

Sunnyvale Community Services

Working to Prevent Homelessness and Hunger

A Message from our Executive Director **Tough Choices**

People living on low incomes are juggling all the time.



SCS is the safety net in Sunnyvale

ccording to Second Harvest Food Bank, 62% of low-income clients have to choose between food and housing-sadly, food often gets left off the table.

Hourly workers in jobs without paid sick leave come to SCS for one-time rental assistance when they are ill and don't get paid. Some of the households we help include multiple families sharing a one-bedroom apartment.

When we give financial aid, our caseworkers always complete a 3-month budget with clients, helping them plan out their spending. Often a family will have to use 80% of their take-home pay for rent, leaving little for everyday expenses. We help with car repairs for homeless couples

living in their cars, and partner with Sunnyvale Schools to supply backpacks and shoe gift cards for homeless students from kindergarten to high school.

Helping budgets go farther

Besides emergency financial aid, a family of four can receive \$308 worth of nutritious food every month at SCS, helping them stretch their incomes to pay for rent, utilities, medical bills, and other necessities. Our weekly produce bags are filled with 25-30 pounds of a wide selection of fresh fruits and vegetables. Our monthly food bags are brimming with beans, peanut butter, tuna, and other protein items. This Thanksgiving, our families receive two weeks of healthy food plus holiday gifts, and in December we give each family a two-week supply of healthy foods.

SCS is the safety net in Sunnyvale

Last year, we again helped nearly 7,000 individuals with food or financial aid. Our total financial aid increased by 3% to \$876,825. Thanks to our community's support, we continue to help every eligible client. We prevented evictions and utility shut-offs for hundreds of families, paid medical bills for seniors, and provided support through workshops, activities, and referrals. Our lean staff, 900+ amazing volunteers, and YOU make it all work here in Sunnyvale. Thank you for your -Marie Bernard generosity and support!

Our Largest Challenge Grant Ever!

The Sobrato Family Foundation has awarded SCS a challenge grant of \$110,000!



Fall 2014

We have until July 1st to raise an additional \$110,000 and receive a second year of funding of \$115,000. (The 5% increase in year two is to cover general operating inflation costs, another way that the Foundation supports nonprofits.) That adds up to a total of \$335,500!

Here's how it works:

 If you haven't donated to SCS in the past two years, 100% of your donation will be matched by the Sobrato Family Foundation. • If you increase your donation

from last year, the increase will be matched by the Foundation.

Sobrato Challenge \$110,000 Your Donations \$110,000 Year Two Sobrato Match \$115,000

TOTAL \$335,000

SAVE the DATE!

November 20th

5:00 - 7:30 PM

At the Elks Lodge

Please bring an

toy or bag of

unwrapped new

canned food to

help fill the shelves

of the Community

Christmas Center.

Admission is

Free!

375 N. Pastoria Ave.

Thursday

2014 Holiday Auction

ark your calendar! The sooner than you think! A special thank you to the Sunnyvale Elks Lodge for donating their lovely venue! Be sure to bring your holiday list and shop for one-of-a-kind items including sports tickets, spa packages, vacation getaways, and selections of fine wine.

Many thanks to all who donate food and gifts. We are also grateful for our dedicated volunteers who give hundreds of hours to make this event a great success. All proceeds benefit the SCS Community Christmas Center.

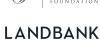
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Our Business is Booming and That's not Good

Year One

Message from the Board President



y introduction to Sunnyvale Community Services was through volunteering for the foodbagging program. A team of my coworkers and I came together one afternoon and assembled over 900 bags of groceries. It was at that time I knew I had found the right agency to dedicate my time.

For the last four years, I have served on the Board of Directors and have seen the changes in the city of

Sunnyvale, the changes to the economic climate of this community, as well as the needs of our clients. The agency has gone through a transformation to meet the needs of our clients by providing additional programs like "Produce Mondays" as well as adding shoe vouchers for the back-to-school backpack distribution each August. Small changes like these are meaningful to our clients and are aligned to our mission to prevent homelessness and hunger for low-income families within our community.

