

## MISSION STATEMENT

Ready to Work seeks to reduce the number of homeless people in San Joaquin County by helping men with a history of homelessness or involvement in the criminal justice system rebuild their lives and the lives of their families.

Ready to Work will help its clients achieve self-sufficiency through cost-effective employment and housing programs that incorporate case management, counseling, treatment, financial planning, work training, paid work, job placement, and assistance in obtaining permanent housing. These programs will enable clients to develop a strong work ethic, commit to personal responsibility, and establish financial stability.

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# YOUR COMMITMENT, PROGRAM, SUCCESS!

### *It is because of you.*

Everything that we have accomplished in Ready to Work's first 15 months is because of you, your desire to make a change in our community, your faith that people can change their lives if given the support, your trust that a holistic approach can make an impact on our community's struggle with homelessness.

It is because of you that 144 men have been provided shelter and services by Ready to Work.

It is because of you that 30 men reunited with their families, that 15 men moved into shared housing, that 5 men moved into their own apartments, and that 37 more are actively working toward their own self-sufficiency.

It is because of you that 38% of our active clients have jobs outside Ready to Work.

It is because of you that we have provided 12,363 hours of direct employment through Ready to Work's social enterprises.

It is because of you that our active clients who have stayed longer than 30 days have an average savings of \$466.18, and because of you that five active clients have more than \$1,000 in the bank.

It is because of you that Edward Dixon has his own car, moved back in with his wife, and

is employed more than 40 hours a week at a local warehouse. It is because of you that Theodore Stamtelos, who had hopped from one prison stay and one community to the next, has a certification as a truck driver, his own vehicle, and his own place to live. It is because of you that Brock Davidson, who has struggled with drug use, is a certified tradesman, has a steady job as a glazier, can help support his family, and is looking for permanent housing. It's because of you that Patrick Wortham, who spent more than a year on the streets and struggled with alcohol and drug use, has completed 60 hours of self-help classes, has a job at a local Maytag warehouse, and is one of the District Attorney-Stockton Police Department LEAD program's biggest successes.

It is because of you that this is all possible.

And it is why we are thankful every day that you have chosen to support Ready to Work.

## DONATE: Because this is our home

We believe in ending homelessness, breaking cycles of crime and poverty, and empowering people to take control of their own lives.

We do this by providing shelter, support services, and direct employment to homeless men and men exiting the criminal justice system.

And we do it in San Joaquin County because this is our home.

Join us in ending homelessness and joblessness – invest in men and families who are already investing in themselves.

### ***Make tax-deductible donations to:***

***Ready to Work, Tax ID 81-4884512, 119 E Weber Ave., Stockton, CA 95202***

# RTW CLIENTS FIND EMPLOYMENT

The goal of Ready to Work is to prepare homeless men for long-term employment, and to help them secure that employment. Long-term income is the key to maintaining housing and breaking cycles of homelessness, poverty, and involvement with the criminal justice system.

As part of that effort, Ready to Work directly employs clients, and we've provided 12,363 hours of work to clients in our first 15 months of operation. This employment prepares clients for the daily "get-up-and-go" demands of employment, while letting them receive coaching from our program's Work Crew Leaders and allowing clients to save money for their future needs. Our work crews are active with Caltrans and the City of Stockton, the Downtown Stockton Alliance, Miracle Mile Improvement District, and are seeking a new



contract with the City of Modesto. These Work Crews also provide services on a donation basis to St. Mary's Dining Room and Taking Back Lodi, and participated in the all-day Smith Canal Cleanup in Stockton, which led to one of our clients being offered a full-time job with a local company.

The experience gained on our Work Crews – along with the relationships built by Ready to Work staff – helps our clients obtain jobs outside Ready to Work. Out of our active clients who have been in the program longer than 30 days, 46% have jobs in the community. At any one time, between 30% and 50% of our active clients are working, and that doesn't count those who are participating on Ready to Work's in-house work crews.

This pathway to employment gives our clients a real shot at earning a stable income and providing for themselves, which is at the heart of them finding self-sufficiency and us completing our mission.



## ENGAGING THE CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

Those who are chronically homeless face the most difficult path to self-sufficiency. These individuals have been homeless for more than a year and live with a permanent, disabling condition. In our first 15 months providing shelter and services, 12 of our 144 clients have been chronically homeless, and 32 of 144

have reported some type of disabling condition. Of those, 16 have self-identified as struggling with mental illness.

Providing opportunity for this population is vital in our community's effort to reduce the number of people who are living on the streets with major obstacles to obtaining employment and housing.

## STRUGGLING WITH ADDICTION

Ready to Work clients often must overcome a history of alcohol or substance misuse. 56% of our clients self-identify as having an issue with alcohol, drugs, or both when they enter the housing campus. Managing and overcoming these habits is a vital part of our clients' journey toward long-term employment, housing, and self-sufficiency.

Often, a return to use is triggered by a negative life event, such as a family dissolution or loss of an opportunity at work. Case managers, facility monitors, and group sessions work together to provide clients the support to weather negative life events and develop the personal resiliency and resources to overcome them in the future.

## RTW CLIENTS FIND HOUSING

We want homeless men to become permanently housed. It's part of the core of our mission, and why Ready to Work focuses on helping clients obtain jobs. Because earned income is the key to long-term housing stability.

So far, our efforts show better results than those of other shelters and transitional housing programs. While current data shows that it is typical for only 6% of individuals who leave a shelter to end up in permanent housing, 13% of those who stayed at least one day at

Ready to Work exited to permanent housing, and 35% of those who stayed at least one day left to stable housing situations and ended their homelessness.

Of the other 39% of clients (57 clients) who left after staying at least one night, most (35) exited without allowing us to interview them or didn't know where they were going. Others left to other projects, hotels, or the streets. While we know that some returned to homelessness, it is difficult to make conclusions about this population's ultimate destination.