

Impact Report

2022/2023



Love Stanislaus County

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MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO & FOUNDER

In these difficult times, it is more important than ever to work together in love to better the places we call home. But where do we start? Sometimes the needs in our community can seem too overwhelming and just too hard to tackle. But the reality is it takes just one. One person who stands up to say "I want to help". And if enough people do that, there's no limit to the impact we can make together.

Love Stanislaus County believes in the power of coming together. In a world that so often divides us, we want to create space for everyone to find a place to volunteer. Don't know where to start? Don't know what your passion is? Let us help you get connected!

What started out as "Love Modesto" 15 years ago has grown into a movement that extends far beyond a one time volunteer day. We are so grateful for every person who has donated time and resources to help us love our cities well. The work you do matters. Thank you!

Jeff Pishney

**CEO & Founder
Love Stanislaus County**



"The reality is it takes just one.
One person who stands
up to say I want to help. And if
enough people do that, there's
no limit to the impact
we can make together."

City Wide Volunteer Days



Love Empire Love Turlock Love Ceres



Love Keyes Love Patterson Love Oakdale

On April 29th...

- We cleaned parks.
- We washed police cars.
- We picked up trash on river ways.
- We wrote cards to veterans.
- We passed out flowers to seniors.
- We assembled chemo kits.
- We collected birthday cards for foster youth.
- We said thank you to healthcare workers.
- We planted gardens.
- We painted murals.
- We built little libraries.
- We beautified schools.

What started 15 years ago as "Love Modesto" has spread across Stanislaus County increasing the impact we are able to make in our communities!

2023 stats:

7,000+ Volunteers, 300+ Projects
10 Cities in Stanislaus County
\$1,000,000+ in service hours donated

Check out
this video!





Love Stanislaus County

KIDS PROGRAM

Check out
this video!



Comfort Kit Drive

In December our community came together to assemble and distribute 1,018 comfort kits! (Estimated value is \$50,900.)

These reusable bags filled with items that bring comfort on a hard day (blanket, nightlight, stuffed animal, etc.) will be given to children entering foster care in our area all throughout the year.



Senior Portraits

Every year we partner with local photographers who generously donate their time and talent to help graduates feel celebrated.

For these foster youth, finishing high school in the midst of all the challenges they face is an incredible accomplishment. We gift them a photo shoot and prints as a way to say we are proud of you!



Textured Hair Care Kits

We are always looking for ways to fill gaps in services and to meet needs that aren't being addressed.

This year we heard there was a need for textured hair care products for foster youth. We had already been supplying a hygiene kit, but decided to pivot and include these products as well.

We were able to donate 27 kits! (Estimated value is \$540.)



Every Child Matters

The Kids Program believes in the power of elevating the voices of former foster youth in order to better understand what walking that road is like and how we can best help.

At this event in March we host a panel of former foster youth and the professionals who work with them. It is an incredible morning of listening and learning.



What is the Kids Program?

The Kids Program is dedicated to making sure children throughout Stanislaus County feel loved. Our main focus is on supporting children in foster care as well as educating the public on how they can best care for these youth. One of the biggest ways we do this is through our referral program. All year long, Child Welfare social workers identify specific items that foster children need and then partner with us to help inspire the community to donate these needed items.

A look at just some of the things we accomplished together this past year...

1040 total items were donated (Estimated value \$42,444)

64 hygiene kits

40 beds for children

67 new pillows

44 new sets of clothes

18 car seats

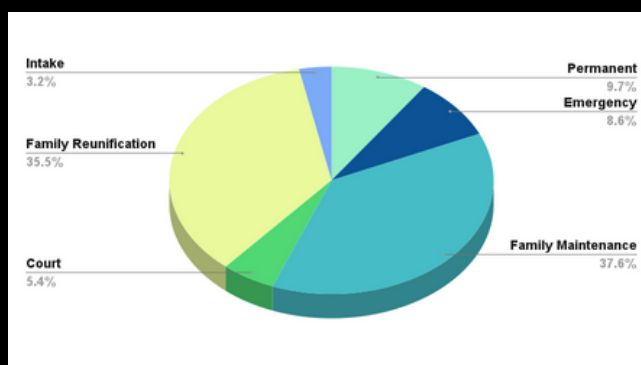
480 birthday cards with \$5 giftcards

Scan to see
the list of
needed items



What types of families do we serve?

