



Abundant Grace
COASTSIDE WORKER

Because there is enough...once it is shared

GIVING THANKS



Apartment needed

Teresa needs an apartment!
A separate back house is best—
please call if you can help.

DONATE

This holiday season, your kind gift
will bring life-changing help to our
neighbors who need it most.

There are 3 ways that you can give:

- Return your check or credit card information in the enclosed envelope
- Go online to abundantgracecw.org
- Make a gift using stock. Contact us at 650-726-6621 and we will facilitate the process.

Thank you!

Abundant Grace is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.
All contributions are tax deductible.

SUPPORT THE GOOD THINGS THAT ARE HAPPENING!

Free Community Breakfasts

at the Coastside Lutheran Church, showers and laundry available thanks to Dignity on Wheels and the County of San Mateo.

Organic Farm Employment Project

in partnership with Potrero Nuevo Farm we employ over 50 people a year, and give away over 10 tons of produce.

Women's Leadership Training

Mujeres Adelante is a Spanish language training program that develops capacity among Latina women to make concrete change in our community.

Rainy Day Project

We offer the homeless a warm, dry place with hot drinks, rain gear, food and other supports on rainy days during the winter.

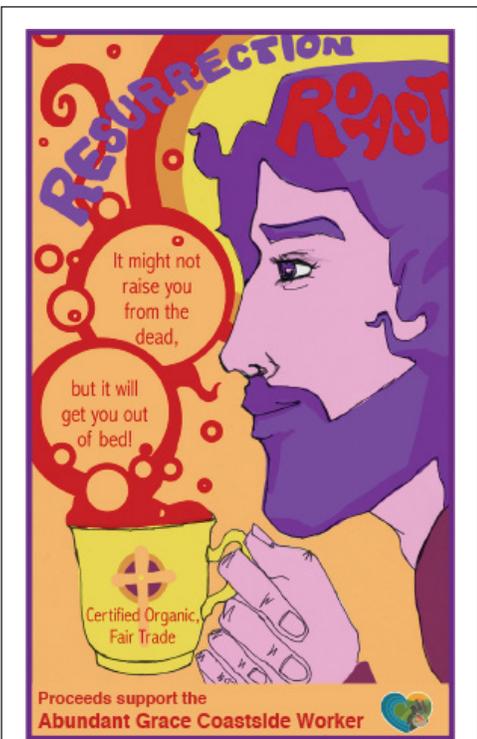
by ERIC DEBODE | Executive Director



End-of-season BBQ at Potrero Nuevo Farm, host of our employment program



Graduation of Mujeres Adelante Women's Leadership group in early December



Makes a great Christmas gift!

Our coffee is available at Luz Luna
527 Main Street Half Moon Bay

Good stories aren't the norm in our line of work. But sometimes we receive beautiful gifts.

Usually, one step forward is followed by four steps back. The impacts of homelessness, poverty, addiction and mental illness take their toll, and people steadily get worse as time passes.

When we don't see people for a while at the breakfast or the farm, I assume one of three things happened: they left town; they are in jail; or they got work and a place to live. Usually it's one of the first two. So it was a gift given that Vanessa (not her real name) returned to the farm after we hadn't seen her in a few weeks.

She first came to the farm in her own wreck of a car, one that was beat up, lived in, and sadly, had an appearance that mirrored its owner's life. I slowly got to know her as we talked while harvesting vegetables and learned she had been a purchaser for a big company. It was a bad relationship that had set her in a downward spiral. Even though she lost a house and her job, she still had a sense of humor.

Her sense of dignity was larger than her struggles and problems.

So when we saw her recently, I was so happy to hear what happened. Vanessa pulled into the farm with a smile and announced she was volunteering that day, no pay needed. She had found a full time job in San Mateo and things were going great. She came to say thank you.

What touched me is she didn't come to thank us for the pay that she had received from Abundant Grace over the last several months. She came to say "thank you" for sticking by her when she was struggling.

She recognized the role that our care and concern for her played in her movement forward. In particular, she shared that it was the conversations that Jay and Suzie (the farm managers) and I had with her that conveyed a sense of value, worth, and kinship, that helped carry her through.

The truth is, real healing requires relationship. When each of us is in the game, we have an opportunity to re-weave the fabric of our community so that the care, compassion and concern within all of us is made real.

The results can be what we all hope for. They can be life-changing. So in this season of giving, please give of yourself as well as donating to good causes.

Merry Christmas,

Eric