Greetings Donors and Supporters,

In 1990, Rapid Response Housing Solutions (RRHS) was founded by a group of dedicated volunteer community members in Carlsbad who committed to provide shelter for unhoused migrant and agricultural workers. Incorporated as Caring Residents of Carlsbad, the organization led a coalition to build the first homeless shelter in North County San Diego — the La Posada de Guadalupe Men’s Shelter managed by Catholic Charities. With the help of countless volunteers and donors, the organization accomplished the mission of building a shelter and became an integral part of the community to end homelessness and alleviate suffering in the decades that followed.

In March 2023, the Board of Directors of RRHS met to make an important decision regarding the future of this all-volunteer, community-based nonprofit and we want to share this exciting news with you.

The Board decided it is time to dissolve and while it is common for an organization to sunset, it is rare to find an opportunity for that organization to preserve its legacy through a mission-aligned partnership. On June 1 of this year, RRHS will close as a registered nonprofit and live on in spirit and purpose through our partner organization, Operation HOPE-North County, a women and family shelter.

**WHY THIS CHANGE?**

The reasons for dissolving RRHS include the significant challenges faced by all nonprofits including the fundamental need to raise funds year-round with limited resources. Another significant factor for the decision was the high cost and barrier to cut through the crowded media and donor landscape to expand the funding base. Given the thousands of small nonprofits (under $50K) that are working to prevent and end homelessness in San Diego County, we asked how we could continue to serve and make the biggest impact in our community while being mission-aligned and honoring our 33-year legacy in the community.

To that end, we are excited for the opportunity to transition our work and legacy to Operation HOPE-North County (OHNC), an emergency bridge-to-housing shelter program serving families with children and single women who are experiencing homelessness. RRHS has been working with OHNC through our Stability Fund Program, and we now have a unique opportunity to expand that program beyond anything we could have imagined.

Our mission to prevent homelessness by empowering people in the face of emergencies with rapid support will remain unchanged. And by transitioning our program assets to OHNC, we are in a stronger position to help more families achieve their dream of stable housing — a place to call home.
While it was a difficult decision to dissolve the organization after thirty-three years, we know this is the right thing to do for all stakeholders. In pursuing this strategy, leaders in both organizations worked collaboratively, transparently, and prioritized our shared values and vision to maximize the best outcomes for the social good. We can’t wait to see more families in homes of their own through this expanded program that will uplift our community for years to come!

**WHY OPERATION HOPE-NORTH COUNTY?**

Operation HOPE–North County (OHNC) is an emergency bridge-to-housing shelter program serving families with children and single women who are experiencing homelessness. In 2019, they were awarded and named the district nonprofit organization of the year. OHNC’s mission aligns with RRHS as both organizations seek to alleviate suffering and provide shelter and housing stability to those experiencing homelessness or at risk of being unhoused. Additionally, OHNC is dedicated and committed to children’s well-being and the organization has a successful track record in transitioning families out of homelessness into housing. During the past few years, RRHS has been working with OHNC staff and its board to develop and launch the Stability Fund Program to ensure that graduating families have the resources they need to stay housed, even in the face of unexpected financial hardship. Finally, as a service provider with direct client relationships, connected to the communities they serve, OHNC is in the best position to manage the Stability Fund Program to provide direct cash assistance to people who need it before they end up on the street.

**SO, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR RRHS?**

On June 1, 2023, RRHS will legally dissolve and transfer its assets to OHNC through a grant agreement. The program will operate under the name of **RRHS Legacy Fund @OHNC**. Any existing, recurring, or new donations will be directed to the new program managed by Operation HOPE–North County staff and its Board of Directors. This exciting opportunity preserves RRHS’ organizational legacy which has evolved over three decades and serves the community and its core purpose.

**SO, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?**

We extend our gratitude to each and every person who has supported RRHS over the past 33 years. You have been an important part of our story to reach monumental achievements such as helping to build the first permanent homeless shelter in Carlsbad and introducing the rapid cash assistance program to boost housing stability, employment, and empowerment. We hope that you will continue to honor RRHS’s legacy and contribute your time, talents, and treasure to the RRHS Legacy Fund @OHNC so that families have the best opportunity to thrive. We will celebrate on June 1 at Operation HOPE–North County at 6pm. We hope to see you there!

We invite you to learn more about Operation HOPE–North County and our June 1st celebration event by visiting operationhopeshelter.org