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The Homing Project Newsletter for June 2026

1 message

The Homing Project <newsletter@thehomingproject.org>
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To: james.mastrangelo.27@gmail.com

Thu, Jun 18, 2026 at 7:56 AM



Here is your June 2026 Newsletter.
Please share it with a friend.

*Inside this newsletter you can find status, recent progress,
and volunteer opportunities.*

June 2026 Progress Report

Note from CEO Kris Olson-Garewal, M.D.

The City of Tucson Planning Dept has created a new building code category -- MICRO CABINS -- that does not require sprinklers. Using this designation, THP needn't apply for a Special Exception from a previous requirement for sprinklers. The City Planning Dept. is really working on changes to facilitate our village construction and speed the day we can aid those who are experiencing homelessness.

See below where THP is asking for volunteers!



THP VolunTERS at the February 2025 Peace Fair

The *Tucson Sentinel* recently ran an article discussing The Homing Project -- See it here!

EVENTS UPCOMING

We have an Art Sale coming up July 25th -- see the flyer below.
Please consider donating some art to The Homing Project.

Contact Leslie Pike at ldpikeaz@gmail.com.

WHAT IF YOUR ARTWORK COULD HELP GIVE SOMEONE A HOME?

Make a tax deductible donation to **the Homing Project** and it will.

You are invited to make a donation to our Arts and Vintage Market and Silent Auction

on July 25 at the Made in Tucson Coalition Space. Paintings, sculpture, pottery, fabric art, anything hand made or vintage is welcome and appreciated.



All proceeds

will help fund our first **Micro-home Village** near Glenn and Stone.

This village will offer people experiencing homelessness a safe transitional home and a ladder to autonomy over their own lives.

Visit our website to learn more.

For details about donating or to schedule a pickup please email, text or call Leslie Pike, a Homing Project volunteer.

We will be **immensely thankful** and you will know that **your artwork is helping to create a way forward** for some of the 6000 people currently unhoused in Tucson.

Donations due by July 18

(but the sooner the better).

Email: ldpikeaz@gmail.com

Text or VM: 520.977.1374



Learn more about how micro-home villages can help combat homelessness at:

TheHomingProject.com

Village Tours: Come see the village!

We are scheduling the next tours. To join a tour, just you or with your group, email Elizabeth Day at elizabeth.day@thehomingproject.org

Would you like to know how to make a difference to Tucson's unhoused community?

Sharing Information is Key to the Homing Project's Mission

There are so many ways that organizations and individuals can get involved in helping Tucson's unhoused residents, and one way is by educating the community about this crisis and some emerging solutions.



SHARE INFO ABOUT HOMELESSNESS

- Are you involved with a social justice committee?
- Is your place of worship broadening their mission to serve Tucson's unhoused population?
- Are you involved with other non-profit organizations?
- Are you a business owner or part of a business networking group?
- Do you attend your homeowner's association meetings?
- Does your employer have a community engagement program?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, we'd love to tell you more about The Homing Project and ask for your help in spreading the word.



To schedule a presentation about The Homing Project at your organization, please contact Beth Heinrich at beth.heinrich@thehomingproject.org

Let us tell you about our micro-cabin communities and explain how providing wrap-around services is not only efficient but vital in bridging current economic and social gaps for those without a home.

Learning about our mission and the facts surrounding homelessness will not only illuminate the need for community involvement but give you the tools to help us generate funds and volunteer interest.

"Millions for Tucson" Raffle Tickets are now on sale - buy one, buy ten, buy fifty and use them as birthday presents during the year! Contact Julie Gunther to get yours - julie.gunther@thehomingproject.org

Beth Heinrich, New Board Member

Beth was born in western New York and earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the State University of New York at Brockport. She began her 42-year healthcare career at the University of Michigan Medical Center and relocated with her family to Scottsdale, Arizona, in 1992. Throughout her career, Beth held a variety of leadership and administrative roles, leveraging her Master's degree in Healthcare Administration in areas including program development, financial management, and project management. Retiring from the Mayo Clinic in Arizona after 24 years, Beth and her husband settled in Oro Valley. Before joining The Homing Project, she volunteered with an organization serving homeless and at-risk youth, gaining firsthand insight into the challenge's individuals face in securing one of life's most fundamental needs: stable housing.

