

PRESS RELEASE:
***For immediate
Release***

*(Quotes and contact
info follows press
release. Photos
available upon
request.)*

EVENT:

Design Unveiling-
a preview of the
Resource Center for
Nonviolence *Building
for the Future*
renovation project

Time and Date:
**3:00-5:00p.m.,
Sunday, July 19, 2015**

***Place: Resource
Center for
Nonviolence, 612
Ocean St., Santa Cruz,
CA (across from Hotel
Paradox)***

Parking: 612 Ocean
parking lot; overflow
parking at the County
Building lot

***RSVPs requested by
July 12:*** 831.423.1626,
2peterkc@gmail.com

More information:
rcnv.org

***Design Unveiling for the
Resource Center for Nonviolence:
Preview will Reveal Plans for a New Look***

The Resource Center for Nonviolence is raising its profile! RCNV's ***Building for the Future*** campaign is excited to share plans for improvements to its 50-year-old building that are coming this Fall.

We invite the community to join us for the **Design Unveiling: a Preview of the New Design for the Resource Center for Nonviolence remodel by Nielsen Studios architects, on Sunday, July 19, 3:00 – 5:00p.m., at the Resource Center for Nonviolence, 612 Ocean St., Santa Cruz.** RSVP's requested by July 12 for the event, which features an ice cream social, music and more: 831-423-1626, rcnv.org

Architect Christian Nielsen and designer Timerie Gordon will outline their designs for a lively and user-friendly community center for nonviolence. RCNV will present a glimpse into its future as a flexible and affordable hub for active local participation. The renovation will improve access for all, provide multiple meeting and performance accommodations for two to 200 people, and add a kitchen as well as art exhibit space.

More than 400 supporters have donated to the Resource Center's "Building for the Future" campaign so far. The Center has \$720,000 towards its goal of \$900,000. The Resource Center seeks \$140,000 more to fulfill remodel plans, and \$40,000 to put solar power on the roof.

Ocean Street is primarily known for its motels and access to the beach for tourists. . The building at 612 Ocean Street was formerly a Christian Science church, built in 1963, and was vacant for two years before the Resource Center bought it in 2011.

The Resource Center for Nonviolence improvements will contribute to City of Santa Cruz plans to revitalize

the Ocean Street corridor. This area has few locations for public and neighborhood gatherings. The renovation will provide affordable meeting and event space for the whole community. The Resource Center joins Encompass Community Services and the Paradox Hotel as community-oriented enterprises transforming the 600 block of Ocean Street.

The Resource Center for Nonviolence is re-purposing and reinventing an existing building, a project more environmentally sustainable than new construction. Already centrally located, these improvements will make RCNV a greater asset to the city of Santa Cruz.

The Resource Center for Nonviolence (RCNV) has been leading the Santa Cruz community and beyond for nearly 40 years. The Center has been at the forefront of major movements for justice, peace and social change and is known for galvanizing the power of the people. In times of crisis and opportunity, advocates for peace and justice locally, nationally and internationally look to the Resource Center for Nonviolence for leadership and constructive engagement for positive nonviolent change.

Since the move to the 612 Ocean building in 2011, RCNV has greatly expanded its collaboration with local community organizations: from the United Way to spiritual communities. Even in its current state, the building has been used for widely diverse uses by more than 100 different organizations, including film showings, memorial services, concerts, speakers, and workshops. The renovations will open possibilities for more varieties of uses by more people, and further develop RCNV's core values as a community center, public forum, and training center where diverse groups and individuals address social problems by life-affirming, nonviolent means.

We invite all those who care about building community and uniting together to move toward a better future to join us on Sunday, July 19. RSVP's requested by July 12: 831-423-1626, rcnv.org

QUOTES:

What people are saying about the Resource Center for Nonviolence and the need for renovation of 612 Ocean St.:

“Architecturally, the building has its back to the community— which is the complete opposite of what the Resource Center for Nonviolence represents. Our goal is to design changes that bring attention to the building as the true community resource that it is.” — **Christian Nielsen and Timerie Gordon, Nielsen Studios**

“New energy flows through the Resource Center for Nonviolence. The Center hosts and collaborates with an amazing array of local groups and events. They are building the future

of democratic activism and community engagement with this reinvented and renovated community center for nonviolence.” — **Don Lane**, Mayor, City of Santa Cruz

“The need is very clear. The Resource Center for Nonviolence facility was used for over 400 gatherings in 2014, including 60 different workshops, 42 public events, and over 6500 visits. Local people working for positive change deserve an updated, attractive and welcoming venue to work, meet, and join together to make our world a better place.” — **Herb Schmidt**, RCNV Building for the Future campaign committee

“The Resource Center for Nonviolence has been a great location for our United Way Speakers Bureau training events. We appreciate the collaboration and support RCNV has offered for justice issues in the county. The Resource Center is centrally located and near public transportation, which is important for our events. Once the remodel is completed, the facility will be even better resource for all. — **Teela Williams**, United Way of Santa Cruz County, and RCNV Steering Committee member.

“We love using the Resource Center for Nonviolence- it’s so centrally located: but the facility needs updating. We have managed to make-do with the existing space for Kids on Broadway productions, but we are excited that the *Building for the Future* renovation will make the space even better for local children’s theater and make it more accessible to the wider Santa Cruz community.” — **April Burns**, Kids on Broadway director and RCNV GI Rights Hotline counselor”

“We’ve missed out on a lot of opportunities for facility rentals because our building currently lacks a kitchen and private conference rooms. By providing improved and more flexible spaces for more kinds of uses, the renovation will more fully serve our community’s needs.” — **Tom Monahan**, RCNV Facilities Manager

“The Resource Center for Nonviolence was instrumental in our “Book to Action” kick-off event “Prison USA,” by offering their location and off-street parking lot. Because RCNV offered their facility for our use with short notice, our event, co-sponsored by thirteen local organizations, was a success. The Resource Center for Nonviolence is a vital resource for the Santa Cruz community.” — **Mailé McGrew-Frede**, Santa Cruz Public Libraries, and RCNV Steering Committee member

“We know the importance of a place for the community. This is a chance to reinvent the Resource Center for Nonviolence. Our improved facility will strengthen and sustain our work by providing ample room for a wide variety of uses.” — **Scott Kennedy**, co-founder of the Resource Center for Nonviolence, and former Mayor of Santa Cruz

“We want to turn the Resource Center for Nonviolence into the “NextSpace of activism. We want to create a new generation of activists. We’re expanding our ideas of what nonviolence-in-action can be.” — **Sandino Gomez**, former Resource Center for Nonviolence staff member

CONTACTS: for more in-depth interviews/information:

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