



Together we can break the stigma of addiction and revolutionize sober living.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Anastasia Stephanopoulos
President, Board of Directors

Well, it's official! Support4Recovery is 15 years old!

During our 15 years, we have awarded **19 dental grants; 9 Support4Families grants; 52 Alumni Outreach grants; 112 Support4Education grants; and 1,270 Support4Housing grants**. And that is without counting all the advocacy we have undertaken within Contra Costa County.

On June 25, 2022, we held the **Support4Recovery 15th Anniversary Celebration and Recovery Fair** at the Martinez Marina. A recap of that celebration can be found in the following section.

We are proud to report that Support4Recovery was awarded a **Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition** by Congressman Mark DeSaulnier, who represents California's 11th Congressional District (the majority of Contra Costa County). It is almost impossible to sum up the amazing accomplishments our founder, Tom Aswad, has put into place over the years. He serves unselfishly - devoted to supporting individuals and families in recovery.



Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition by Congressman Mark DeSaulnier

IMAGES FROM THE CELEBRATION

As noted above, on June 25, 2022, we held the **Support4Recovery 15th Anniversary Celebration and Recovery Fair** at the Martinez Marina. Several dignitaries attended, including Congressman Mark DeSaulnier; City of Martinez Councilmember Brienne Zorn; Dominic Aliano, Mayor of Concord, and The Honorable Clare Maier, all of whom are long-time supporters of the recovery community and S4R.

More than 15 recovery resource providers, including John Muir Health, New Start Recovery Solutions, MEDS Coalition, La Casa Ujima, Bi-Bett, La Familia, and Crescent Moon Center answered questions and handed out materials to an estimated 150

attendees! Both the County Alcohol and Other Drugs Services Division and the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board came out to show support, the latter represented by Board Chair Dr. Talia Moore. It was amazing to watch the community reconnect, hang out in the sunshine, and support one another.

Here are just a few images from the celebration. Keep watching our webpage, as we intend to post more pictures and a video of the event soon!



S4R Board Members



Alumni, Pueblos del Sol, Concord



Volunteers at Registration Desk



Volunteers



Congressman Mark DeSaulnier,
California 11th District and Tom Aswad,
S4R Founder and CFO



Dr. Talia Moore (AODAB Chair); Logan
Campbell, (VP S4R); Congressman
Mark DeSaulnier (California 11th
District); Honorable Clare Maier;
Martinez Councilmember Brianne Zorn

PROJECT REPORTS

Support4Housing – Our housing program is currently funded by the John Muir Health Fund and private donations. We are now focused mainly on providing safe housing for members of the community who do not otherwise qualify under the County’s grant program. As of June 30, we have funded 19 grants for individuals, who would otherwise be left out of the system, giving those people a much better shot at recovery.

Support4Families – Support4Families is planning a program to provide scholarships for back-to-school clothing for families in recovery. Families who qualify would receive a grant to buy school essentials – clothing and backpacks – through a designated local retailer. We plan to work closely with the various alumni associations for referrals, both to support those associations, as well as to encourage people to stay involved after treatment.

Needs Survey – We are close to shutting down the needs survey and assessing what the community is asking for. We expect to develop our 2022-2023 programs with the findings. If you have not yet completed the survey, and are in recovery, please use the survey link [here](#).

Hispanic Community – Our efforts to reach the Spanish-speaking recovery community continue. We have completed the majority of the filming and are now assembling a powerful video, documenting the stories of members of the Hispanic community – individuals in recovery as well as their families. We previewed a trailer at the 15th Anniversary Celebration! We aim to increase awareness of, and participation in, Spanish-language addiction treatment.

Alumni Association Support – Over the past few months, we have supported a variety of alumni activities, including establishing an alumni association at Pueblos del Sol, in Concord. On June 12, 2022, we hosted an amazing gathering of Wollam and Oz alumni and community members. On July 31, we will support alumni fundraisers at Diablo Valley Ranch and Discovery House.



Wollam and Oz Alumni BBQ – June 12, 2022

BOARD PROFILE: SARA KERR



We welcome **Sara Kerr** - our newest Board member! Sara has already been an amazing resource for us and is smart, dedicated and fun to work with. She is a member of the Support4Families Program. She is also a grant recipient of Support4Recovery, from 2018.

Sara has been working in the addiction recovery field since 2019. She is currently a Program Director at Restore-Hope. Dignity. Life., co-directing two After Care homes, an in-patient treatment home, and a homeless outreach. She is very closely involved with families who are in the process of reunification in the Contra Costa area and is very excited to be able to join forces to best

serve the families in our community.

Sara tells us that the grant made a huge difference to her, supporting her in early recovery and enabling her to build her life.

TESTIMONIALS: IVAN VERDUZCO



Ivan Verduzco is a proud recipient of a Support4Recovery housing grant. He will also soon be supported by S4R in becoming an AOD counselor. Ivan is the newly elected President of the Pueblos del Sol alumni association.

Ivan writes:

I remember when I finished treatment I did not know where I was going to live because I hadn't worked for many months during my addiction, then I was at Pueblos for 3 months when I graduated from treatment.

Support4Recovery helped me pay for rent and it took a lot of pressure from me, it allowed me to concentrate in furthering my recovery by allowing me to attend outpatient services for another three months.

I am so grateful the Support4Recovery is available for people like me who are coming out

of treatment with no money for rent, it saved my life.

**Click here to
SUPPORT**

www.support4recovery.org