



HART's General Meeting

Date: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Place: Oak Hills Church in room 201, 2nd floor of the main building.

Councilwoman Anna Rohrbough will be the guest speaker, and HART's programs, current goals, and vision for the future will be addressed. We hope to see you there, and please extend our invitation to family and friends in the community!





Monthly Volunteer Highlight

In 2017, Stephanie Valadez while she was a resident at Powerhouse Ministries, signed up as an overnight volunteer for the HART winter shelter. She was able to eat dinner with the guests and other volunteers while serving for the night. She states that, "The simple act of having a meal with someone you don't know can be life changing. We are all called to love our neighbor and it begins with

simply that."

Stephanie has worked at Oak Hills Church for the past five years as a Community Engagement Coordinator and she has been able to partner with HART throughout the year in various ways! Volunteering has helped her to see how she can connect with those who are unhoused on a deeper, more personal level. She encourages everyone to jump into what feels unfamiliar!

She says that, "Everyone needs to feel seen, loved and cared for. I have my own experiences of homelessness and addiction, and what I needed most was connection and community to help restore my life. I believe I have used my own personal experiences in this way to shape the way I serve others in my community. HART is run by volunteers who have a passion to make a difference in our community, which is amazing! We love our partnership and believe by continuing to learn and grow together, we can spread love to our community one person at a time."

Stephanie's suggestions to volunteers:

Be curious versus defensive. What we can learn from our unhoused neighbors (and anyone else different than us) is incredibly powerful.

Have a mindset of "being taught" by others. You'll be surprised at how much you learn about yourself!

Fundraising in 2024 is moving forward!

Committees for Big Day of Giving and the first annual "Holidays with HART" event are well underway! Big Day of Giving is May 2, 2024 and "Holidays with HART" will be at the Folsom Community Center on November 16, 2024. There are plenty of opportunities to help. If you'd like to be a part of the fundraising team, email HART's Fundraising Chair, Eric Gifford at ericgifford@hartoffolsom.org. Thank you!!

Visit us on Facebook

Kind regards, Your Team at HART of Folsom

Changing lives, one donation at a time.

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