



Grace at Work

September 2021

We are pleased to present to you our first issue of our new E-Newsletter. These occasional communications supplement our print newsletters to keep you informed of how LSS is working to end homelessness. For good.

From Car to Apartment: Shasta County Youth Are Housed



Kelly is a former foster youth. She and her husband **Dane** joined our Shasta (ACTS) program in Redding, CA in May of 2021 after two challenging years of staying with relatives and living in their car, as well as tragedy.

Kelly and Dane were married in 2019. Although they lived with his parents, both were working and saving money to start a household of their own. Kelly took college classes toward a medical degree. Their dreams seemed to grow even more when Kelly learned that she was pregnant. However, Kelly experienced an ectopic pregnancy, and after considerable pain, Kelly's fallopian tube and her unborn child were removed in a life-saving operation. In addition to her grief, her medical situation resulted in her losing her job. The couple tried to stabilize emotionally and physically. Kelly even started a small business, but in the early part of the COVID-19 pandemic,

they lost their housing. With no affordable housing available, they moved into a car and sometimes stayed with a relative. And Kelly stopped taking classes.

Kelly's college counselor connected her to LSS, and although their Case Manager Marci could not get them housing right away, she was able to secure a hotel room for the couple for the two weeks it took her to secure an apartment. Now, Dane is working, and Kelly is addressing her mental health issues exacerbated by the trauma of the past two years. Her plan is to return to college and expand her business.

"Our experience with LSS has been phenomenal!" says Kelly. "LSS staff are absolutely incredible people. Everyone is kind and down-to-earth."

CEO Corner: Agreements, Communications & Staying Safe



We at LSS of Northern California hope that you are all remaining safe and healthy during this ongoing challenging time. While there is no question that we are all tired of the inconveniences of living in a global pandemic, here at LSS, we continue to observe protocols to ensure that our participants and staff remain safe and healthy. By doing so, we can continue to provide the essential life-saving services to the most vulnerable in our community. We are also endeavoring to keep each other safe during this horrible California fire season and are honored to be part of a Lutheran community of individuals, parishes and organizations who are dedicated to relief and support.

As we move from summer into autumn, our administrative energies have been spent on renewed and new agreements and memorandums of understanding with our federal and state partners. Over the past several weeks, we have been in meetings and

conversations, as well as working on writing projects to secure the basic program funding to serve youth, seniors, families and single adults experiencing or at risk of homelessness in eight Northern California counties: Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Joaquin, Shasta, Solano, Stanislaus and Yolo. While this funding is the base of our operations, it is your partnership that enables us to elevate our programming and have a real impact on people's lives.

In an effort to keep you informed about LSS and all the good you enable us to do in Northern California, we will be sending out these informative e-newsletters every couple of months, to supplement our four printed publications. Read, enjoy and share. If you have any questions, please let us know at development@lssnorcal.org.

We thank you for all you do. You are making a difference in the lives of your neighbors and communities.

**LUTHERAN
SOCIAL
SERVICES
LIVESTREAM**

**Thursday, September 16th
3:00pm Livestream**
via Facebook & YouTube

*Learn more about the ministry of LSS with CEO Dr.
Carol Roberts & Program Manager Jason Sitar*

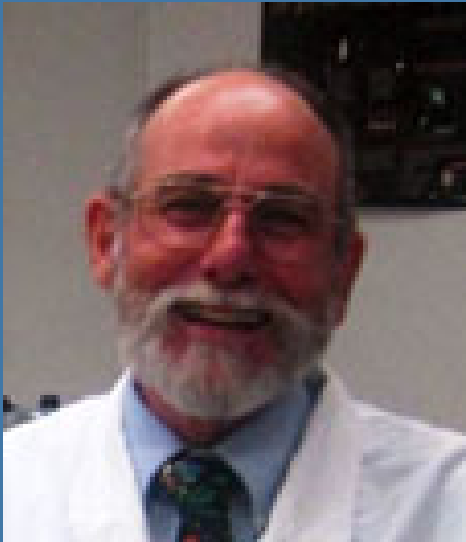
**in conversation with
Bishop Megan Rohrer**

Sierra Pacific Synod
committed to living in harmony

LSS
of Northern California
Ending Homelessness. For Good.

