

April 2021

Dear Friends,

Why do we love April? Because we honor all the volunteers – women, children, youth, and men who give precious time, talent, and helping hands that support women without homes – as a part of National Volunteer Appreciation month.

The pandemic has curtailed volunteering opportunities and we know that many of you miss helping in shelter – not more than we and the women at our shelters, miss



you! Through it all, you continued to support The Sophia Way in so many ways – sharing updates with your communities, participating in gatherings, and ensuring the women had everything they needed to stay safe and healthy.

You provided more than 45,000 meals to nourish the women. You held numerous donation drives to stock the shelters with cleaning supplies, masks, clothing, and more. You volunteered more than 300 hours helping unpack and sort donations that make the shelters a safe and welcoming place.

Thank you for your immeasurable generosity and kindness. Each of you are an inspiration to us.

As Oscar Wilde said, "The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention."

We love our volunteers!

Warmly,

Alisa Chatinsky Executive Director

P.S. Thank you to all who attended our inaugural Coffee with the ED. I was delighted to <u>respond</u> to your insightful questions.



ヘイトの住処 (すみか) はない El odio no tiene hogar aquí It is more than a movement. It is an affirmation of values to ensure everyone is safe, has a sense of belonging, and embraces a shared accountability to support everyone and treat them with dignity.

The Sophia Way refuses bigotry and racism, standing side-by-side with our Asian brothers and sisters, and continues to be a welcoming community for all.

Love, Care, and Some Wins

We often find unexpected friendships that develop and are nurtured in challenging circumstances. Tyra and Vanessa who stay at Helen's Place bonded over their shared love of the Seahawks. They enjoy watching games together. And encourage each other in their efforts to move from homelessness to permanent housing, looking forward to the day when they can share a game in their own homes.



Maia, during a recent hospitalization, discovered she had diabetes. Now staying at Sophia's Place, she is now taking better care of herself with diet and medication. Maia meets her case manager to keep moving forward with her goals.

And, we celebrated when Lois moved from Holly House (our transitional housing) into her own apartment, Patty finally got her driver's license, and Clara found a job that will help her save money to buy a car.



Join us as a fundraiser this year!

It's easy to get started today.



April is our "clean start" drive month. Donate new underwear, cleaning wipes, and disinfectants by ordering from our <u>Amazon</u>
Wishlist!



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The Sophia Way

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