That Day

Laura Darian

"We know when our heart tells us to do something." That is what a non-profit volunteer told me a couple of days ago. She said she had not invented the

saying.

The adage describes what I felt on that day. The event took place before the Median Safety Ordinance, TCC 20-501, was adopted in this city. I saw a young man with a handwritten sign standing in the median on Broadway and Wilmot. That feeling, nudging me to help him, moved my heart. But, alas, the green arrow appeared and I drove away to do an errand that was apparently more important than he was. Besides, I didn't want to be an irresponsible driver by obstructing the traffic flow.

On my way back, I noticed that he was still there. The urgent feeling returned, so I parked in the Speedway gas station lot. Walking across to the median with my one or two dollars in hand, I felt that it would be permissible to tell him: "Please use it for something good, okay? My daughter died from fentanyl."

He looked at my face and sincerely said, "I'm sorry for your loss." Then, he told me that his friend had died from fentanyl a day or two beforehand. He had tried chest compressions -- to no avail. Now, it was my turn: "I'm sorry for your loss." As I walked away, I wished that there was something more that I could do to end homelessness.

The non-profit volunteer quoted above told me that she is passionate about providing housing for people who are on the streets. I feel a similar passion about this human need. Please consider making a donation to The Homing Project.

Join our fundraising team and learn how to ask for money and help a great cause. Email kristin.davis@thehomingproject.org

Donate, sign up for the newsletter, sign up to volunteer, all at <http://www.thehomingproject.org>.

Volunteer Opportunities

- We need strong volunteers to bore ~ 72 holes and install helical screws (12" to 18") to anchor the structures. If you enjoyed assembling our micro-shelters, you'll love anchoring them.
- We need strong volunteers to install the village pathways. First we'll dig a 4' wide by 2" deep bed for the pathways. Then, after edging is installed, decomposed granite will be shoveled in, leveled and packed.
- The Monsoon & Moonlight Art Market & Silent Auction is happening Saturday, July 25 from 6-9. Volunteers are needed to make this fun event a success! We have opportunities in:
 - Marketing (Getting the word out!)
 - Contacting artists to donate art
 - Volunteering during the actual event
 - Event set-up and tear-down

Volunteer for any of the above by contacting Yolanda.sethi@thehomingproject.org.

Request: On-Line VOLUNTEER HOURS REPORTING

Volunteer are asked to Report Their Hours Online.

To support our grant applications, we want to correctly represent the level of volunteer support that THP receives. To make that easy, THP has an online form for recording volunteer hours. Use the 'Volunteer Hours Form' at the link below to record your volunteer hours per month.

<https://form.jotform.com/260566883440160>

Questions: contact Jody Mallie at jodymallie@gmail.com.

[Volunteer Sign Up Site](#)

The Homing Project [Donation Page](#)

Important Tax Information

If you are age 70 1/2 or older and have an IRA, you may be obligated to take a Required Minimum Distribution, or RMD. You may be able to direct your RMD directly from your IRA to The Homing Project, and thereby save on your federal and Arizona taxes. If your custodian sends a payment directly from your IRA to The Homing Project, you may be able to deduct it as a Qualifying Charitable Distribution on your tax return, even if you claim the standard deduction. Consult your tax adviser for more information about how this may apply to you. To explore further, email the board at Board@thehomingproject.org.

The Homing Project Board Meeting and Volunteer Meeting Dates

– June 2026.

Board Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month.

Volunteers are welcome!

5:30 PM at Kris Olson's home, or Online.

Meeting Dates: 6/24, 7/29, 8/26.

The volunteer meetings are held on the last Saturday of the month in Tucson Ward 3 meeting room, [1510 E. Grant Rd.](#)

Join us to plan new events and to review past ones.
9:30 AM for volunteer orientation, 10-11:30 AM for general meeting.
Meeting Dates: 6/27, 7/25, 8/29.

**The Board and Newsletter Staff of The Homing Project Thank You
for choosing to serve our community with us,**

The Homing Project Newsletter

Joe Vaughan produced this month's newsletter with assistance from Selena Barlow and Judy Manelis.

Email suggestions of items for inclusion to: newsletter@thehomingproject.org



Facebook

Visit us on the web at thehomingproject.org

Find us on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/thehomingproject.org>

Mail checks to THP's New Address:

THE HOMING PROJECT

[3044 N Alvernon Way](#)

[Tucson AZ 85712](#)

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