In developing a long-range strategic plan, the staff and Board considered what the next decade has in store for us as a community. Instead of building a plan that focuses on the next three years, we looked out to the year 2020 and discussed the potential challenges that clients and the agency may face in the near-term future and over the next decade. Our strategic plan, called "Achieving Our Mission in 2020" will focus on three main areas: advocacy, operational excellence, and organizational sustainability.

The support of the entire community is essential to our success. Your generosity, both in time and dollars, will make a real and meaningful difference in the lives of so many living here in Sunnyvale, working hard, and trying to stay one step ahead of the ever-increasing cost of living in this wonderful community.

-Camille Barnes-Mosley



We encourage you to **check with your company to see if they offer a matching program for charitable donations**. Many companies do this, and it can mean as much as doubling your donation to SCS. Some companies also match an employee's volunteer hours with a cash amount. Learn your company's policies about charitable donations, and be sure to take advantage of their generosity.

If your company doesn't have a policy in place, maybe you can help them set one up!

The Reviews are in...

As a long-standing nonprofit, our agency has been top-rated by some of the most highly respected independent reviewers including Guidestar, Charity Navigator, and GreatNonprofits. These accolades mean that we are running an efficient and fiscally responsible agency. We could not do this without the tremendous support from donors and volunteers who work with us every day to prevent homelessness and hunger here in our community.



Join our Holiday Drive

The holidays can be especially hard for many of our clients, when hourly jobs get cut and utility bills increase. Please consider donating what we need most:



Donations can be dropped off during normal office hours, M-F 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, with extended hours Dec. 1st – 12th from 8 AM – 8 PM. You can also drop off your donation on Saturdays at First National Bank (FNB) at 425 S. Mathilda from 9 AM - 1 PM. For more information, please call **408.738.4298** or email calexander@svcommunityservices.org.

<u>Thank You!</u>

"Thank you so much for all you did for my family and me. You helped us when we didn't know where else to turn." —SCS Client

In Loving Memory...

We fondly remember our friends: Bob Harms, volunteer Lois Jablinskey, volunteer Nellie Rosingana, volunteer





Holiday Shopping Has Begun

The SCS Auxiliary held their annual holiday boutique this past October, selling beautiful one-of-a-kind ornaments, jewelry, gifts, and more. The highlight of the Boutique was the raffle for the Blue Dahlia quilt. The quilt was started by local artists in 1937 and completed this year by our talented Auxiliary. Over 200 attendees came to get a jump on their holiday shopping. All of the proceeds from this event benefit Sunnyvale Community Services.

Silicon Valley Gave

On May 6, Sunnyvale Community Services, along with 700 other nonprofits, participated in a community-wide fundraising event, "Silicon Valley Gives." This was a one-day giving event put on by the Silicon Valley Community Foundation. Over \$8,000,000



was raised in a single 24-hour fundraising period. We are very proud that SCS was among the top nonprofits receiving individual donations that day. Thanks to a \$10,000 challenge grant from Intuitive Surgical, SCS raised over \$30,000.

Back to School with Backpack Day!



ScS clients between the ages of 4 and 18. Our annual Backpack Day was busier than ever, with young clients streaming through our parking lot all day on August 14. Each student was given a brand new backpack, age-appropriate school supplies and a \$25 Payless Shoe gift card. An additional 100 backpacks were given to local schools to distribute to low-income transfer students and homeless children. We like to think of it as getting ready for school from "Head to Toe!"

We are grateful for the generous support of **The Sharks Foundation** and **The Sereno Group Los Altos**.