LSS of Northern California invites you to a live-stream conversation on **Thursday, September 16, 2021, at 3pm PDT**. Sierra-Pacific Synod *Bishop Megan Rohrer* will talk with LSS CEO *Carol Roberts* and Program Manager *Jason Sitar* about how LSS NorCal serves the most vulnerable in our region. Join us live on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#).

LSS Welcomes New Board Members



**Kent D. Campbell,
Ph.D.**

Kent Campbell was born and raised in Southern California and currently lives in Concord, California with his wife. He has two adult sons and two grandchildren. He received a Doctorate degree in Chemistry from the University of Southern California and worked for the Dow Chemical Company in Pittsburg, California for 26 years. He has been a member of First Lutheran Church Concord since his baptism there in 1981 and has held several leadership positions, currently serving as the chair of the Board of Church Property Management. He has also served with Thrivent Financial as the President and Vice President of the local volunteer chapter. After retiring from Dow Chemical, he worked as an Adjunct Chemistry Professor at Diablo Valley College for 14 years. Since 2007, Kent and his wife have gone on 8 short term mission trips to Central America and Mexico.



Iryna Oreshkova, CPA

Iryna Oreshkova, CPA, holds an MBA in Finance. She is also licensed attorney in CA. Iryna has 20 years' experience in public accounting. After many years working for Deloitte in San Francisco, she opened a private practice specializing in providing assurance services for nonprofit organizations. Currently, her CPA firm, Iryna Accountancy Corporation, has eight professionals who serve approximately 200 nonprofits providing assurance and tax services.

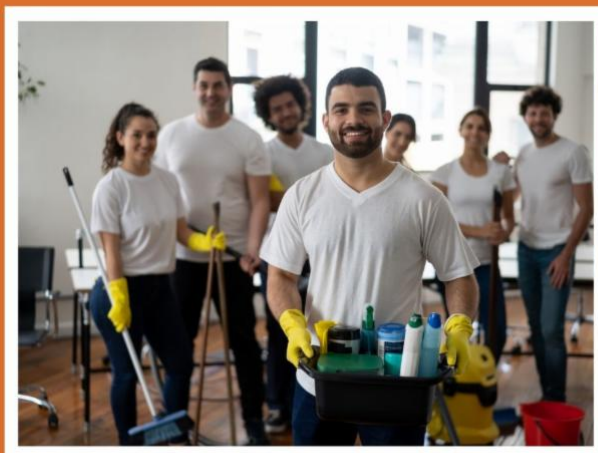
She has been an adjunct professor at Kaplan University and instructor at Chabot College in Hayward, where she taught accounting classes. Iryna enjoys spending time with her family, swimming, and visiting her mother who resides in Ukraine.

Brighten up the Halloween of vulnerable seniors by making greeting cards



There is no specific criteria, so get out your construction paper, scissors, glitter and markers and have fun. **We're planning to hand out more than 1,000 cards!** Please send all finished cards to Erica Gochenouer, LSS of Northern California, 1465 Civic Court, Ste 810, Concord, CA 94520. The deadline is October 15, 2021.

Moving?
Hate
Cleaning?
Want a super
clean?
Need a regular
cleaning service?



Leave the cleaning to us!

CLEAN START

Professional Cleaning Service
Residential - Commercial



Announcing our new Stockton Youth Social Enterprise. A Clean Start is an office and apartment cleaning service that provides job readiness and actual employment experience for LSS transition age youth.

For more information, contact Siresa Davis at 209.739.0009.

Our Mission

To promote stability and honor the dignity of those we serve by providing supportive housing services that lead to self-sufficiency.

To learn more about LSS of Northern California, visit lssnorcal.org.



LSS of Northern California

1465 Civic Court, Building D, Suite 810, Concord, CA 94520

www.lssnorcal.org