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## Chico Community Shelter Partnership

Chico Community Shelter Partnership is proud to offer to our donors this collection of music and spoken word album about the experience of homelessness.

101 Silver Dollar Way, Chico CA 95928 :: 530.891.9048

### Shelter: a collection of music and spoken word about the experience of homelessness



Shelter is available as a premium to donors who join the Chico Community Shelter Partnership in our efforts to serve those who are homeless.

[click for titles and artists](#)

Shelter. Today it's him or her...you've seen them on the street. Tomorrow it might be you or me. Unlikely as it might seem given our normal fortunate circumstances, we're all in this together.

Chico Community Shelter Partnership is working hard to help the growing numbers of people who are homeless in Chico. Homelessness is affecting the lives of millions of people in America today. But it's not just a national issue; it's also a profoundly local one. Every time we see someone who is without a home we feel it; maybe we feel aversion or judgement, maybe compassion, maybe helplessness and frustration... likely we feel a combination of these things. But the fact that we feel reveals how deeply we are touched.

This CD brings together a very diverse group of singers and poets and storytellers who share a desire to bear witness to the struggles of homelessness. It's a rough collection; we set up a bare-bones studio in the warehouse that has served temporarily as CCSP headquarters while the permanent year-round shelter was under construction. We put out an invitation: let anyone who wished to sing or speak to the issue of homelessness come and record. It was an act of faith. The community responded.

There are many stories that could be told about our two days of recording. How, after Lin Jensen read his powerful essay "Eclipse" the room was hushed except for the tears of those who were touched by this extremely potent tale of compassion in action. How late in the afternoon a young woman came into the shelter with a battered guitar and said that someone on the street told her we were recording, and could she sing a song? Shiloh sat down in front of the microphones and enchanted us with the purity of her voice and her crisp, clean guitar playing. How we struggled in vain to capture the sound of a band of musicians, some of whom had been shelter guests; you won't find them on this CD because our recording skills weren't up to the task. How gifted singer-songwriters showed up, people like DeeDee Vest and Mark Lightcap and Ron Coffey, and how each of them had something to sing about homelessness. Local musician Barney Barbour invented his brilliant contribution on the spot. Aaron Lyon, author of "Hollywood

Outsider" and performer/producer of his album by that name, donated a richly-textured track for this CD. And keeper-of-the-traditions Utah Phillips, very much a supporter of the cause, gave us permission to select a song from one of his CDs and include it, which we have done with the ballad "Yuba City."

There were many more contributions than we could include on this CD. And there are many people to thank, beginning with the artists listed on the back cover. We especially want to thank the Board of Directors of CCSP for their vision and support: Mary Flynn, Andy Holcombe, Jodea Foster, Macy Kelly, Richard Yale, Liz Metzger, Elizabeth Colleran, Bob Cottrell, Heather Schlaff, Cheryl Kiesel, Construction Manager Steve Troester, Founding Board Member and homeless advocate and selfless activist Coleen Jarvis. Tami Ritter, Executive Director, embraced and supported this project from the beginning, when Amos Clifford (who served as our recording engineer) first proposed it.

This album will likely be followed by another, and perhaps another, as CCSP looks for ways to help homeless people find their voices--and, with the help of the entire community--homes. We dedicate this album to the memory of homeless advocate Tim Torres, for whom the new shelter is named, and of those who have died on the streets; Jim Martin, Crystal Lopez, "Pops", "Bear", and many more too numerous to name. May we work together to ensure that everyone in our community knows that someone is there, that someone cares, and that when it is needed, there is shelter.

## titles and artists

- 1. The Train Song:** DeeDeeVest
- 2. Pauper's Grave:** Joel "Whitey" Radke
- 3. Boulevard of Broken Dreams:** Ron Holstroem
- 4. Love's Blessings:** Shiloh Sosa
- 5. Pops:** Mark Lightcap
- 6. I Am With You:** read by Darrell Dinsmore
- 7. The Argument:** Barney Barbour
- 8. Yuba City:** Utah Phillips
- 9. Morning Watch:** Karen Laslo
- 10. Henry and Jesus:** Amos Clifford
- 11. Day We Broke the World:** Ron Coffey
- 12. Sidewalk Blues:** Nebo Daggett
- 13. Surrounded by Love:** Tom Evans
- 14. untitled:** Brad Dyer
- 15. Moving Away:** Aaron Lyon
- 16. Lila and the Honeybear Song:** Dennis "Thor"
- 17. Haiku Train:** Jim "Rev. Junkyard Moondog" Dwyer
- 18. Rules for the Road:** Angel Witnessfeathers
- 19. Be As Dust:** Shiloh Sosa
- 20. Going to California:** Joel "Whitey" Radke
- 21. Eclipse:** Lin Jensen

Yuba City from the Utah Phillips CD, The Telling Takes Me Home.  
Moving Away from from the album "Hollywood Outsider" by Aaron Lyon. Both included with artists permission.  
All other songs engineered and produced by Chico Community Shelter Partnership staff and volunteers.

Cover photo by Tami Ritter.