We also thank the following donors for helping to make this day a great success:

Alpha Delta Kappa Casa de Amigos Crosswalk Community Church eSilicon Family Giving Tree Fiserv Frances Street Neighborhood Assn. New Hope International Church NetApp

Northrop Grumman Northwest YMCA Orchids Women's Groups Payless Shoe Stores Ponderosa Park Neighborhood Assn. SanDisk Silicon Valley Assn. of Realtors St. Cyprian Sunnyvale St. Luke Lutheran Church St. Thomas Episcopal Church Sunnyvale FISH Sunnyvale Lions Club Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church Sunnyvale Rotary Club Texas Instruments Yahoo! Employee Foundation and countless individuals

Finally, we could not have this event if it weren't for our dozens of hard-working volunteers who work tirelessly to ensure every child leaves with a new backpack on their back and a smile on their face.

Sunnyvale Community Services

Our Kids, Our Community



L to R: Mary Bradley, Jean Riederer, Ben Picard, Marie Bernard, Marla Hampton

For most kids summer means swimming, playing, and no homework! But for many here in our community, the summer months bring food insecurity while schools are closed and breakfast and lunch programs are on hold. For the second year, SCS, along with the Sunnyvale School District and the Northwest YMCA, held an event called Our Kids – Our Community to raise awareness and raise funds to help feed our children during the summer months. This year's event was organized by the **Sunnyvale Rotary** and hosted at **LinkedIn**. The wonderful choir from Bishop Elementary performed songs from "School House Rock" for an appreciative crowd!



Healthy Eating, Healthy Living at Full Circle Farm



his past June, SCS held its third annual and very popular Healthy Eating, Healthy Living Fair at Sunnyvale's 11-acre Full Circle Farm. Crowds of people were able to visit with over 20 participating agencies, eat fresh-from-thefarm fruits and vegetables, and take part in interactive games and activities. This year we also had free dental exams by the Agape Dental Clinic. We are grateful to all of the volunteers who helped on that sweltering day, and we thank our sponsors, **E1**

Camino Hospital, Kaiser Permanente, and **Palo Alto Medical Foundation** for making this important event possible.

Another Great Trashy Affair!



Dinner at the Dump was back this year, and better than ever. Hundreds of guests filled the parking lot of Specialty Solid Waste and Recycling and were treated to delicious appetizers made possible by Sunnyvale Toyota and a mouthwatering barbecue dinner, grilled to perfection by Sunnyvale Public Safety officers. **Julie and Jerry Nabhan** and **Rebecca Buldo** hosted this year's event and the **Sunnyvale Rotary** was its sponsor. Sunnyvale Community Services was granted \$20,000 to help low-income clients here in Sunnyvale keep a roof over their head and food on the table.

At Our Service: Service Clubs



The programs and assistance we provide here at SCS would not be possible without support from the community, including leading service organizations such as **Sunnyvale Rotary, Lions Club, Elks, Kiwanis Club**, and the **Moose Lodge of Sunnyvale**. These organizations raise money, donate food, lend their venue, collect used eyeglasses, run holiday drives, volunteer, and more. We are very grateful for their support!

Thank You!

"Thank you for your help financially, **but most of all thank you for the knowledge you gave me on how to manage life better**. I wish you lots of love and prosperity." —SCS Client





L to R: Terry Chavez, Elija McQueen

An Eagle Scout on a Mission

Life Scout Elijah McQueen, 16, Troop 466 Sunnyvale, CA, saw the film "Pay It Forward" in school and decided that he wanted to do an Eagle Project that will benefit people in need. He remembered a "no sew" blanket that he was given years ago and, after some research, learned that senior clients at SCS, who often turn down the heat in winter to save money, would especially enjoy these blankets.

Elijah then organized and led 30 younger Scouts in making 24 blankets, each of which includes a hand-signed card along with the Boy Scout Oath. Thank you for a wonderful gift for our clients!

Guess What's Cooking at SCS!



This October, in partnership with the University of California, Davis, we began offering a 6-week nutrition class for our clients who are interested in leading healthier lives. Nutrition Program Representative Estela Cabral de Lara is teaching about healthy eating, meal planning, food shopping, food budgeting, exercise, and more. Clients are really enjoying this opportunity and we are already forming waiting lists for future classes!



http://www.svcommunityservices.org/donate-wish-list.html

Neighbors in Need

When it rains...

