

# The Spotlight

Highlighting People, Programs, and Services



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## Welcome from our Executive Director, Beth Stokes

We're excited to relaunch our monthly newsletter with a new name, energy, and original content. Our goal is to keep you updated on ECS's impact in the community with permanent supportive housing, emergency shelter, and essential programs to alleviate homelessness such as job training, social enterprise, adult education, and senior services.

Look to us monthly for highlights of new programs, services and build-outs. We'll also highlight volunteers, residents, staff and donors to keep you more connected, informed, and involved.

San Francisco has elected a new Mayor!! We look forward to working in partnership with Mayor-elect Breed and her team.

We hope you enjoy this first edition of our new newsletter and stay tuned as we continue to solidify its format and content.



*Beth Stokes*

Executive Director

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## SF Homeless Project 2018

In 2016, The San Francisco Chronicle and other news organizations formed the SF Homeless Project, a groundbreaking initiative to focus on the city's seemingly intractable homelessness crisis.

Learn more about the current state of homelessness in SF and what is being done:

**San Francisco Chronicle:** [Gateway to new lives](#)

**KQED:** [San Francisco's Navigation Centers, Three years in ABC7:](#)

**SF official:** [Homelessness more visible now, but not worse](#) **San**

**Francisco Chronicle:** [How You Can Help](#)

Read more articles here: [SF Homeless Project](#)

## Coverage Spotlight



## 2018 CHEFS Gala Raises Nearly \$300,000

Thank you to all who attended and supported our 14th Annual CHEFS Gala on June 7th, we couldn't have done it without you. With your help, we raised nearly \$300,000 for ECS programming, including our marquee CHEFS program ([Conquering Homelessness through Employment in Food Services](#)).

We've posted photos from the event on [Facebook](#), please check them out, tag yourself, and show your friends your philanthropic side.

The Gala included tasty bites from 24 Bay Area restaurants and sips from 7 wineries and breweries, the premiere of "[Albert's Story](#)," a video focused on CHEFS graduate Albert Torres, and 95 silent and live auction items.

A huge shout out to Chef Albert Torres, who was our featured CHEFS graduate at the Gala. Learn more about Albert's story by visiting our website or clicking [HERE](#).



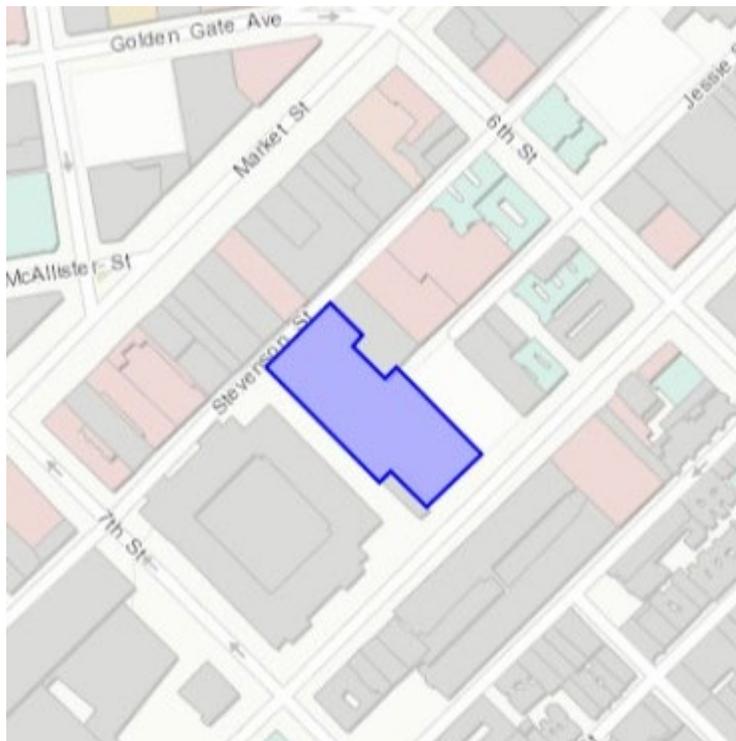
**Chef Albert in the kitchen at The Battery**

## We're Building San Francisco's Largest Supportive Housing Development

ECS will soon begin construction of the largest supportive housing project in San Francisco's history, near Mission and 7<sup>th</sup> with partner Mercy Housing. This development will include 100 apartments for the highest need seniors and 150 for adults experiencing chronic homelessness.

