

Going Home | Simon's Walk

Each year in San Diego County , approximately 100 people die alone and without a place to call home. The Going Home program was created for those who are dying on the streets of San Diego from a terminal illness. The overarching goal is to provide services which surround and care for the dying individual, their family, and their community in a manner which creates a place of healing of mind, body, and spirit.

Going Home has a volunteer aspect known as Simon's Walk, named for Simon of Cyrene who, in all four gospel stories, walked with Jesus in the final hours of his life.



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Photos: Peggy Peattie and Alliance Healthcare
Design: Shelly Petersen, Designfarm

Third Avenue Charitable Organization



Serving and healing those in need...

What we're about

Third Avenue Charitable Organization (TACO) is a social outreach program and non-profit charity that serves the homeless, elderly and working poor, primarily in downtown San Diego. TACO provides a safe and welcoming place where healing of mind, body, and spirit can happen for any and all who come.

Through a strong coalition of community partnerships, we offer free meals, free medical, dental, acupuncture and legal clinics, as well as free mental health counseling services to hundreds of people each week and a program to serve the terminally ill homeless. Our partners include the University of California San Diego School of Medicine, Department of Family and Preventative Medicine, the Pacific College of Oriental Medicine and the California Western School of Law.

TACO grew out of a vision of First Lutheran Church, as it began feeding the homeless more than

30 years ago. In operation every week of the year, TACO welcomes all people in need.

How you can help

TACO is indebted to volunteers from thirty-five local churches and many other organizations, who help prepare the Monday and Friday meals, raise funds at their own churches and within their own communities, drive, shop, pick up food, gather supplies, and help in many other creative ways.

TACO is also indebted to medical professionals who volunteer in the clinics and is always grateful for the financial gifts and in-kind donations which are essential for the program's ongoing operation.



What you can do today... to help TACO tomorrow

Get Sponsored Ask friends to sponsor your volunteer time at TACO. Ten sponsors who pledge \$20 for a day means \$200 for meals.

Make A Thrivent Match If you or someone in your family has any account with Thrivent Financial, they will match your TACO donation. We can help with the right forms.

Check Your Company Does your company match employee donations to charities? TACO may qualify.

Feed Your Friends Invite friends over for TACO night! Serve a festive meal and share your TACO story. We'll provide brochures, information, and even some recipes for the party.

Plan Your Own Event Have a fundraising idea or an event you do well? Have your organization, congregation or group of friends dedicate all or part of the event to TACO. We'll be there to help.

Double Up Don't volunteer alone! Ask a friend to come with you when you volunteer your time at TACO.

Spare Your Change Have your family collect all that loose change (check the sofa cushions) and each month, write a check for that amount to TACO.

Add It All Up How much do you spend a week on those tall caramel macchiatos? Consider donating that amount to TACO, and we'll turn it into nourishing meals for many.

Spread The Word If you're involved in a service club or know a student group that needs a cause, tell them about TACO.

Make It Official TACO can assist you in setting up a regular monthly donation from your checking or savings account. Long-term pledges like these form the base for lasting and sustainable growth.

