



## The Encouragement Center Hope & Help for the Needy

#### 20th Anniversary Edition

## Celebrating 20 Years in Ministry!

The one who gives to the poor will never lack....

Proverb 28:27

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**<u>20 years</u>!** What a journey this has been!

It was 20 years ago when Tina found herself at a stoplight in Oceanside watching a down-& -out homeless woman. She asked God, "Help me see her with Your eyes, Lord!" That prayer changed everything; from then on, Tina saw homeless folks all over the place!

She loves to feed people so her first thought was to buy them food, but often the people disappeared before she returned with the meal. So she recruited her good friend, Cece Stone, and they began making up bountiful sack lunches and going directly to the streets to meet the hunger of the poor. As it grew, many volunteers came on board to give hope & help to the poor by meeting physical & spiritual needs.

TEC evolved to helping the *Working Poor* with groceries and household supplies. They only need a hand up to keep them from being homeless.

#### • Hope & Help for the Needy •

Day of Encouragement is TEC's newest program. A full day of filling people with hope, confidence and faith. To Refresh & Recharge for the future.

**BEST DAYS ARE AHEAD!** 







## Our Christmas Adopt-a-Family was a Huge Hit!

Through your generous donations we were able to help provide gifts for several families.

It is always fun seeing the kids open their presents!

We were able to also provide gift cards for groceries and Christmas meals.





Reach us here: www.TheEncouragementCenter.org

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# DO NOT GIVE UP HOPE

## Takin' it to the Streets

The foundation from day one of this ministry is our *Takin' it to the Streets* program.

Most cities in our area will not allow us to meet at specific places for meal distribution, so we take sack lunches directly out to the streets.

We drive around with keen eyes, looking for the homeless. We find them digging in dumpsters, sleeping under benches and often freezing cold. We also give out beanies, gloves and toiletries. If we have clothing, sleeping bags and blankets, we take those as well.

The need is great. With many thanks to our donors, we were able to feed over 1,000 needy folks in 2016!





"If you can't feed 100 people, then feed just one." Mother Teresa



## Sack Lunch & Toiletry Bag Making Parties

Making up 100's of sack lunches and toiletry bags at a time requires many volunteers—we have the BEST! It's a lot of fun! Come join us for our next party!

### SATURDAY March 4, 2017

10:00am The River Family Church 390 Mimosa Ave Vista, CA 92081 Lunch will be served!



## **Community Meals**

Our meals bring in upwards of 150 people, the homeless and the working poor. We provide a full hot meal, a meal to take with them, toiletries, clothing and more!





## We Help the Working Poor



Years ago, while out on the streets feeding the homeless, we ran into many people who had a roof over their heads but ran out of money before the month was over. We began to bring them groceries, diapers and other basic provi-

sions to help them make it through. A hand up, not out.

They have jobs, they are working! Often all it takes is one of their kids getting sick or their car breaking down and they miss a few days of work....and whammo, they are in dire straits.

We help them by providing gift cards for groceries (so they can buy what they like to eat,) and gift cards for gas for their cars. If



## "To ease another's heartache is to forget one's own." Abraham Lincoln

Book Tina to Speak

Tina has uncanny ability to cut-to-the-chase which draws out of people the desire to improve their lives. Tina ministers from her wealth of life experience in conquering fear, triumphing over abuse, and overcoming financial inadequacy. Tina delivers "Holy Ghost Injections of Truth" in her workshops and seminars offered through churches, business groups, and retreats. Topics include: **Gift of Giving · God is Good · Having Done All · Time Alone with God** 

You can reach Tina at: tina@tinamarino.com or 760-271-8331



#### SPOTLIGHT ON OUR DONORS!

#### We have the best donors in the whole wide world!

We can't name them all in each newsletter, but we want to recognize our donors who are loyal throughout the year. Here are a few who are so faithful in their giving to help us fulfill our mission to help the poor! You can join them here: Partner Now!

The Encouragement Center is an IRS 501C3 Public Charity • Tax ID #90-0123333



**Monthly Partners** Rob & Lisa O'Carroll Their family loves being part of our Christmas Adopt-a-Family program! We appreciate their monthly charitableness to our cause!



Monthly Partner Lisa Storey Lisa has been a regular monthly donor for a few years now. She has a real heart for the poor and loves to help those in need!



Monthly Partner **Tina Downey** For over 7 years, Tina has given monthly in support of our mission! She believes that one is never too old to dream!



**Champion Givers** Carl & Sara Sheeler The Sheeler's are a benevolent couple who are a joy to know as friends! They support TEC above & beyond the call!

#### How You Can Help Us Help Those In Need YOU!



Donate by credit card online now by clicking here: **Donate Now!** 

You can make a one-time donation or partner with us by monthly recurring gift.









You can shop on our Online Store. We have Grocery, Gas and Other Gift Cards that are given directly to the needy when you purchase them.

You can shop online by clicking here: **<u>Shop Now!</u>** 

Donate by check: Made payable to THE ENCOURAGEMENT CENTER

Mail to: P O Box 4350, Carlsbad, CA 92018

Become a paid FUNDRAISER for us! We need talented and outgoing persons to present The Encouragement Center to corporate donors and foundations.

Please call Tina if you are interested! 760-271-8331

Volunteer for our events! Volunteer Here!

SPREAD THE WORD!!! Tell everyone you know about our mission!