

A home for end-of-life care for the community, by the community, where every life matters to the very last breath and no one dies alone.

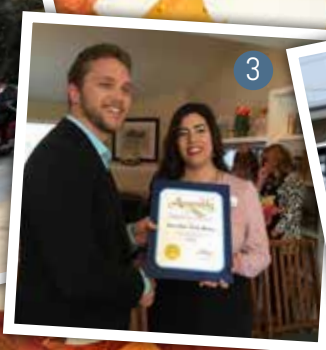


THE RUTH WOOD
*Open Arms
House*

Dignity • Peace • Comfort

Lic. #547208802

FALL NEWSLETTER • 2019



1.) Donation received by Rabobank.

2.) Thank you Goldwing Riders for Your Continued Support.

3.) Timothy Carothers, Field Representative from Assemblyman Devon Mathis Office.

4.) Tulare Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

5.) Thank you Lexi and Paws 4 Healing For Your Continued Support.

6.) Wes Anderson, Field Representative from Senator Shannon Groves's Office.



What an exciting and blessed year 2019 has been for us! The Ruth Wood Open Arms House celebrated its first full year of operation, all while having the honor and privilege to provide a loving and unique caregiving model to 23 residents and their families.

Our name is beginning to be recognized within the medical community, as we set new standards and educate families about the negative perceptions of end-of-life care. With the assistance of our local referral sources, we have been able to influence, educate, and promote our services within the communities we serve.

Those of you who have walked through our doors and understand what we offer have also become our strongest advocates. We are honored to work with such dedicated and loving staff, volunteers, and board members who continue to give their time and energy to help us achieve our mission.

As we reflect on our journey, starting with a vision of a home in 2014, to the establishment of The Ruth Wood Open Arms House in 2017, we acknowledge that our sustainability has happened because of the continued shared commitment and incredible generosity of our friends, donors, and the community.

Thank you to all of those who have supported us. We hope that you will continue to feel welcome in our lovely home and spread awareness to those around you so that they may be able to better understand our services. Today, we encourage you to continue helping us in spreading our message, mission, and vision as a home where individuals and their families can rest comfortably knowing they are in a loving environment in their last days.

In peace and gratitude,



Carol Nickel
Board President, 2019



Sabrina Jimenez
Executive Director



Our Story

As the first of its kind in the Central Valley, The Open Arms House (TOAH) is a non-profit that is uniquely licensed for 6 hospice residents as a Residential Care Facility for Elderly (RCFE).

The Open Arms House offers a peaceful, homelike environment for terminally ill residents and provides end-of-life care that emphasizes compassion, independence, respect and dignity.

Board Member Roster



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Clare Whitlatch – Vice President



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Sabrina Jimenez – Executive Director

#1 holiday hack:

When you shop at
[smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com),
Amazon donates.



Choose The Open Arms House as your favorite non-profit when shopping on Amazon Smile this holiday season.

Our Mission

To provide a home for end-of-life care for the community, by the community, where every life matters to the very last breath and no one dies alone

Our Vision

The Open Arms House will expand public knowledge about end-of-life care choices through a community-supported charitable residence that facilitates end-of-life care with dignity, peace and comfort for hospice patients and their loved ones.

The home will provide educational opportunities for health care professionals, the faith community, families of residents and volunteers with the hope that the natural dying process can be understood and accepted.

Services

- 6 Private Bedrooms In A Peaceful Home Setting
- 24 Hour Supervision & Personal Care
- Personal Hygiene
- Bathing, Grooming
- Dressing
- Laundry
- Meal Preparation, Feeding
- Assistance with Transfers and Repositioning
- Medication Management
- Comfort Care, Symptom Management
- Education and support for residents and their families during their journey
- Collaboration with your medical hospice and home health provider
- Exceptional Staff to Resident Ratio

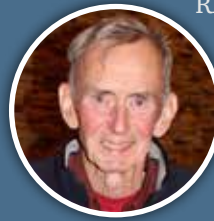


MICK LOEFFLER, FIRST TOAH RESIDENT

In the words of sister, Linda Huerta: "The Open Arms House was a blessing and answer to prayers for Mick and our family. We know he was thankful to be here and appreciated the kind and respectful care given to him from the time of our arrival throughout his stay and final, peaceful passing."

We pray that Open Arms House may continue to be a blessing to all who pass through their doors for many years to come. May God bless your work and your mission."

RAYMOND DALE WHITE



Thank you again for everything. I know I made a good decision in placing my beloved father in your care. I'm glad his last days were in a peaceful quiet place. - Debbie Jacobs



Service Partner Appreciation Fall Open House.

SAVE THE DATE

BLOOMIN PINWHEELS FUNDRAISER

Honor Your Loved Ones
During The Month of April

MOONSHINE SOIREE EVENT

TOAH'S First Signature Fundraising Event.
Saturday, June 13, 2020
Koetsier Ranch

TOAH TUESDAYS TOURS, TALKS, TACOS

3rd Tuesday of every month. RSVP Requested.
Call (559) 713-6542
Noon - 3 pm

UPCOMING DATES

November 19th • December 17th
and a special TOAH Tuesday presentation
Jan 21st with guest speaker
Pete Sherwood, Attorney at Law
Presenting on Estate Planning and
Advanced Directives.



SHIRLEY SOLA

My family and I will never be able to thank you enough for the loving care that was given to our loved one in your beautiful home. We could never have imagined a place where every little detail was recognized and attended to. It felt like each employee had been handpicked because they were all the perfect people to care for someone you love. Not only did you care for our loved one but our whole family was welcomed with "Open Arms".

