



2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Inspiring, empowering and organizing our community to advance basic dignity for those living on the streets.

Girls Think Tank, (GTT) has had a busy year full of many accomplishments towards helping one of the most vulnerable populations, those without a home. San Diego has the nation's fourth highest homeless population. Our advancements this year would not have been possible without our avid supporters, volunteers, and donors, THANK YOU:

- [The Anthony Robbins Foundation](#)
- [San Diego Housing Commission](#)
- [San Diego Downtown Fellowship](#)
- [San Diego County Bar Foundation](#)
- [La Jolla Coin Shop](#)
- [Jerome's Furniture](#)
- [Ace Parking](#)
- [SDG&E](#)
- [The Scott's](#)

Portland Loo in San Diego

This year marks a monumental achievement making 24/7 bathroom facilities available to all residents. Four years ago GTT convened the Basic Dignity Campaign to advocate City Council to allocate funding towards 24/7 access flushing permanent public restrooms. City Council voted unanimously to allocate money towards purchasing, installing, and maintaining four solar powered restrooms, The Portland Loos. December 3, 2014 marked the opening date of the first restroom, at 14th and L Street. Prior to installation, there were only three 24/7 public restrooms downtown.

The Basic Dignity Coalition, a collaboration of individuals and organizations focused on bringing basic dignity back to the streets, meets at 6pm on the first Thursday of the month at Co-Merge, 330 A Street, San Diego 92101. The next meeting will be held January 8, 2015.



Transitional Storage Center

This time last year, the TSC was facing imminent closure due to lack of funding and need for a new location. We are happy to report things have come a long way since then.

The TSC now has a long term home, thanks to the generous support of the San Diego Housing Commission and City of San Diego. In addition, thanks to our generous donors: The Anthony Robbins Foundation; San Diego Downtown Fellowship; Jerome's Furniture and Ace Parking; and other private donors, the TSC has secured funding for next year.

The TSC has expanded from providing space for 270 individuals

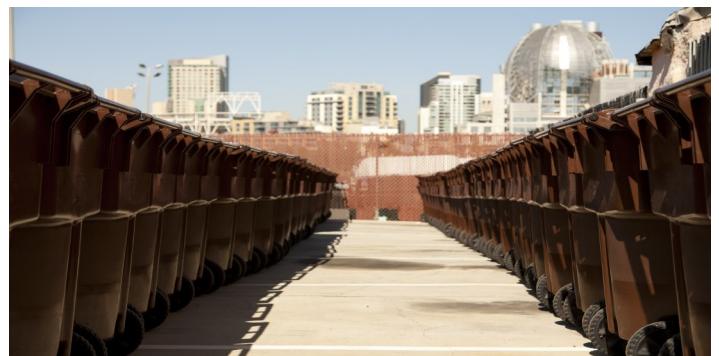
to store their belongings, to providing 353 individuals with a bin. In addition, the Homeless Outreach Team has 3 bins available to store the belongings of individuals who are in need of social services and GTT has partnered with the Downtown Partnership on a new program which will allow the Partnership to use 25 bins.

The TSC is an invaluable resource for those living on the streets. V.R., a client of the TSC said, "Thank you to all who make this possible. I was able to keep my things safe while I found my job and housing. Not having to worry about my things made it easier." V.R. left the Center because he found a job and housing.

Another TSC client George said, "Thank you for treating me like a human being."

Every client at the TSC has a story: http://youtu.be/56_OulpYExo

The TSC is also a win-win for other downtown residents and business owners, by allowing individuals a space to store their items, thereby clearing the sidewalks of downtown of over 30,000 lbs of belongings.



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Legal Referral & Advocacy Clinic This year led to expansions in GTT's mobile Legal Referral and Advocacy Clinic, including a weekly clinic at St. Vincent de Paul Village, a bi-monthly clinic at Path Connections Housing, and monthly clinic at the Downtown San Diego Library. The Clinic provides aid to people like a homeless young woman who lost all of her identifying information, and needed guidance on how to get it back. A month after our GTT volunteer helped her, the woman came back to the clinic, wearing hospital scrubs, and said thanks for the help from the clinic she got what she needed, and was now in school and working.

Community Legal Education Workshops This year GTT started quarterly Community Legal Education Workshops. The Workshops give those on the streets an opportunity to learn about areas of the law which most affect them. The expansion of the Clinics, and launch of the Workshops were made possible in part, by a grant from the San Diego County Bar Foundation.

Know Your Rights Project GTT has finalized our Know Your Rights project, a homeless Bill of Rights, which explains in plain language, 7 areas of law that most commonly affect those living on the streets. These will be given out at Clinics and Workshops to empower those on the streets.

Survival Supplies and Water Distribution GTT distributes survival supplies of items to homeless individuals once a year on Thanksgiving. GTT also provides funding to aid David Ross,



“The Waterman” in his distribution of clean drinking water twice a day, six days a week, to those on the streets.

New Partnerships GTT has embarked upon a new partnership with Sudberry

Properties, who has made an initial three year commitment of \$20,000 per year. We thank Sudberry Properties for their generosity, and look forward to the advancements this partnership will bring for those living on the streets.

What's on the Horizon for 2015 GTT is working



toward expanding our programs to further advance basic dignity for the homeless community, including moving from using bins to individual lockers at the TSC; researching the possibility of starting mobile showers; ensuring that affordable MTS passes are made available to those on the streets; implementing Expungement Clinics to help people clear their criminal records and apply for jobs; expanding Workshops from a quarterly basis; and continuing work advocating for additional public restrooms.

GTT's 6th Annual Gala! Mark the date: Saturday April 18, 2015 from 7-10 p.m. at the Downtown Library. Get ready for the Wild Wild West! In case you haven't attended our Gala before, they are always themed, and prizes are given for best costume! A few of the 2014 attendees:



Get Involved and Give Your Support!

<http://girlsthinktank.org/membership>

BECOME A SUSTAINING DONOR: \$5, \$10... \$100 a month to make a lasting difference in our community

BECOME A MEMBER: Join a team of change-makers and really make things happen: \$25 annually

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME AND TALENTS: Join us for special events and collaborative projects

Girls Think Tank is a 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax deductible.