A couple in their mid-fifties, with grown children living elsewhere, became parents all over again when their 2-year old niece came to live with them rather than be placed in foster care. The unexpected expenses of diapers, food, and clothing happened at the same time that money was taken from their savings due to an insurance company billing error that depleted their savings. All of this left the couple unable to pay their June rent. SCS was able to help them with their rent and PG&E bill while their situation stabilized.

Tragedy mixed with hope

A retired computer salesman and his wife first came to us when their landlord unexpectedly raised their rent to nearly double its current rate in the space of just 60 days. Living on Social Security, the husband and wife were unable to afford the new rent and were facing being homeless for the first time in their lives. Their situation was compounded by the husband's failing health. SCS was able to help them with two month's rent while giving them time to look at alternative housing options. Sadly, during that time, the husband passed away. His wife is currently staying with relatives while she searches for affordable housing. Our client was "grateful for our help during a very difficult time."

A bump in the road

The word, "cancer," strikes fear in anyone, rich or poor. Our client was a hard-working housecleaner suddenly diagnosed with cancer and told she needed a complete hysterectomy and 6 weeks to recover. Though she lived very frugally, she was unable to cover her \$600/month rent if she was not actively working. After reviewing her strong work history, SCS decided to help her with two months' rent so that she could remain in her home, getting the medical attention she needed, which allowed her to return to work healthy and strong.



We Love Our Volunteers!



LinkedIn volunteers were a big help packing groceries for our Monthly Food Day.



Kaiser Permanente volunteers were all smiles helping sort and pack backpacks for Backpack Day.



101



These Infinera volunteers packed 400 bags of food for seniors!







Looking Good from Floor to Ceiling

CS has been busier than ever, and that's taken a toll on Oour wonderful but aging building. Thanks to grants from Second Harvest Food Bank, the County of Santa Clara County, and PG&E, we are in the process of updating our building from top to bottom.

Updates include new flooring in the warehouse, a resurfaced and painted parking lot, wonderful new walk-in cooler and freezer, and newly installed energy-efficient lighting throughout the building. There is still work to be done, but we're on our way to a long-overdue make-over!

New Faces at SCS



lease join us in welcoming some new staff members to SCS! We are pleased to announce that **Carolyn Alexander** has taken on the role of Director of Operations, managing our many programs and events for clients. Frank Carbajal has joined the team as our new Case Manager and Catherine Farry joined us in July as an Encore Fellow, focusing on data analysis and grant reporting.

Major Program Contributors

Anonymous (3) AMD Alpha Graphics Applied Materials Donna L. Beres Christopher and Lucy Cesar City of Sunnyvale City of Sunnyvale Employees' Giving Campaign County of Santa Clara Lvnn & Bill Crane Peter N. Doelling Connor Duke Laura & Fred Egley El Camino Healthcare District Emergency Food and Shelter Program Family Giving Tree Stuart Ferguson & Sandra Spires Fresh and Easy

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Adopt-a-Day Honor Roll

1 Week = a year of monthly food for 17 families (or 200 filled bags of groceries)

Anonymous Stephen and Mary Ellen Barasch Dimensional Research Diane M. Hagglund Glenn and Cynthia Hendricks In Memory of Mary K. Guidotti Jockers Family Foundation Law Foundation of Silicon Valley Anita & Martin Lee Jay Kay Paul c/o Jay Paul Co. Pine Cone Lumber Jim and Janet Reynolds Sunnyvale Martial Arts Academy Alan Templeton

4 Days = 2000 meals-in-a-can

Jeffrey Andrews Sally Brett Bruce and Vivian Euzent Dan and Donna Hafeman Olaf Hirsch and Melinda Hamilton Melissa & Sekeol Kim Paul & Penny Murray Jeff & Cindy Pelger Curtis McKinney & Julia Rogers Eileen Paulsen Dorothy Shannahan Texas Instruments Unilever

