



## Fall 2018 Newsletter

### PVPSA Breaks Ground On A New Facility



The groundbreaking ceremony for our new home occurred on September 12th, 2018. Our new home will be located at 411 East Lake Avenue and will help PVPSA serve an additional 1,400 children per year. Currently, PVPSA serves more than 6,800 young people, in addition to providing education and support for more than 750 parents.

PVPSA's Kids Corner Plus! Capital Campaign has raised \$2.8 million of the \$3.1 million project that will house the expansion of services that PVPSA is able to offer.

This new home, located on the corner of East Lake Avenue and Brewington Avenue in Watsonville, will allow the organization to meet the growing needs of the community, create an efficient central location for staff, and offer ample space for support groups, therapy sessions and community gatherings.

**PVPSA now needs only \$300,000 in community funds to complete the project. YOU can help us make this dream come true! Visit our website at [www.pvpsa.com](http://www.pvpsa.com) to make a pledge or donation to help us open the doors to our new home!**

### Empower Watsonville Conference To Be Held In December

Empower Watsonville is a youth leadership conference organized by high school students, for high school students. The conference is sponsored by Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance (PVPSA), with support from the California Department of Education (TUPE). Based on an open workshop format, the event will start with a formal opening ceremony and keynote speaker, and then feature guest speakers and informational one hour sessions throughout the day. Empower Watsonville will be held December 8, 2018 at the Mello Center and host approximately 200-300 students. [Visit their website for more information!](#)



## MONTEREY COUNTY **GIVES!**

As part of **Monterey County Gives**, any donation received between **November 8 and December 31** will be **DOUBLED!** If you are interested in making a pledge to donate between these dates, please contact us. **Be on the lookout for updates by following us on Facebook, Instagram, and subscribing to our mailing list!**

We are also looking for individuals who are interested in making a challenge gift in support of PVPSA. **Contact us today to learn how big of an impact a Challenge Gift can be!**

### **PVPSA Teams Up with City of Watsonville**

On September 15th, volunteers picked up more than 3,500 cigarette butts in and around the Watsonville City Plaza as part of International Coastal Cleanup. In just 3 hours, 62 volunteers kept 35 pounds of trash and 7 pounds of recycling from entering our local waterways. With help from Watsonville High School, Save Our Shores, PVPSA, and Pajaro Valley Federation of Teachers the day was a huge success!



"Forty percent of Alliance members in Santa Cruz County are ages 1-19, and it's vital we support wellness for the whole family.

PVPSA's new home for integrated counseling and case management services does just that and will help shape a healthier community."

- **Stephanie Sonnenshine**  
CEO of Central California Alliance for Health  
on PVPSA's groundbreaking of the new facility

### **Youth and Teens Voice Concerns Regarding New Alcohol Ordinance**

Empower Watsonville youth and teens got the chance to voice their concerns for the new alcohol ordinance at the Watsonville City Council Meeting on September 11th. **We are so proud of our students advocating for youth and wellness friendly policies.**



### **October is National LGBT History Month**

LGBTQ individuals are almost 3 times more likely than others to experience a mental health condition such as major depression or generalized anxiety disorder. **PVPSA is proud to continue to partner with the Diversity Center to provide increased supports to the LGBTQ youth of the Pajaro Valley.**

Gay and Lesbian History Month was endorsed by GLAAD, the Human Rights Campaign, and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