The new site will become a flagship for San Francisco and include pioneering integration with the Department of Public Health and the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, which will permanently site a health clinic, vital community programs, and staff within the building.

We are excited to be exploring the relocation and expansion of the CHEFS program and an associated social enterprise into the ground floor commercial space on Mission within the development. Dedicated culinary teaching space and transitional employment for graduates will lead to more jobs for formerly homeless students who may otherwise remain disengaged from the workforce.



# Housing Spotlight



## New Site: The Minna Lee

The Minna Lee, a freshly renovated, permanent supportive housing site on the 6th Street corridor, welcomed its first homeless residents just this month. The Minna Lee offers 50 units of permanent supportive housing for adults experiencing chronic homelessness and a contains a spacious community room.

All support services and case management at the Minna Lee are provided by Episcopal Community Services (ECS), with property management provided by our partners from Delivering Innovation in Supportive Housing (DISH).

## Coming Soon: 5th & Bryant Navigation Center

ECS will be the lead agency for the newest Navigation Center at 5th & Bryant Streets, estimated to open August 2018. The City's Department of Public works has broken ground and the site will be the third Navigation Center in ECS's portfolio of emergency housing for people directly exiting street homelessness.

Over 80 beds are planned with 30 specially earmarked for women. Navigation Centers bridge high-need homeless adults to permanent housing and other exits from homelessness via low-threshold, service-rich programs that include Harm Reduction Therapy (HRT).



## Moving On Landscape Analysis

In partnership with the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH), ECS is embarking on a Moving On Landscape Analysis to identify best practices and resources to expand the training and employment opportunities for supportive housing residents and expanding their employment outcomes and housing options. CSH will also conduct a brief landscape summary to determine the initial feasibility of using Pay for Success as a tool in efforts to scale and implement Moving On in supportive Housing.

## Program Spotlight



## Volunteer Spotlight



### Next Door Shelter: Frances Pinnock

The library in ECS's Next Door Shelter, is a beloved readers' retreat for the 334 homeless guests who find respite and safety there daily. Keeping the library doors open to residents Wednesday evenings, is Frances Pinnock, a former public defender who had fought for tenants' rights along Sixth Street for many years.

"It has love and drama!" says Frances, recommending a title to a resident. For the past 14 months, Frances has been volunteering at Next Door and extends herself to guests who may have questions about the 2500 books or media on offer. She says it might be the fact that she's older or that she's English which first strikes residents' curiosities, but her presence has kept residents returning to borrow books, watch a movie, or ask for one of her recommendations.

What motivates Frances is "the opportunity to get to know some of the people at Next Door." Reflecting on her contributions to the library and what she'd advise prospective volunteers, she emphasizes ECS's key value: dignity and respect: "It's very important [with] this population because a lot haven't been treated with respect and dignity. And in some ways, they've gotten used to being treated like that." We thank Frances Pinnock for her generous contribution of skills and time to the Next Door Shelter Library.

If you would like to become more involved or would like to sign up your group for recurring shifts to positively impact an ECS site, please email Amar at [aalhosani@ecs-sf.org](mailto:aalhosani@ecs-sf.org).



## San Francisco Interfaith Council

At their breakfast held on June 14th, the San Francisco Interfaith Council (SFIC) gave their heartfelt thanks and gave certificates of recognition to the following Episcopal and Episcopal-affiliated organizations for their participation and support this past year of the SFIC Winter Homeless Shelter:

The Episcopal Diocese of California Episcopal Community Services  
Grace Cathedral  
SF Night Ministry  
Asian Commission of DioCal Youth Group Church of St. Mary the Virgin  
Church of the Incarnation

The Winter Homeless Shelter has been operated by the SFIC since 1988, in partnership with SFIC member congregations, the SF Dept. of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, Episcopal Community Services, and the SF Night Ministry.