You gave us a wonderful gift which we will cherish forever. As I was writing I was thinking about a quote from Maya Angelou I've learned that "People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did. But, people will never forget the way you made them feel" From the minute we entered the Ruth Woods Open Arms House we felt loved. - The Family of Shirley Sola

HONORING OUR RESIDENTS IN SERVICE.



William Robinson • Howard Bradshaw • Ralph Graves • John Crane • William Aldaco



Silent Auction Winner from 2018 - Private Home Dinner Prepared by David Vartanian of The Vintage Press.



Visalia Chamber of Commerce Annual Christmas Tree Auction.

Meet the Staff



Amanda MacDonald



Eepi Saese



Liz Llamas



Brenda Cohea



Kathy Seechan



Maria Solis



Charidel Estrada



Kristin Whiteman



Romelia De La Cruz

Respite Care

- The Open Arms House can provide respite care for families who may need a break from care giving responsibilities.
- For individuals requiring 24-hour care while recovering from surgery or a procedure such as heart, stroke, hip or knee replacement.
- For hospice patients who meet our admission criteria.

Our focus is helping our residents live fully throughout their end of life journey, according to their personal goals and values.



MARGARET ROSE

I've probably written this note a hundred times in my head, but it never seems to convey the deep gratitude I feel towards all of you. Your knowledge and confidence helped me keep my sanity and understand the process of dying. The love and compassion from all of you made me feel like I was not alone and had a family to share this with. My mom's exit was exactly what I had hoped for and she was as comfortable and pain free as possible. I can't thank you enough for that. You are earth angels. - Linda Barlogio

Fees For Service

The Open Arms House does not receive Medicare, Medi-Cal, or other third-party insurance reimbursement. Our income comes from payments by residents, their families, and from community donations.

We depend on residents and family members to help cover the cost of care to the best of their financial ability. If we can offer a room and the resident's family is unable to fully cover the cost, we will use donations from the community to cover the shortfall. Financial arrangements are finalized at the time a resident room is offered. Those discussions are confidential.

Omega Home Network



Known as a Social Model Hospice, The Open Arms House is a proud member of the Omega Home Network and collaborates with other community homes across the nation pioneering this innovative approach to the caregiver crisis in end-of-life care.

Omega Homes are part of the movement to improve access to quality care and prepare individuals and families in America for their end-of-life journey.

We are committed to helping individuals prepare for their end-of-life journey.

- Designed for and totally focused on care at the end of life
- Staffed by paid caregivers and supported by community volunteers
- Not a medical facility
- Created by the community, for the community
- An independent nonprofit

How To Donate

Make a difference that lasts an eternity by donating to our home. Each donation is tax-deductible as we are a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit. Our tax identification number is 81-1048361.

ONLINE

Donate safely and securely through our website with PayPal
www.openarmshouse.org

MAIL

You may also mail donations to:
The Open Arms House
3234 W Iris Avenue
Visalia, CA 93277

Volunteer Program

Join us in a way that is meaningful to you. Every gift of time, talent, and expertise impacts our guests and their loved ones.

- Welcome Desk Host/Hostess
- Clerical and Office Support Assistant
- Special Events Assistant
- Pet Therapy
- 11th Hour Volunteer
- NODA (No One Dies Alone) Volunteer
- Household Assistant
- Meal Preparer
- Laundry Assistant
- Yard Maintenance
- Handyperson

Wish List

Please help us by dropping donations by our home anytime during daylight hours – we'll even show you around.

We are grateful for every gift!

CLEANING SUPPLIES

- Liquid Laundry Detergent & Clorox Bleach
- Softsoap Antibacterial Hand Soap
- Bounce Dryer Sheets
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Glade Plug In Deodorizers
- Trash bags (13 gallon)
- Swiffer Duster and Dry Pad refills
- Liquid Dawn antibacterial dish soap

PANTRY ITEMS

- Keurig K-Cup Coffee Pods, Individual Coffee-Mate Creamers
- Canned Beverages & Bottled Water
- Individually wrapped snacks
- Jell-O, Pudding, Applesauce (individual serving sizes)
- Family Sized Frozen Entrees
- Sandwich, Quart, & Gallon Size zip lock bags (regular and freezer)

OTHER ITEMS

- Gift Cards to a household supply store such as Target, Amazon, or Bed Bath Beyond
- Gift Cards to an office supply store such as Office Depot or Staples
- Gift Cards to a grocery store such as Wal-Mart, Costco, or Savemart

A Very Special Thank You To All Of Our Generous Donors

PE.O. Chapter HF	Ellen Pilegard Living Trust	Sheryl & Stephen Beshwate	Warren & Suzanne Cederborg	George & Carol Finney	Eleanor A. Groom
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MARY "SQUEAKIE" AKIN
"My Mother's stay at The Open Arms House was for 2 short months but in that time, we spent what felt like an eternity of love, laughter, tears, deep conversations, and sad good-byes.

We owe a debt of gratitude and thankfulness to each of the Staff, Board of Directors and especially the Executive Director, Sabrina Jimenez. Mom received from each of them, respect, love, safety, care, understanding, patience and the ability to die with her dignity intact.

Our journey of fighting cancer was not long, but it was shocking for what it took from us. Our greatest need was to have someone take over as a caregiver for our mother, to give respite not only to our Mom but to ourselves. The day we entered The Open Arms was the day we knew we were doing the right thing! I pray that everyone, when it is their time, finds their end of the journey at The Open Arms. My mother found happiness again while at Open Arms and I know anyone who chooses to go there will feel the same as my Mom."
- Pam Akin



The Ruth Wood
*Open Arms
House*

Dignity • Peace • Comfort

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A home for end-of-life care for the community, by the community, where every life matters to the very last breath and no one dies alone.



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