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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

East County Transitional Living Center receives \$150,000 gift for shelter expansion

EL CAJON - The Kasperick Foundation, a philanthropic group founded by San Diego entrepreneur Vincent Kasperick and his wife, Candace, recently donated \$150,000 to expand the East County Transitional Living Center's (ECTLC) homeless shelter.

East County Transitional Living Center offers emergency housing and job training to reduce homelessness in greater San Diego. The center said the grant will help it increase the bed count at its 1527 E. Main St. shelter to 538 from 498 by June 30.

"We are pleased to be able to support this impressive expansion," the Kaspericks said in a letter to ECTLC center CEO Julie Hayden. "Thank you for your continued work to address the basic needs of the less fortunate in our community."

"Candace and Vince, we are so very grateful for this opportunity," Hayden said in a response letter to the Kaspericks. "And (we're) delighted by the alignment between the Kasperick Foundation and ECTLC's goal to equip individuals, strengthen families and impact communities."

So far, East County Transitional Living Center's 498 beds can accommodate 174 singles (one bed per room) and 324 family members (81 rooms, four beds per room). The shelter has had 90% occupancy in 2025. The expansion will push the family accommodation capacity to 91 people (at four beds per room). Hayden said the center hopes to have some renovations done by the year-end holiday season.

In all, the center hopes to add 10 rooms for families in 2026 by remodeling existing but so far unusable rooms. The center also has a Women's Program house in East County with 20 more beds, but it needs another \$150,000 in remodeling to become usable, officials said. That renovation is on hold as the group works to fund it.

Meanwhile, through its community outreach, the East County Transitional Living Center hopes to restore social relationships and unify families, which account for 33% of San Diego County's homeless people, the San Diego Regional Task Force on Homelessness reported in its 2025 Point-in-Time Count.

The center offers meals; shelter; therapy; job training and placement; practical life skills; and spiritual support. Every year, more than 1,000 families receive the center's support, but the waitlist for shelter space is 100 to 125 families long.

The center's workforce training program helps people learn marketable skills as they build confidence, self-reliance, discipline and accountability. The center partners with San Diego businesses on projects including vegetation management and event setup and teardown to give program participants jobs to do and places to work.

The center earned the San Diego County Taxpayers Association's "Open & Honest" certification in 2024 for its commitment to transparency, accountability and measurable community outcomes. In 2022, California's state Assembly members named the center among its [Nonprofits of the Year](#) for helping people overcome homelessness and substance abuse.

ABOUT EAST COUNTY TRANSITIONAL LIVING CENTER

East County Transitional Living Center is a nonprofit organization focused on ending homelessness in San Diego County. Our core programs include emergency housing, a one-year ministry-based recovery program, family restoration and workforce training.

What sets East County Transitional Living Center apart is our loving and holistic process. For more information, visit www.ectlc.org.

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