Combining law, yoga & personal strength

In 2014 Rocsana became a Self Sufficiency Program participant, and was studying to get her AA degree in Administration of Justice. She wanted to help troubled girls who are in the same place she once was herself.

She had a tough early life: as a teenager, she ran away from home to escape abuse. Rocsana got involved with gangs and was in and out of juvenile detention. While in the system, she learned yoga.

Once an angry person, Rocsana found peace and inner strength in yoga. Eventually she found courage to leave the father of her two children with whom she had a toxic, unhealthy relationship.

Through our Self Sufficiency Program, Rocsana received stable housing and counseling to ensure that she had all the tools and resources needed to gain financial independence. “HIP Housing was the foundation I needed to do all the things I have accomplished. I was able to complete my schooling and not worry about working a full time job that would take time away from my kids,” said Rocsana.

Today Rocsana lives in her own apartment, has her AA and is a senior at San Jose State University working on her B.A in Justice Studies and minor in Public Policy and Public Administration. Rocsana also became a certified yoga instructor and is employed with The Art of Yoga, a project that works within the juvenile system. Reflecting on the future, Rocsana says “My goals are to attend law school so I can empower young women, run for school board, buy a home, and give back to my community and those who took the time be part of my journey.”

Rocsana has developed the strength and will to reach her goals. She has the powerhouse combination of quiet strength, gentle kindness and fierce confidence, and is excited to help other young women conquer their obstacles to find inner peace and strength.

I want my children to know that I make sacrifices for them so they can have a secure future. It is important they understand that in life you have to work hard for where you want to be. Just as important, is for them to know that there are great people out there who care about us.

~ Rocsana
In the Spotlight

Virginia Taylor is HIP Housing’s new Board President.

As the successful business owner of Taylor Financial Solutions, specializing in retirement plan consulting, Virginia Taylor has been on the Board of HIP Housing since 2011.

When asked why she chose to be involved with HIP Housing, Virginia explained, “As a San Mateo County resident for over 30 years, I admired HIP Housing’s ability to provide affordable housing solutions that focus on the unique needs of our residents. I became involved with HIP Housing because it is well-organized and efficient, and where I can see my efforts make a difference!”

Virginia has made a huge difference at HIP Housing with her involvement in fund raising, human resources, and events. We look forward to the exciting times ahead with Virginia. Welcome Virginia!

Annual Luncheon

Guest Speaker W. Kamau Bell helped make this our most successful Luncheon yet.

HIP Housing’s Luncheon was a huge success! Nearly 400 community members joined to celebrate HIP Housing’s accomplishments. Thanks to our supporters we raised $170,000 for our programs.

Special thanks to Emmy winning, socio-political comedian W. Kamau Bell (left) for making us laugh, and reminding us that just by attending the Luncheon, guests were making a difference.

Did You Know

Workers living in San Mateo vs. outside

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>San Mateo</th>
<th>OUTSIDE San Mateo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total no. of people working in San Mateo</td>
<td>339,200</td>
<td>213,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change since 2004</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rents vs. Renters Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% change in rent</td>
<td>-15%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change in renter income</td>
<td>-10%</td>
<td>-5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Get Involved

**Holiday Store**

Give the gift of giving. In December HIP Housing will create a store for children in its Self Sufficiency Program to shop for gifts for their siblings and parents. We need your help to make it happen. Please consider donations of NEW items such as toys for all ages, soaps, lotions, scarves, gloves, blankets, etc. **Select your own items or visit our Amazon wish list at www.HIPhousing.org.** **Deadline: November 30th.**

**Adopt-a-Family Program**

Make the holidays special for our families by making their wishes come true. By adopting a family or senior you will be providing them with much needed items, such as winter coats, rain boots, warm blankets, grocery gift cards, etc. There are over 50 families and 100 seniors that need your help. **Contact Regina at RMartin@HIPhousing.org.** **Deadline to sign up: November 6th.**

**2018 Calendar**

Help bring HIP Housing’s annual calendar to the community. If you’re a business, show your support by becoming a sponsor. **For more details, visit www.HIPhousing.org/calendar-project/** **Deadline: October 20th.**

**Planned Giving**

Make an enduring gift for the future. Designating a gift to HIP Housing through your will or living trust can have a long term impact on our community. No amount is too small. It’s the spirit of the gift that will last beyond a lifetime. **Contact Clarice at CVeloso@HIPhousing.org for more information.**

**Volunteer**

Call us today to donate your time and skills. There’s always a need for extra assistance whether that be for office assistance, community outreach or on-call event support for projects like the Holiday Store. Do you like being out in the community? You could be an ambassador for the Home Sharing program. We need you! **Contact Judy at Jfong@HIPhousing.org to see how you can help.**

**In Memory**

**In loving memory of Julie Lanterman.** Julie was a supporter of HIP Housing for over 20 years. Thank you to the many family and friends that paid tribute to Julie by making a donation to HIP Housing in her memory. Your generous gifts totaled over $9,000 for HIP Housing’s programs.

**In loving memory of our past Board President, Thomas Vocker.** Tom was on HIP Housing’s Board for nine years and continued to support the agency after he retired from the Board. Thank you to the many donations we received in memory of Tom. His impact on HIP Housing helped to lay a powerful foundation for our success.
Unlock your home’s potential.
We make it safe and easy for San Mateo County residents to find a great housemate.