Then and Now
Ways to Give . . .

We are thankful for the many ways our community supports our work. Here are some different ways you can support the work we do:

Time  Become a volunteer in one of our many programs by lending a helping hand to our staff, sitting on a fundraising committee or joining one of our active Boards.

Treasure  Provide monetary support by giving through the Annual Fund, sponsoring or attending a special event like Edible Extravaganza, donating in-kind goods or supplies or by making a planned gift.

Talent  Offer to share one of your talents and create teachable moments with the people we serve and our employees.

For more information, please contact:

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Visit centerforhumanservices.org/giving

Center for Human Services (CHS) is a nonprofit agency serving youth and families since 1970. Our mission is to change lives and build futures through programs that strengthen and support youth and families. We provide proven prevention, education, treatment, counseling and shelter services in Stanislaus County.

To Contact Us:

 EMAIL: info@centerforhumanservices.org

 CALL: (209) 526-1476

 VISIT: Center for Human Services  
1700 McHenry Village Way, Suite 11  
Modesto, CA 95350

 ONLINE: Visit centerforhumanservices.org/newsletter to read the online version of Center Line and to learn more about us.
When I considered a move from Florida to Modesto in 1971 as a 27-year-old psychologist, part of the allure was a new job, being closer to music like the Grateful Dead and the Beach Boys, and testing the waters of the counter culture of northern California that represented a break from traditional authority and embraced experimentation. But, one of my fears as I considered the move was the image of drug-crazed hippies on every corner of every city in California. Well, they weren’t on every corner but young people experimenting with hallucinogenic drugs was a new phenomenon in the early 1970s that caused a lot of concern.

Soon after moving here in 1972, I discovered and joined the board of directors of Head Rest, Stanislaus County’s break off of the Haight Ashbury Free Clinic in San Francisco, an organization that was established in 1967 to provide free substance abuse and mental health services to the thousands of young people who were descending on the City. The Haight Ashbury Clinic became our model. Housed at St. Paul’s Church at 17th/I where Ralston Towers now sits, Head Rest offered 24-hour emergency services for young people on drugs or in crisis. It was the only community option. It was an all-volunteer effort of crisis counselors with one paid staff member, plus a board of directors that included reputable community members like Jim Enochs and well-established others.

There was a different work culture at Head Rest from my work world as a psychologist for Stanislaus County. One could palpably feel the therapeutic environment available to clients (and staff) that one usually finds only in volunteer or nonprofit groups. Indeed, it was Head Rest’s shift in the mid-1970s from a largely volunteer effort with spaghetti dinner fundraisers to a grant-based organization with the trappings of a bureaucracy that prompted me to move on as it was too similar to my daytime job.

I have never lost sight of what Head Rest meant to me and this community. When it evolved into Center for Human Services (CHS) in the 1980s, I was not surprised by the continuation of a myriad of services it provided as I knew there remained a need for those services for our most vulnerable and those who developmentally or situationally experience vulnerability. But, I have been pleasantly surprised by the healthy spirit of CHS. Maybe it never lost that Head Rest spirit of radical hospitality and community. It’s reassuring to see a mature, 45-year-old human services organization with the budget of a small corporation operate with the atmospherics of a small startup drug crisis center run by volunteers. Its ability to maintain a healing community for 45 years is testament that they don’t just do as they say – what they say is what they do.
In 1970, when Richard Nixon was president, the voting age was lowered to 18, the average yearly income was $9,400 and gas was only 36 cents a gallon, Head Rest opened its doors. **Head Rest started as a drop-in center for youth struggling with drug and alcohol use in Stanislaus County.** It employed only 1 paid staff member and 9 dedicated volunteers.

**In the beginning . . .**

**Things get official . . .**

In 1971 Head Rest registered as a nonprofit organization and through state funding, community support, and a strong desire to help our community, Head Rest continued to add programs and staff. They also shifted their focus from programs reacting to issues in our community to a broader, educational approach aimed, not only at young drug users, but the whole family.

**By our 10th anniversary in 1980, Head Rest had a 2 million dollar budget and 55 employees.** We continued to add programs focused on youth and families. And, in 1984, Head Rest became Center for Human Services, as we know it today.

**QUOTABLE**

“When the path to finding your way through life’s challenges develops obstacles and your personal resources are insufficient, connecting with a nurturing passionate, professionally trained professional can be a lifesaver. CHS has consistently been that lifesaver in Stanislaus County for nearly half a century.”