ECS Executive Director Beth Stokes with SFIC Executive Director Michael Pappas

## Recognition Spotlight



## Staff Spotlight



### Patricia Turner

After seven years of working at ECS, nothing surprises ECS Day Shift Supervisor, Patricia Turner. Starting as an on-call Service coordinator and working her way up to her current responsibilities, Patricia has worked with literally thousands of homeless guests at Next Door and The Sanctuary. As a result, she recognizes the challenges and strengths of ECS's shelter guests, "It's hard. There's a lot of stuff to do to maintain placement in a shelter, and everybody needs to get along."

What Patricia emphasizes to guests is the importance of their consistently working with San Francisco Shelters Treatment Access and Resource Team (SF-START), especially for those with behavioral health issues. Her daily interaction with guests allows her insight to assess and notify the SF-START case managers if guests, for example, are refusing self-care or have underlying medical issues.

"Our homeless guests aren't bad people," Patricia reminds us. More poignantly, she says, "Some people don't have a choice."

Although there are systems and resources available to individuals experiencing homelessness in San Francisco, Patricia understands many guests feel that it's those very systems that have let them down in the first place. Building the trust of guests in our emergency shelters, Patricia advocates for "more low-income housing, places people can afford" to be able to move on.

As ECS staff, Patricia asks all of us to have compassion for people: "Don't look down, pitch in!"



## Kevin Bartlett

ECS permanent supportive housing resident Kevin Bartlett creates phenomenal portraits. His grandfather once offered to help him go to the San Francisco Academy of Art, but he refused, reasoning that “art school would just be drawing fruit bowls. So instead of going to art school, I went to school in the streets.”

While homeless, Kevin sketched to keep himself grounded. “My art was the only thing that ever gave me some sort of solace. If I opened my sketch book, all of the other crap faded away.” When asked why that was, Kevin answered, “Art pacifies me. I got a lot of anxiety and a lot of things that have happened in my life that I don’t have control over. Drawing gives me time to think it all through.” Some of Kevin’s drawings take over 800 hours to complete.

Two of Kevin’s pieces that were placed in galleries sold for a decent sum, and he’s thrilled that one of his pieces is halfway around the world in France. But to make a real living, Kevin is studying to become a tattoo artist, focused on portrait tattoos. “There’s something to be said about immortalizing people who mean something to you.” His sentiment is beautifully reflected in the portrait of his recently deceased father featured here.

## Resident Spotlight



## Donor Spotlight



### Herb Jeong

This month, we are introducing an occasional feature highlighting an ECS donor who shares with us why they give to ECS. If you would like to be featured in a future Spotlight, please **contact** Jocelyn Draw, Individual Giving Manager.

First up, meet Herb, a sustaining donor who makes recurring monthly gifts to support our work.

#### **What inspired you to start giving to ECS?**

I wanted to support work that was being done to address the growing homelessness and poverty in the city. I'm an Episcopalian, so of course ECS was my first consideration! But more importantly, I knew about ECS's programs and services and felt that ECS would use my contributions effectively.

#### **How does supporting ECS make you feel?**

I had a chance a while back to volunteer in the Adult Education Center and appreciated seeing one of your programs first-hand. It felt fantastic to see ECS really making a meaningful difference in improving people's lives.

#### **Would you encourage others to give?**

We are all part of this community, and by supporting one another, we can help to make this city a better place for all. For me, giving is an expression of my faith by sharing God's abundance and blessings with others.

Thank you, Herb! We appreciate your partnership as we work to make homelessness a thing of the past for more people. Click [HERE](#) to join Herb and become a donor today.

Show that you value the programs and services we provide to San Francisco's poorest residents. Join Herb and become a sustaining supporter. When you give monthly, you can provide for the programs you care about all year round. It's easy! Simply select "Monthly Gift" and choose your monthly amount. Then set it up through your credit or debit card. Make your difference now and become a sustaining supporter of ECS.



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Directly engage and be a part of the solution

[CHECK OUT OUR VOLUNTEER CALENDAR](#)

[Donate Now](#)

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Episcopal Community Services | 165 8th Street | 415.487.3300 | [ecs-sf.org](http://ecs-sf.org)

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