

## THE PULSE

Newsletter | March 2023

The Pulse Newsletter is your monthly update from Primavera Foundation. Read about Primavera's 40th Anniversary, special donors and job opportunities.

### Primavera Foundation Turns 40 This Year!

In 1983, Gordon Packard and Nancy Bissell, responding to the growing number of unhoused people in Tucson, organized volunteers to begin a soup kitchen. After legal challenges forced them to close the kitchen, they ultimately created the Primavera Men's Shelter – and with it, Primavera Foundation was born!

Forty years later, the men's shelter remains, along with Primavera's eleven affordable housing locations, two community service centers, another emergency shelter and more. Primavera annually serves 14,000 to 16,000 people in southern Arizona.

"We are committed to carrying out the mission and original spirit of our founders as we provide pathways out of poverty and empower our participants," Primavera CEO Tisha Tallman said.

We plan to mark our 40th anniversary with special events and activities that highlight everyone who helps Primavera succeed.

Stay tuned for more details!

### Refugio Martinez: Serving Up Respect at Primavera's Men's Shelter

Refugio Martinez – whose first name means "shelter" in Spanish – more than lives up to her name. As kitchen coordinator at Primavera Foundation's Men's Shelter, she provides the men with nutritious, flavorful food and a whole lot more.

"When I cook for them, I put all of my respect and love into it," Refugio said.

"We are family. They need respect, whatever issues might have brought them here."

Want to learn more about how Refugio's work at Primavera aligns with her intense desire to give comfort to people who could use a helping hand? Check out her full story on our website.



[Full Story](#)

### Donor Spotlight: Shelly Gallichio

Shelly Gallichio, a former real estate Associate Broker, has been part of Primavera Cooks! almost since the annual summer fundraiser's inception around 2002. Early on, she was an apprentice chef, a position that allows donors to join a professional chef in the kitchen as they prepare a meal for a restaurant packed with diners. In 2006, Shelly joined the Primavera Cooks! planning committee and remains a dedicated member.



Over the years, Shelly has been instrumental in getting substantial financial sponsorship for Primavera Cooks! from the Long Realty Cares Foundation, the real estate company where she worked for years, and from the J.C. Harry Fund, of which she is an advisor. She has also encouraged fellow agents from Long Realty and elsewhere to serve as apprentice chefs and to attend the events, leading to sell-out dinners of 100-plus people for six straight years.

Directly and indirectly, Shelly has generated nearly \$260,000 to help Primavera carry out its mission of providing pathways out of poverty – an amount that will keep growing as the chefs and diners she has recruited continue to participate in the fundraiser.

In addition to her involvement with Primavera, Shelly keeps busy as a columnist for The Syncopated Times, focusing on traditional New Orleans jazz in the French Quarter and at other jazz festivals.

[Full Story](#)

### Primavera in the News

Here's a sampling of stories in the media that mentioned Primavera Foundation in February:



- [Unhoused Veteran wants to break stigma surrounding homelessness \(kgun9.com\)](#)
- [Tim Steller's column: 'Housing First' challenged as homelessness solution for Tucson](#)
- [Tucson Portrait Story Art\(ish\) LIVE Festival, an Immersive Art Experience, is Coming to the Jewish Community Center | AZ Jewish Post](#)

Do you know someone who wants to join the Primavera Foundation family or are you interested in a new challenge? We are searching for motivated individuals who share our passion for creating a stronger community. If you or someone you know is interested, please send your resume to [jobs@primavera.org](mailto:jobs@primavera.org).



[Open Positions](#)

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Make a difference in someone's life today! Your donation can create pathways out of poverty by providing education, job training and housing assistance to those in need. Join us in our mission!



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Sincerely,

Communications Team

[Communications@primavera.org](mailto:Communications@primavera.org)

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The Primavera Foundation 151 W. 40th St. | Tucson, AZ 85713 US

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