– DR. PHIL TROMPETTER, CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CABINET MEMBER

Pictured above are original ombudsman staff: Linda Bissel, Lynn DuBois, Chad Glang, Mary Grisham, Stan Cunningham (1973).
Mental Health Services

Community Counseling - no or low cost counseling services

Support Groups - depression and anger management support groups

Parent Mentor Program - providing support services to parents

LMFT & LCSW Training Site - in association with local universities

LIFE Path - treatment, support and connections for youth and young adults experiencing early symptoms of psychosis (A partnership with Sierra Vista Child & Family Services)

School Based Services

Counseling Services - for youth, individuals and families

Student Assistance Program - social/emotional education, prevention and intervention for students K-12

Nurtured Heart - evidence based curriculum intended to transform the cultures of schools and build emotional resiliency in students

Graduation Coach Program - comprehensive K-12 student engagement intervention program (a partnership with United Way of Stanislaus County)

Youth Services

Friday Night Live - youth development/leadership training program

Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse - prevention, intervention and education programs

Harvesting Futures - youth leadership and entrepreneurship training

Substance Abuse Treatment

Substance Abuse Treatment - teen and adult drug and alcohol treatment

First Step - outpatient treatment for pregnant and parenting women with children 5 years of age and younger (A partnership with Sierra Vista Child & Family Services)

Shelter Services

Hutton House - temporary shelter for 13-17 year old youth in crisis

Pathways - transitional living, life skills and employment support for 18-21 year olds experiencing homelessness

Family Resource Centers

Ceres Partnership for Healthy Children

Oakdale Family Resource and Counseling Center

Patterson Family Resource Center

Newman Family Resource Center

Today, Center for Human Services employs over 200 individuals. These dedicated staff work in every community throughout Stanislaus County. In the past 5 years alone, we have added 34% more staff and increased revenue by 36%. We are serving tens of thousands of children, individuals and families annually throughout our community through six core program areas.
In October 2014, Center for Human Services purchased a new home in Modesto. In 2015, our main office will move to 2000 W. Briggsmore Avenue, the former Roller King location.

After nearly three decades leasing at our current location in the back of McHenry Village, the dream of owning our own building and a permanent home for CHS and the community has become a reality.

Our new location offers one-third more space, increased access for our clients and can provide 33% more services to the community.

We have paid for the building and are building out the interior to meet the agency's needs and the needs of the people we serve.

“We’ve dreamt of owning our own building for years. Now, in order to accommodate our growth and the need for services, that dream has become a reality.”

Cindy Duenas, Executive Director for Center for Human Services

Want to participate in our Capital Campaign aimed at raising funds to support this project in 2015? Visit www.centerforhumanservices.org/capitalcampaign

Meet Paradigm Construction

We've contracted with local construction firm, Paradigm Construction, to complete the build-out of the inside of our new building.

Connect with Paradigm Construction on Facebook for regular updates on construction. www.facebook.com/Paradigmcm

Danny Savage, Paradigm Construction co-owner, is all about giving back. His favorite thing about Center for Human Services is our impact and the people.

Danny was born and raised in Stanislaus County. His connection to his community is deep and in part inspired by his father who modeled a dedication to excellence in everything he did. Savage Middle School is named in his honor.

On the lighter side: Given the chance he would travel back to 1989 to be part of the Beastie Boys album Paul’s Boutique to play the Aeolian Harp.

Shawn Hemiller, Paradigm Construction co-owner, has been a resident of Stanislaus County for 25 years. He loves to spend time with his family and coach his children’s soccer and softball teams.

Shawn’s favorite thing about Center for Human Services is our mission and the passion of the staff.

On the lighter side: Shawn would love to be able to play the bass guitar with Stevie Ray Vaughn & Double Trouble.

Rick Buhl, Superintendent, man in charge, construction choreographer, decision maker to the (construction) stars, is running the day-to-day operations on our construction site.

Rick has lived in Stanislaus County for 18 years and his favorite thing about Center for Human Services is the people. “They are dedicated and passionate,” Rick shared.

In his spare time he loves to fish, snowboard and watch football. And, if he were a super hero (and we believe he is), he would want his super power to be mind control.
This year Center for Human Services (CHS) celebrates **forty-five years of service to children and families** in Stanislaus County. Since 1970 we have helped more than 500,000 of our neighbors. In times of need, we’ve been the resource that youth and families have turned to for help. Changing lives and building futures is what we do.
Center for Human Services acknowledges the support of our funding partners who underwrite, in part, the quality services provided to children and families. Partners include but are not limited to: Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors, Behavioral Health & Recovery Services, Children and Families Commission, Community Services Agency, Probation, United Way, various school districts, foundations, Federal and State agencies. We are grateful to all of our funders for fostering the health and well-being of our communities through their support of Center for Human Services' shelter, prevention, intervention, treatment & counseling services.

FRAMING OUR FUTURE

Campaign for Center for Human Services

Join our campaign to raise $1 million dollars for Center for Human Services (CHS). Your gift will support the build-out of the interior space of our new building.

*Permanent naming opportunities start at just $300.

WE INVITE YOU TO SHOW HOW MUCH YOU CARE.

Please give generously. Know that your gift will help those in the community who need support.

If you are interested in making a capital campaign gift, please contact Monica Ojcius, Fund Development Director, at (209) 526-1476 or mojcius@centerforhumanservices.org or visit www.centerforhumanservices.org/capitalcampaign.