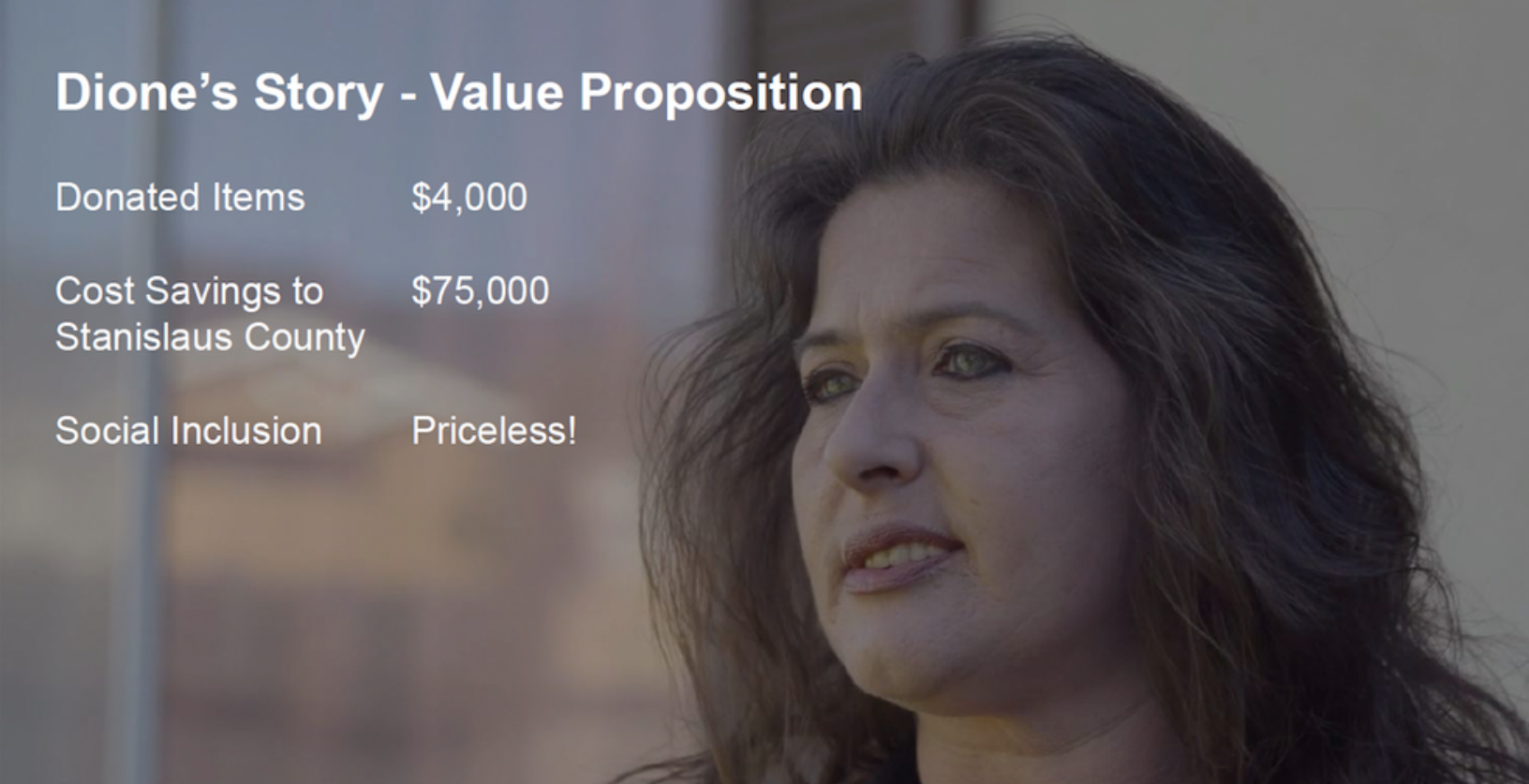
The Kids Program helps children in all types of situations. Whether it's a new foster family, a young adult aging out of the system with no support, or a mother fleeing a domestic violence situation and starting over with her children, we strive to help kids in foster care get what they need. It's always more than just a warm bed to sleep in, a new pair of shoes, or a car seat to keep them safe. It's about communicating to a child that they matter and they have a community behind them cheering them on.



93

total
families
served this year

05



Dione's Story - Value Proposition

Donated Items	\$4,000
Cost Savings to Stanislaus County	\$75,000
Social Inclusion	Priceless!

This is just one story.

Dione and her family had been through a crisis. Her 3 children had been placed in foster care and were waiting to be reunited. In the meantime, Dione needed to gather household items to establish a safe and secure home. Dione needed beds for her children, furniture, kitchen items, etc.

Love Stanislaus County reached out to a church in her neighborhood and asked if they wanted to help. They eagerly agreed, inspired to help a family in their very neighborhood and ended up donating \$4,000 worth of needed items! It would have taken Dione 10 months to save up to get these items before she would be able to welcome her children back home. The average cost of caring for a child in a foster care placement is \$2,500 per month per child.

3 children in placement = \$7,500 per month
 $\$7,500 \times 10 \text{ months} = \$75,000$

This is just one story in which there was an incredible cost savings to Stanislaus County. This year alone our Kids Program helped 93 families like this. While data and numbers are very important, what this family gained in developing a support network through a local church is priceless.

Several months after successfully reuniting with her children, Dione called Love Stanislaus County because she had some furniture she wanted to pass on to other families walking a similar road. She wanted to give back knowing what receiving that kind of help meant for her family.



