From: vanessagraziano nonprofitfraud <<u>vanessagrazianoscam@gmail.com</u>>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 11:00 AM
To: SmHousing Mailbox <<u>SmHousing.Mailbox@santamonica.gov</u>>
Subject: Non profit fraud and embezzlement of charity funds.

## **EXTERNAL**

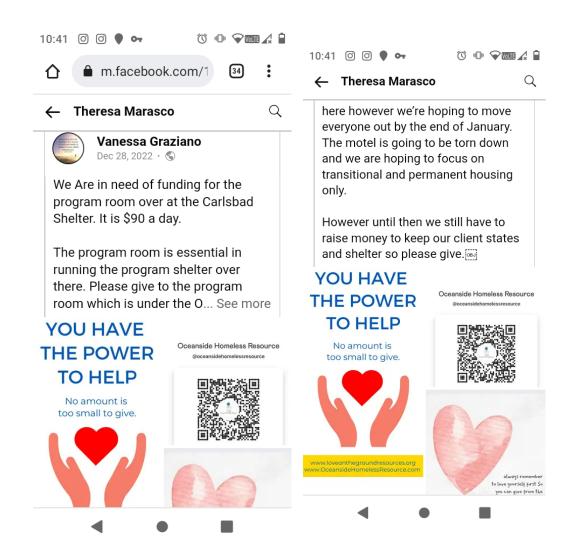
Dear SM Housing,

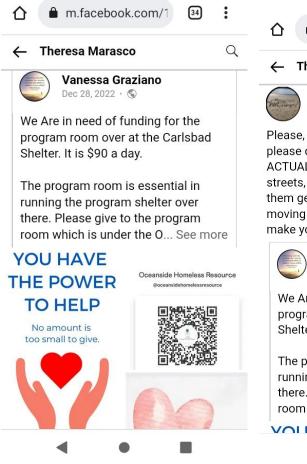
We recently became aware of a non profit engaging in defrauding donors and exploiting the homeless. It is called "Love on the Ground" and operated by a Vanessa Graziano, living in Oceanside.

Everything was reported to police on Christmas weekend by one of the homeless who was exploited. After some research we learned there is no program like is being claimed to house homeless in motels. We also became aware that Theresa Marasco is involved in furthering the fraudulent activity. Even after Marasco was warned that serious violations of state and federal law were occuring, she continues to promote the scam on her social media. As of this morning it was still up. We also learned Marasco is sending homeless people from LA to Carlsbad and Oceanside and once they arrive, Vanessa shows them how to trade their SNAP EBT benefits for cash. We just wanted you to be aware that Marasco is promoting this. Here is her Facebook page <u>https://www.facebook.com/theresa.marasco</u>. Please reach out with any questions.

My name is Savannah.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.





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←	Theresa Marasco		Q
And the second	Theresa Marasco Dec 28, 2022 · 🔇		

Please, please, my friends who can donate please donate to this non-profit that is ACTUALLY helping people get off the streets, get into safe, decent, shelter, helps them get connected with services and moving into permanent housing. Please make your tax deductible dona... See more

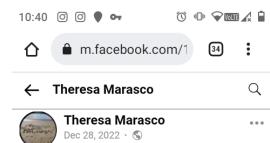


Vanessa Graziano Dec 28, 2022 · 🔇

We Are in need of funding for the program room over at the Carlsbad Shelter. It is \$90 a day.

The program room is essential in running the program shelter over there. Please give to the program room which is under the O... See more

VOIL UAVE



Please, please, my friends who can donate



please donate to this non-profit that is ACTUALLY helping people get off the streets, get into safe, decent, shelter, helps them get connected with services and moving into permanent housing. Please make your tax deductible dona... See more



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please donate to this non-profit that is ACTUALLY helping people get off the streets, get into safe, decent, shelter, helps them get connected with services and moving into permanent housing. Please make your tax deductible donation today VI If you can't donate please share this post. Please and thank you!

Please, please, my friends who can donate

"We Are in need of funding for the program room over at the Carlsbad Shelter. It is \$90 a day.

The program room is essential in running the program shelter over there. Please give to the program room which is under the Oceanside Homeless Resource.



From: Sally Gardens <<u>downbymysallygardens@gmail.com</u>>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 12:20 PM
To: SmHousing Mailbox <<u>SmHousing.Mailbox@santamonica.gov</u>>
Subject: Re: Theresa Marasco

## **EXTERNAL**

Hi again, we are doing a email campaign to raise awareness. We would like it forwarded for public comment, and you can certainly notify staff as well. There are two separate investigations in Carlsbad PD and Oceanside PD.

On Thu, Jan 5, 2023, 12:13 PM Sally Gardens <<u>downbymysallygardens@gmail.com</u>> wrote: Hi, here is a public comment.

Theresa Marasco is aiding and abetting non profit fraud by her friend Vanessa Graziano. She shares Vanessa's social media posts and urges people to donate. Vanessa doesn't pay for any motel rooms for the homeless.

Theresa Marasco sends homeless folks from LA county and OC to Carlsbad under the pretext of help, but according to several people there is no such help. The Carlsbad Village Inn is what Vanessa calls a "shelter" but the hotel confirmed neither she nor her nonprofit pay for any rooms.

There have also been eyewitness allegations of Vanessa helping the homeless trade the SNAP benefits for cash, which they then use to by drugs. Vanessa herself has been observed doing drugs. At least one person, a lady in transition and currently unhoused is saying that Vanessa used her name without permission by posting it online pretending it was for a Christmas gift. She also said that she disclosed her mental health diagnosis to Theresa Marasco who then gave that information to Vanessa. Within a few days, the lady's diagnosis was posted online by Vanessa. This is a HIPPA violation. This is just terrible.

Sincerely,

Sally

From: Tim Rice <<u>ricerepairsforless@gmail.com</u>>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 8:35 AM
To: SmHousing Mailbox <<u>SmHousing.Mailbox@santamonica.gov</u>>
Subject: Screenshot

## EXTERNAL

Here is the screenshot in case she later deleted the post. We have noticed Vanessa deleting a lot of her posts lately since the police got involved.

On Thu, Jan 5, 2023, 8:32 AM Tim Rice <<u>ricerepairsforless@gmail.com</u>> wrote:

Hello, I am writing with some concerns about Theresa Marasco because she was observed promoting a nonprofit that is scamming donors and exploiting homeless people in San Diego County.

It's run by a Vanessa Graziano in Oceanside. Vanessa is a friend of Theresa, who is pushing her followers to wire money to Vanessa's non profit even though she knows local police are investigating Vanessa for serious crimes.

Vanessa is accused of a bunch of financial crimes including wire fraud and selling or trading EBT snap benefits of homeless people. She says she pays for the hotel rooms of homeless, but people who have donated are now complaining they have been scammed. Theresa knows about the accusations, but continues to ask her own social media followers to donate money to Vanessa's personal venmo account. No legitimate non profit uses a personal venmo to raise money.

Here is the link she shared on the 28th of December.

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\_fbid=pfbid0jQi2qEw7i8r2fHtPAw9qnCNj4gaEBikXw6geCQ5scq Kr4W6SBXGQvNWnv6TQ5Npnl&id=100002495689002&mibextid=Nif5oz

Kindly look into this. Regards,

Tim