

Our clients often share their experiences through letters, telling their story and the impact and the community's support has had on their lives and on their children's futures. Each hiker carried a client's letter attached to their backpack on hike day, a reminder to them about families they were hiking in honor of. These are real families who could be living next door to you, serving you in a restaurant or strolling in the park with their kids.

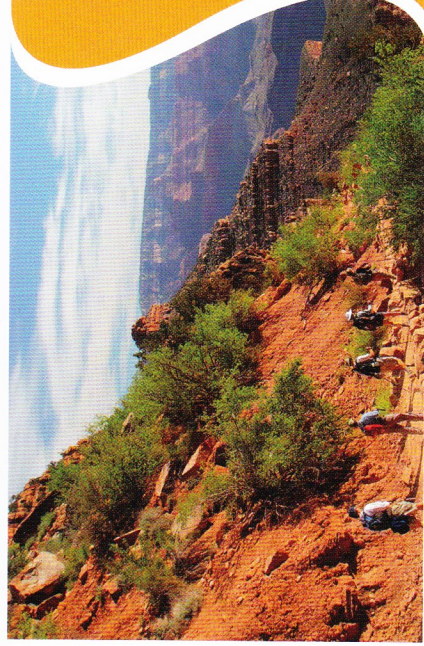
"My mom was always the strong one in the family and then she got cancer. She went through chemotherapy but lost her job because she had to take time off. We couldn't pay rent, lost our apartment and ended up living in our car parked at Sun Valley Mall. SHELTER, Inc. was a lifesaver. They moved us into an apartment. My mom got help from their employment specialist (while undergoing chemotherapy and finally a mastectomy). Today, she has a full-time job at a store and is cancer-free. I'm working and helping with rent. We completed the program and are able to pay for our apartment and bills on our own."



"My 3-year-old son & I were living in our van during the holidays. The temperatures dropped to below freezing & I could do nothing to make Christmas special for my son. He was heartbroken. When we came to SHELTER, Inc., the case manager asked my son what Santa brought him. "Nothing," he said. "Santa couldn't find me." She went away & came back with a stack of wrapped gifts with my son's name on all of them. She said, "Santa didn't forget about you. He left these presents here because he knew you'd be stopping by." From there, we got in our van and drove to the shelter where the staff had a room waiting for us."



"I was in high school when we were homeless. I kept that a secret from everyone. SHELTER, Inc. took us in & gave us hope. My routine became school & doing my homework at the shelter. I graduated with 7 scholarships. This month, I am graduating Magna Cum Laude with a BA in Psychology. Because SHELTER was there for me, my dream of helping kids in trouble has come true. I used the lessons you taught me to get through the hard times. You showed me anything is possible if you don't quit. Thank you."



THANK YOU
for supporting the 2010 inaugural Hike for SHELTER!

38 Pounds of trail mix consumed throughout training.

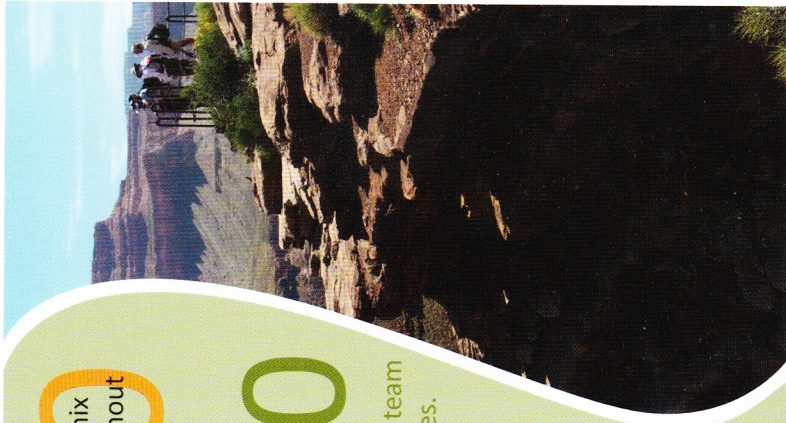
Number of hikers who trained, met their fundraising goal and succeeded on their hike in the Grand Canyon.

1,440 Miles hiked together as team on eight training hikes.

Ounces of water hikers drank just on hike day in the Grand Canyon.

6,860 Feet, starting elevation at the Bright Angel Trailhead in the Grand Canyon.

\$177,905 Number of dollars donated by family, friends and colleagues who supported the hikers.



SHELTER

Inc.
Of Contra Costa County

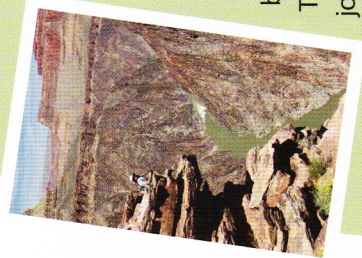


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**clients
succeed**

Thank you

Thanks to you, Hike for SHELTER raised nearly \$180,000! Hikers endured four months of training and a challenging hike in the Grand Canyon to raise the awareness of family homelessness and help end the indignity and humiliation of homelessness for children and their families. If you ask a hiker, they will tell you that the



steps they took on this adventure pale in comparison to the steps that SHELTER, Inc. families make every day to overcome their barriers to stable housing. Thank you for taking this journey with us.



NEXT STEPS?

- Interested in hiking the Grand Canyon with us in 2011? The second Hike for SHELTER will be April 28 through May 1, 2011. Hike day is April 30.
- Not a hiker, but interested in helping out? We're recruiting volunteers to help with making Hike for SHELTER 2011 an even greater success than 2010. If you've got a talent, we've got a need.
- Like to play golf or know someone who does? Our 19th annual Swing for SHELTER golf tournament is coming up soon, on Monday, July 26, 2010 at Round Hill Country Club in Alamo.
- Think you want to volunteer, but just not sure? Sign up to receive our biweekly volunteer e-newsletter to find out about upcoming volunteer opportunities and donation needs.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

E-MAIL

PHONE NUMBER

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STATE/ZIP

I am interested in:

- Hike for SHELTER 2011
- Swing for SHELTER
- Volunteering
- Sign me up for the Volunteer E-Newsletter

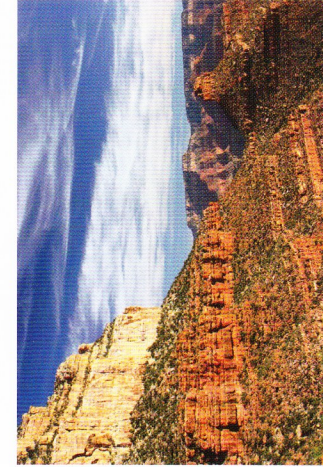
(Please don't forget to tell us your e-mail address above.)

"Hike for SHELTER opened many new and wonderful doors. Besides contributing to a great cause, I have met so many new fun, interesting, and enjoyable people. I have lived here all my life and have seen so many new beautiful places right here in my own backyard."



"Hike for SHELTER is truly an accomplishment bigger than ourselves. Raising funds as a group to help prevent homelessness and celebrating our fund raising goals together in the Grand Canyon—a natural wonder that is truly humbling—puts one's life in great perspective. The entire experience as been a gift. Thank you."

"The friendships made with each step, support for each other, along with being part of a like-minded determined group helping homeless help themselves has been a joyful, humbling experience. What an incredible journey! Thank you for letting me be part of it."



"My mom always believed that you need to help someone at the moment they need the help, not wait. Hike for SHELTER enabled me, through my family and friends, to donate many dollars that are available to help someone at the moment they need the help, giving them the message of love and compassion and that they are not alone out there."

From the Hikers

