

SHELTER
HOUSING
SOCIAL SERVICES

“To me the (Canon Barcus After School Program) means fun, really good homework help — without you guys I’d be lost on my homework — and all my friends. Last but not least, good staff.”

STUDENT IN THE CANON BARCUS
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES TO END HOMELESSNESS

ECS mobilizes very low-income individuals and families to overcome homelessness within a safe, supportive environment. Our comprehensive programs — from shelters, supportive housing, and employment training, to counseling, educational services, senior services and childcare — are all highly leveraged strategies to help people find permanent housing and develop the skills to maintain it.

Building a Future

THE CANON BARCUS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES
opened Canon Barcus Community House



for formerly homeless families in 2002. Forty-seven homeless families — including 118 children, call it home. Residents enjoy the benefits of on-site social services staff including case managers, an employment specialist, and a family resource specialist. St. Luke’s Hospital runs a

small health clinic located in the building, and there is an on-site infant and toddler program operated by Holy Family Day Home. *(continued inside)*

Dear Friends,

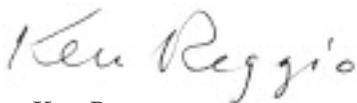
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS INVOLVEMENT in Episcopal Community Services. Without your support, ECS would have been hard-pressed to continue the vital programs which positively impacted more than 5,500 homeless and very low-income men, women, and children this past year.

Episcopal Community Services continues to build supportive communities for those who have lost everything, and give people the tools to achieve greater stability for themselves. It's remarkable what a person can accomplish with the support and compassion provided by our staff and volunteers. Each of ECS's programs provides individuals with the skills they need to develop positive decision-making and greater self-esteem.

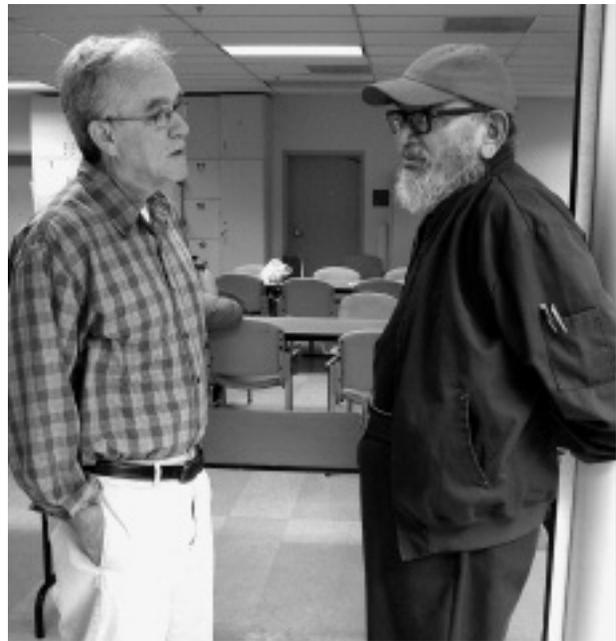
This issue of the newsletter highlights ECS programs for the oldest and youngest members of the community, including our homeless seniors support group, the after school program for five- to twelve-year-olds, and the infant and toddler program. Through these programs and others, ECS does more than help people survive; we help them thrive.

ECS's partnership of public, corporate, and individual support creates a unique opportunity to make a quantifiable difference in thousands of lives each year. We greatly appreciate your help in granting everyone the right to thrive through your financial support and volunteerism.

Sincerely,



Ken Reggio



PS: We also provide a safe environment from the streets 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, at our Next Door transitional shelter. We are excited to announce that as of November 2005, we are able to offer the same around the clock service at The Sanctuary shelter.

Building a Future

(CONTINUED FROM COVER)

ECS contracts with the Embarcadero YMCA to run an after school program for Canon Barcus kids ages five -

twelve. Director Alisha Garr is committed to developing and stabilizing a positive relationship among the 15-22 kids enrolled in the program each semester. Alisha believes that the healthy relation-

“To me the (Canon Barcus After School Program) means fun energetic homework help. When I need help with my math homework (the staff) help me... because math is hard.”

ships the kids have built in the After School Program have positively affected the Canon Barcus Community, by steadily encompassing all 47 families in a nurturing and socially active community.

The After School Program focuses on math, literacy, home work, and community. When the program began 2 years ago Alisha went home troubled everyday. The group had serious behavior problems then, and all the kids were adjusting to having a place to call home for the first time in their lives. Alisha explained that kids typically act out when going through a hard transition.

THE CANON BARCUS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Two years later Alisha is very proud to see a huge behavior improvement. Violence is almost non-existent now, and all the kids consider each other family. The older kids are starting to act as mentors to the younger children, and take on leadership roles. A new youth leader is chosen every week based on behavior. There is also a new 5th and 6th grade

Council, which is in charge of planning field trips. Alisha works closely with parents and case managers to ensure the



kids can benefit from a strong community, by building the trust they need to achieve a solid future.

Recently during homework time, a ten-year-old boy was working on a writing prompt which asked, “What will your life be like in 25 years?”

His response started with, “In 25 years I’ll be taking care of my mom, working, and going to school.”