MEET TRANEISIA.

Traneisia grew up in foster care and aged out the system without ever being adopted. She bravely shared her story at our Every Child Matters event back in March saying through tears, "When I graduated high school, I had no one to call."

At this event were four women who came separately and for different reasons. After hearing Traneisia's story, they were so moved by her courage to share and wanted to find a way to show Traneisia that they saw all she had accomplished, were so proud of her, and that they were going to step up and support her in whatever ways she needed moving forward in her life. These ladies connected after Every Child Matters and decided they would be her support system

Just a month later, Traneisia was planning to graduate Modesto Junior College. Unbeknownst to Traneisia, these four ladies were able to get VIP tickets! When her name was called and she walked across the stage, these women stood and cheered! But they didn't stop there. In the weeks that followed, they bought her a desk as a graduation gift and worked together to help her move to an apartment in Sacramento so she can start attending Sac State in the fall.

There is simply no way to quantify the impact of a story like this. This is just one of many. Thank you for generously giving to Love Stanislaus County and for partnering with us in this amazing work.

Love Stanislaus County

SENIORS PROGRAM

Check out
this video!



Senior Celebrations

Over the past year, the Seniors Program has hosted several holiday celebrations at local retirement communities.

In addition to these, several Love Modesto projects gave community members an opportunity to spend time with seniors, hear their stories, play games, and pass out flowers.



Referral Program

All throughout the year, social workers from IHSS and APS submit referrals for items needed for vulnerable and isolated seniors in our community.

The Seniors Program Director then goes out into the community and inspires people, businesses, and churches to donate these needed items or funds to purchase them.



Senior Kit Drive

In February, the Seniors Program hosted a Senior Kit Drive in which retirement home residents put together kits that are given to vulnerable seniors in our community being served by IHSS and APS.

These kits were filled with a blanket, knitted hat, medication organizer, stress ball, magnifying card, and hot cocoa.



What is the Seniors Program?

Did you know that Stanislaus County is home to over 100,000 seniors age 60 and above? Some seniors live an active and independent life while others need a little help to navigate daily life.

The Seniors Program, in partnership with Adult Protective Services (APS) and In-Home Support Services (IHSS), matches the needs of adult and elderly clients with community support to reduce their isolation and meet their needs.

The program receives referrals from these agencies for seniors who may need some items fixed in their homes or perhaps need some furniture or other household items. The Seniors Program then reaches out to the community for donations and opportunities to volunteer.

Since the referral process began in December of 2022, it has been a huge success! Here is just a little glimpse of all that was accomplished in just 7 months...

203 total items donated

18 shower chairs

8 wheelchairs

11 walkers

18 bags of pet food

3 hospital beds

96 total seniors served

**Scan to see
the list of
needed items**



Love Stanislaus County

SCHOOLS PROGRAM



What is the Schools Program?

Our Schools Program is dedicated to bringing students, parents, businesses, churches, and nonprofits together to assist schools with resources and needs for students. We are proud to be partnered with five schools in Stanislaus County. Each school has its own needs and a community that supports it.

**It takes
a village
to support
a school.**

PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT

One of these partnerships is between Elliott Education Center, Redeemer Church, and MOCSE Credit Union. Recently MOCSE and Redeemer planned a Back to School event in which students and families enjoyed a BBQ dinner and free backpacks were passed out!



MOCSE CREDIT UNION



ELLIOTT EDUCATION CENTER



REDEEMER CHURCH



Love Stanislaus County

NEIGHBORS PROGRAM

Find a place to volunteer.

What is the Neighbors Program?

The Neighbors Program is an extension of our city wide volunteer days. We exist to connect organizations in need of volunteers to Stanislaus County residents seeking volunteer opportunities.

We also facilitate, partner and collaborate with organizations and residents in Stanislaus County to help support our neighborhoods with the goal of creating a safer and more connected community.

Coming in 2024!

VOLUNTEER CENTRAL

Volunteer Central will include an updated platform and app accessible to everyone where you can go to find a place or event to volunteer at any time of the year. We plan to collaborate with non-profits and community events to find the maximum amount of volunteer opportunities for all ages and abilities!



HALLOWEEN NEIGHBORHOOD NIGHT 2022

**Over 50 neighborhoods
participated!**

Love Stanislaus County

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

VISIT OUR WEBSITE



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WATCH OUR VIDEOS



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@lovestanislauscounty

Impressions Across Love Stanislaus County Digital Media

Digital Media Channel	Prior 12 Month Engagement
City Websites	300,000+ Views
Email Campaigns	335,000+ Emails Sent
Social Media	700,000+ Reached 300,000+ Impressions



A big thank you to
OUR ANNUAL SPONSORS



Interested in your business, congregation, or organization becoming an annual sponsor or an event sponsor?
Contact Jeff Pishney at jeff@lovestanislauscounty.org

