

GOHC P.O.BOX 5667, (2475 Foothill Blvd.) Oroville, CA 95966 PH# (530) 693-4367

**JANUARY- MARCH 2021 GOHC HELPING UPDATE**

Our first quarter of 2021 has been a blessing for so many!

During the month of January, GOHC prevented 4 pending evictions. One was a father with a 2 year old daughter, dealing with domestic violence issues; two were elderly women going through some serious life difficulties. One lost her home in the Concow fire in 2018 that brought major financial and insurance problems that have still not been cleared up.

The Homeless Coalition went to the Hope Center and helped issue DMV vouchers for the homeless to get their replacement ID cards. An ID is crucial to getting a job or making any head way towards improving one’s circumstances. We helped about a dozen individuals get California IDs. One of these men shared his situation and we were able to help him get recovery services and a placement in a sober living home that very day!

Also in January, we met a mom, dad and 4 children under 12 living in their SUV. They spent their days driving all around Butte County looking for a place to rent and applying at various places and programs. They had run out of gas. Although, we could not find a place for them to rent, GOHC gave them a lot of resources and information and filled their tank. They actually had an appointment in Chico that day to turn in an application for a program for homeless families. About a month later, I heard from this mom that they did find a place! Praise God! Answered prayer!

February was filled with challenges but once again the Lord provided! A single mom with a 9 year old child that had serious medical and emotional issues needed a bed and also special clothing for her autistic child. We were able to find a bed on sale and the miraculous help to deliver it!

We were able to help get housing for two women: one about 40 and the other about 55. One lady had been homeless because of people she thought she could trust-- sexually assaulted, verbally and mentally abused her. The last place she stayed was under a friend’s porch. A studio apartment was located; This GOHC Director was able to negotiate with the owner and the move in costs were lowered from $1800 to $500 so we were able to move her in that day!! Another “Thank you Jesus!”

February was a month of helping people get their birth certificates, DMV ID cards, kitchen and household goods. We also returned two individuals to their families and states of origin where they can get the help they need. One young man went to over 30 agencies or organizations to find someone to help him get back to his father’s ranch in North Dakota—his father needed his help on the farm. GOHC got him an AMTRAK ticket! (He said he had just been praying about it before talking to GOHC). The older gentleman we sent to Arizona was a political refugee and he was being contacted by an agency to return to Arizona because they made errors on his birth certificate, etc. He was familiar with some of the people and resources in Arizona and was planning to initially stay at the Rescue Mission in Arizona, take care of the refugee document issue and find a job.

We also prevented an eviction of a couple in their 50’s in February. The husband was off work because of an injury; GOHC helped with some rent monies.

March 2021 reminded us of how many families are living in their cars! We helped 3 families or individuals with gasoline. A family of seven was going to apply for housing. One 40 year-old had a job interview in Sacramento and if she got it, was going to be living with her grandmother in Sacramento. A lady in her late 50’s was living in her car and could not find a place to live after her husband passed away. She could not afford all the bills and became homeless with her two dogs.

GOHC was able to stop one water shut off; their pipes had broken in 3 places; the husband fixed two but had one more to fix while the bill skyrocketed! A disabled mother and her disabled daughter had just moved into a place about two months prior but was having difficulties keeping up with the bill paying. They are in the process of getting a payee and got behind so GOHC prevented their eviction.

Foothill Community Church joined efforts with GOHC to help two families that had just moved into their new apartments after being homeless. They were needing furniture and household goods. After putting out an email to the church, donations were gathered and several young people and adults met on a Saturday. We delivered furniture and household goods to these two families. One has two little girls and the other has a teenager. One mother who had nothing in the home until we brought a houseful of items said, “NOW, this place feels like home!” She is looking for a church family and may start attending FCC.

The last person GOHC helped before the writing of this quarterly update was a 60 year old woman who lost everything in the North Complex fire in Berry Creek. FEMA helped her get reestablished in a small trailer but she desperately needed a padded mattress cover since she recently had her back/spine rebuilt. She had major difficulty sleeping on the mattress in the trailer. She was so thrilled to get our help!

There were many other phone calls, interventions, resources given out and connections made with countless individuals this first quarter of 2021. We seek God’s guidance and ask HIM to direct individuals to us, as we pray without ceasing so we can continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Thank you for your love, prayers and continued financial support. It is greatly appreciated by the Greater Oroville Homeless Coalition. God Bless you all and have an amazing 2021!

Sincerely, in HIM, Carol Zanon, Director of the Greater Oroville Homeless Coalition

(FYI: I will be out of the office from March 23, 25, 30 and April 1st. I will return to the office on Tuesday, April 6, 2021. )