Canon Barcus Infant and Toddler Program

Episcopal Community Services contracts with Holy Family Day Home to provide an infant and toddler program in Canon Barcus Community Housing for Families. For more than 100 years, Holy Family Day Home has been a pioneer in providing educational development for young children while nurturing positive interaction

with their families. The Canon Barcus Infant and Toddler Program is filled to capacity with 9 infants and 12 toddlers who participate five days a week. Most of the staff are bilingual in this ethnically diverse program, and they are regularly supported by volunteers and foster grandparents who donate their time.



No Place to Call Home

CANON KIP SENIOR CENTER

FOR THE LAST SEVEN years, ECS's Homeless Senior Support Group has been meeting twice a week at the Canon Kip Senior Center. This group of homeless and formerly homeless seniors gather on Tuesdays to solve their real world issues. Friday meetings consist of fellowship, focusing on good memories from the past, music, and dancing.

Senior Center Director Lolita Kintanar will tell you that case management is vital to successfully placing homeless seniors in housing. She is currently managing 20



regular clients per month, while each of her two staff see about 35 regular clients each. Of those 90 seniors, 58 are actively taking part in the Support Group at Canon Kip, and 72 are eating the provided meals every week.

Twelve members of the support group have moved into supportive housing this year, and another nine are pending.

Lolita and Case Managers, Arlene Reyes and Aurora Echano, understand the extra obstacles homeless seniors face on the streets and in the shelters. When talking to her group about the difficulties they face Lolita says, "It's up to you to make that step. ECS offers all the programs to help you make the next step, when you are ready. We will always accept you no matter what."

Off the Street and Out of the Shelter

BOBBY BOGAN IS A CHRONICALLY homeless 65-year-old man, who was considered a career criminal 10 years ago when he was using alcohol and drugs excessively. After spending a lot of time in prison, he thought he had lived through the worst that life had to offer, but then he became a homeless senior citizen. Bobby says he has turned his life around, by coming to the Homeless Senior Support Group for two and a half months now. He's moving out of the shelter and into supportive housing by the end of the year.

Now a mentor for other homeless seniors, Bobby is especially aware of the challenges for homeless senior women, and has started a group called Seniors Organizing Seniors.

Bobby wants SOS to be the voice of homeless and formerly homeless seniors who choose to speak out against elder abuse. He says, "I hope we can all come together and help ourselves get out of this mess."

When asked how ECS has helped him Bobby says, "I really appreciate what you guys have done for me. It's all because of the staff here. The support group itself is a real needed entity in the homeless population, and in the senior population. Groups like this help us to stay focused on ourselves, and help us to keep some hope alive, because it's real easy to lose hope out on the streets. Groups like this have helped me a lot."



A Rare Opportunity to Make the Gift of a Lifetime

Ends December 31, 2005

THE TAX RELIEF BILL signed by President Bush on September 23, 2005 provides an advantageous way for generous people to make charitable gifts. For the rest of 2005, if you are over the age of 59, you may make tax-free charitable gifts to charity from an IRA, 401(k), or 403(b) retirements plan.

Why is this noteworthy? Up to now, if you wished to make a gift to Episcopal Community Services (or another charity) from your qualified retirement plan, the withdrawal counted as adding to your annual taxable income, and any off-setting charitable deduction was subject to income restrictions. From now until December 31, 2005, these restrictions are lifted.

For example, a donor with a sizable IRA, 401(k), or 403(b) may wish to consider making a gift to:

- **Pre-pay a pledge.**
- **Support a special program or need.**
- **Establish an endowment fund to begin perpetual support of an important program.**

If you are over the age of 70 and are already taking annual minimum required distributions from your plan, you may make a gift to charity of this entire distribution and pay no tax on it. If you leave your children your IRA, 401(k), or 403(b) plan, they will pay income tax when they inherit it.

If your retirement funds are quite meager, this may not be a good idea. But, for people whose retirement plans are one of their larger assets, this may be a good way to make your charitable gifts. Before making any significant financial moves, particularly if this has tax implications, please consult with a professional tax or financial advisor who is familiar with your personal circumstances.

Questions? Call Regan Murphy at ECS (415-487-3706). We will be glad to assist you and to empower your generosity.

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ECS

Episcopal Community Services

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**ECS is challenged to raise
\$800,000 by the end of June.
Your gift contributes to the
strength of our programs.**

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WHAT'S INSIDE:

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A Rare Opportunity

From the Desk of the
Executive Director

Episcopal Community Services

Who we are

ECS is a public benefit organization with a family of programs that provide creative responses and offer solutions to the challenge of homelessness:

The Sanctuary

Next Door Transitional Shelter

Interfaith Winter Shelter

Canon Kip Supportive Housing

Pacific Bay Inn Supportive Housing

The Elm Supportive Housing

The Hillsdale Supportive Housing

Folsom-Dore Supportive Housing

The Mentone Supportive Housing

The Rose Hotel Supportive Housing

The LeNain Supportive Housing for Seniors

Canon Barcus Supportive Housing for Families

Canon Kip Senior Center

The Skills Center

The CHEFS Program

