



REGIONAL EMERGENCY SHELTER TEAM

WARMTH * NOURISHMENT * COMPASSION

December 2012



REST'S WINTER SEASON - SO FAR

The Numbers:

We are now into the third week of our 19 week annual operating schedule. Already we are seeing an unusually high number of minor children coming into our shelters. We have welcomed eleven different children which is startling, since we provided shelter to 31 children for the entire season last year. Early indicators in this third week show an uptick in the number of guests as well as more children. Overall, the number of people utilizing REST is slightly higher than last year. For the first two weeks, we have averaged a bit over 17 guests per night. Over 240 beds have been filled which includes 45 filled by children.

Success Stories and

IN THIS ISSUE

[Volunteer Spotlight: Dennis Green](#)

[We Need Volunteers Now](#)

[Web Site Help Needed](#)

[You Can Help In Many Ways](#)

[Our Volunteers Speak](#)



**VOLUNTEERS ARE
REALLY NEEDED!**
**Volunteers provide the life
blood for REST.**

It's that simple.

Without your assistance, we cannot stay open. If you have already completed our training and haven't yet signed up for a task, please do so now. Remember to go to the Lotsa Helping Hands website at

www.lotsahelpinghands.com

If you are unsure about how to sign up, contact either Val

Challenges:

We are encouraged to see at least three families placed in the cold weather housing facilities sponsored by the Salvation Army.

But the challenges still abound. Again, we are receiving guests at

REST this year that also used our shelter last winter. It is heartbreaking to see families rely on REST as their only option in protecting their children from the elements.

God has used REST through its faithful volunteer workers to start establishing a shelter safety net for women and families in this region. However, for REST to move ahead and expand its season and services, our friends and acquaintances who reside in this community must leave the sidelines and join the team to further this effort.

Do you know such a person or persons? Please reach out to them and tell them about REST. Explain how they can get involved and contribute whatever time or resources that they can. We are just getting started this winter and still have much work to do during the remainder of the shelter season.

Volunteer Spotlight:

Dennis Green

This month's volunteer spotlight is



Loewen:

dvloewen@hotmail.com or

Dennis Green:

greensettters@aol.com

If you want to help but have not attended our 90 minute training class, let us know. The next class is penciled in for the first week of January. If you are really burning to get involved, we may be able to arrange an earlier date. Either way, we will do what is necessary to get you ready to go. But you must take that first step.

Volunteering just once or twice a month goes a long way in keeping REST functioning. Jump in right now!



Media Techies Needed!

REST needs volunteers who are skilled in web site design and maintenance, as well as any creative video gurus. If you have these skills and wish to REALLY help the REST mission, contact Dennis Green at 701-1585. Thanks!!

You Can Help In Many Ways

If you know some one who might be interested in learning about REST and homeless issues, you can help by forwarding this

focused on the REST Board Vice President, Dennis Green, who joined the REST Board in the summer of 2010. Born in Oakland, Dennis grew up in Contra Costa County and earned a degree in engineering from UCLA.



He was fascinated with flying at an early age and using summer job money, he qualified for a private pilot's license by his 19th birthday. After graduation from college, Dennis joined the Air Force and during a career that would last over 23 years, he logged over 5,000 hours flying a variety of aircraft, mainly C-141's and the nation's largest plane, the C-5A. Dennis was involved with many military operations including the evacuation of Saigon during the last days of the Vietnam War, the support of Israel during the 1973 Yom Kippur War and Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He has flown into most of the countries in the world including such out of the way places as Jordan, Iran, Pakistan, China, Russia, Senegal, the Congo, Australia, Greenland, South Africa,

newsletter to them. Just click the "Forward email" link below.

Warmth * Nourishment *
Compassion



During this holiday season, we would like to remind you that

REST

is an all volunteer

non-profit

corporation and each

donation is

tax deductible.

Donations can be sent

to REST at P.O. Box

688, Yuba City CA

95992

THANK YOU!



**FROM OUR
VOLUNTEERS:**

Cuba and Indonesia. He even had one trip down to Antarctica! Dennis also served as a staff officer working as a process design engineer and as a Strategic Forces Analyst while assigned to the Pentagon. Early in his career he was stationed in Charleston, SC where he met his wife Dianne. In a marriage lasting over 37 years they have lived with their two young children, in five different states and the Philippine Islands before finally coming to California.

During his final assignment to Travis AFB in Fairfield, Dennis was put in charge of the base's environmental program. That experience came in handy when he retired from the Air Force and was selected to take over the environmental compliance division for Sacramento County. After 15 years, Dennis retired from this "second career" and he and Dianne settled in Marysville.

Dennis and Dianne are members of River Valley Christian Fellowship Church and their son and daughter are now grown and launched on their careers. Their son is a three tour Air Force veteran of the Iraq War, and their daughter is an executive with the Nike Corporation.

While volunteering as his church's office manager, Dennis met Dave and Val Loewen and became involved with REST. He also serves on the Hands of Hope Board. For REST, Dennis acts as the transportation coordinator

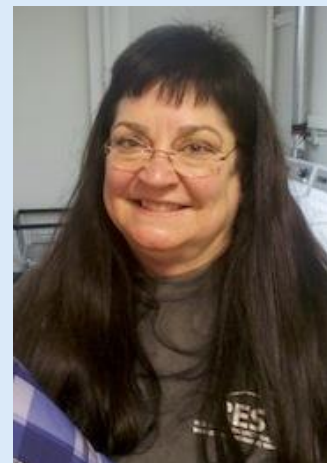


"How can we turn our backs on any of God's created children? Just volunteer once and put your fear or hesitation aside. The homeless are just people like us. Lifting them up will lift up our entire community. The need is so great and there is so much to be done."

Jacquie Bockius

*REST
Volunteer*

"I was trained to clean teeth but now my role is to help by doing what is needed



and also has worked many shifts as an overnight supervisor. He says that his involvement with REST and Hands of Hope comes from being conflicted over the suffering of the poor in our world. Dennis says, "I was told by a wise person to go where evil has destroyed lives, for there you will find hope in the presence of Jesus Christ. The suffering of disadvantaged women and children is the result of an evil that exists in so many parts of the richest country in the world." Dennis says that as he matured in his faith, he has become increasingly angered that this form of evil exists "on my watch, during my time, in plain view in my community" and that he and Dianne strive to "do what God allows us to knock it down a few notches." As Dennis puts it, "God has blessed all of us with gifts to take on evil wherever we find it and to do something. That something may involve our time and/or our finances and/or frequent prayer. But just sitting on the sidelines not doing anything is unacceptable." Never being a person to just sit on the sidelines, Dennis is committed to strengthening the ties of REST to the Yuba-Sutter area, whether through outreach to the business community and local government, or fundraising through grants and donations.

which includes cleaning toilets. Each of us has gifts. Just come to volunteer and use what you have been blessed with."

*Lynn Jepson
REST Volunteer*



"You may be hesitant to get personally involved because of uncertainty about what to do or how to help. My advice is to just jump in and follow your heart. Don't think about it, just do it. Pray for the homeless. Pat them on the back. Do the work to show you care."

*Ronnie Amaro
REST Volunteer*

"Everyone
deserves
a
war



m bed and meal. We all
need to get over the
stereotypes that are
often played out in our
culture. These are just
people who need
someone to talk to and
offer a caring attitude."

*Deanna & Lester Jennings
REST Volunteers*

WARMTH

*

NOURISHMENT

*

COMPASSION

[Forward email](#)