commitment to a shared mission: helping individuals and families move from crisis to stability.



Fresh produce from the Jerry Roek Memorial Garden

One example is the longstanding partnership between SMCS and **Dignity Health St. Joseph's Medical Center, a part of CommonSpirit Health, and St. Joseph's Foundation**. For more than a decade, St. Joseph's has invested in the health and well-being of individuals experiencing homelessness through support for dental services, health-focused initiatives, medication dispensing technology, emergency preparedness equipment, and other critical resources. Their commitment extends beyond healthcare. Fresh produce from the Jerry Roek Memorial Garden, cultivated by dedicated volunteers, continues to support daily meal services, while the recent addition of 500 vegetable plants on campus will increase access to nutritious food for clients in the months ahead. The partnership will soon expand further through the PEACE Project, which will introduce a Safe Storage program designed to help individuals safely store essential belongings while accessing services, healthcare, employment opportunities, and housing resources.

The University of the Pacific is another example of how community partnerships create meaningful impact. Students from multiple disciplines are contributing their knowledge and skills while gaining valuable real-world experience. Master of Nursing students are supporting quality improvement efforts focused on health literacy and post-hospital care. Counseling and Psychology graduate students are facilitating groups that strengthen family wellness and resilience. Through College Corps, dental education programs, and upcoming business, engineering, and technology collaborations, students are helping expand services while preparing to become the next generation of community-focused professionals.

Together, these partnerships demonstrate what is possible when organizations align around a common purpose. While no organization can solve homelessness alone, communities can make meaningful progress when they work together to create pathways toward health, stability, and opportunity.



Residents enjoy a warm meal made even better with fresh vegetables generously donated by St. Joseph's.

Pathways Neighborhood Opens Its Doors



Pathways Dog Washing
Station

After years of planning, partnership, and perseverance, Pathways Neighborhood is now operational and welcoming residents home.

Designed as a bridge out of homelessness, it provides individuals with a safe and stable place to live while they work toward permanent housing, with access to case management, healthcare, employment resources, and supportive services that build long-term stability and self-sufficiency.

Recognizing the important role pets play in people's lives, the community also welcomes residents' pets, removing a barrier that often prevents individuals from seeking shelter and support.

Pathways Neighborhood represents far more than a housing development. It is the result of a shared commitment from partners including the City of Stockton, San Joaquin County, Health Plan of San Joaquin, Dignity Health St. Joseph's Medical Center/

St. Joseph's Foundation, Representative Josh Harder, and many others who believed in a new approach to addressing homelessness.

While the doors are now open, the true measure of success will be the individuals who move into permanent housing, improved health, greater stability, and renewed opportunity — a powerful reminder of what is possible when a community comes together.

When we welcomed pets into our Pathways Neighborhood, we hoped it would bring comfort. What we have seen has exceeded our expectations.

Clients have reported increased comfort and reduced stress, along with a greater sense of stability and routine. The pets themselves are thriving, supported by safe spaces, bathing stations, and secure outdoor areas, while helping build community connections throughout the Pathways Neighborhood.

To help us continue supporting pets in our shelters, please visit www.smcares.org/petwishlist.



Barbara St. Louis

From Recovery to Renewal: Danny's Story

A spider bite may seem minor, but for Danny Hubbard, it triggered medical complications that changed the course of his life. The resulting infection nearly left him permanently disabled, ending his career as a CalFire firefighter and setting off a difficult period marked by homelessness, declining health, and substance use during his recovery.

When Danny entered St. Mary's Recuperative Care Program, he needed more than a place to recover. Through intensive case management and a CalAIM Enhanced Care Plan, he received assistance securing Medi-Cal, SSI, and other benefits, while accessing his CalPERS retirement. He was connected to ongoing medical care, transportation, substance use recovery support, and housing navigation.

Today, Danny is living at a STAND House, maintaining his sobriety, and participating in wellness classes on campus. He has regained his health, stability, and independence.

Danny's journey is a reminder that homelessness can happen to anyone and that recovery is possible with the right support at the right time. Through determination, partnership, and a commitment to healing, Danny is building a new chapter filled with hope and opportunity.



Danny Hubbard

OUR IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

These numbers reflect the growing reach of our programs and the continued need for services across our community.

Q1 2026

January–March 2026

2,192 Individuals Served

108,060 Services Provided

14,949 Safe Shelter Nights

52,681 Meals Served

23,274 Clothing & Showers

741 Individuals Sheltered



545 W. Sonora St.
Stockton, CA 95203

SUPPORT OUR MISSION – MAKE AN IMPACT TODAY



Financial Contributions

Monetary donations allow us to respond to where the need is greatest. Visit www.smcares.org



In-Kind Donations

In-Kind donations of food and clothing reduce our costs. Bring your in-kind donations to 545 W. Sonora St. Stockton, CA 95203



Volunteer With Us

Your time and talents are just as valuable as financial support. Give us a call 209-467-0703 or Email volunteer@smcares.org



Ready to get involved?

Visit: www.smcares.org
Email: info@smcares.org
Call: 209-467-0703