3 Days = 3,000 quarts of milk

Anonymous (2) Ali Abedini & Roksana Sadraei Manjili Camille Barnes-Moslev Marie Bernard and Bruce Paton Jim & Celia Dudley Jim and Judy Duport Jeff & Debbie Hotter Gene & Gretchen Lamoreaux Matthew & Donna Leacock John and Asunción Martinez-Wehner Joseph and Dorian Martinka Don & Irene McMullen David and Holly Mendel Fund Arthur and Claudia Muller Jose Ojeda Pacific Gas and Electric Company Chad and Elizabeth Steward Sunnyvale Fire Stations Trinity United Methodist Church - Church Society Committee Wild Palms Hotel

2 Days = 1260 cans of tuna

Anonymous (2) Alpha Delta Kappa, Alpha Lambda Chapter Rafael & Sarah Alvarez-Horine

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Twisted Monkey

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Sunnyvale - The Social Justice Committee Tim and Linda Vachon Bill and Jo Vanderbeek Joe and Connie Verceles Vmware Foundation Peter & Joy Wallack Brad and Debbie Wetmore Judith Petroski & William Wiegand

1 Day = 300 jars of peanut butter

Anonymous (5) John & Linda Adams Sandy and Holly Agbayani Rebecca Anzalone Elizabeth and Paul Archambeault Baan Thai Spa - In honor of Baan Thai Spa Howard Baldwin and Monica Delzeit Marilyn Bearden Ronald Beebe & Diane Wilson Claudia R. Blevle - In Loving memory of Ruth & Frank Ryan Dr. and Mrs. I. B. Bernhardt Neerja Bhatt and Aniruddha Vaidva Sandra Birk Dr. and Mrs. Richard Borrison Mary J. Bradley Jim and Lynn Briody Scott & Betsy Brittle Phillip and Laurel Brock Nicholas and Anna Brosnahan California Apartment Assoc. California Water Service Company Casual Clubbers Golf Club - in memory of Ron Swegles Thomas and Judith Cerny Chinese Seniors Club of Santa Clara Valley Timothy & Margaret Coté Anne & Steve Curry Mark Dal Porto, D.D.S. Gerard Davies & Jody Solow-Davies De Anza Charities Elizabeth Dickinson Kristin Drees Tim & Jill Dunkin Dunnam Family Sandy Ellyson in honor of Judy Dietrich Enterprise Holdings Foundation Federal Express Kent & Barbara Fielden John Finney Janet Fire Andrew Fung Mutek Chu Gewecke Michael J. and Kelly A. Giannini, CPAs Girl Scouts #61277 Steven and Tanis Glass Susan Grabau, Grabau Glass Nathan & Edwina Graham John A. Graves Greet Well Inc., DBA X'Pressions Gurpreet (Kitoo)

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\$\$ Double Your Dollars

You may be able to make your donation to SCS go farther! Be sure to check with your company to see if they will match your contribution. If your company participates, just ask them for a matching gift form and send it to us with your contribution. We will take care of the rest! FYI, some companies even match gifts by retirees and/or spouses!



Sunnyvale Community Services Working to Prevent Homelessness and Hunger 725 Kifer Road, Sunnyvale, CA 94086 • T 408.738.4321 ww.svcommunityservices.org • F 408.738.1125





Programs and Services

- Financial assistance for rent, utilities, medical care, prescriptions, other critical bills, and rental deposits for homeless families moving into housing
- Daily emergency food, weekly "Produce Mondays," monthly food for families and seniors, and Kids' Summer Food distributions
- Community Christmas Center, affording clients the dignity of selecting a two-week supply of food, new gifts for infants through teens, and a practical household gift
- Bus passes and gas vouchers
- Budgeting assistance, support counseling, and advocacy
- Referrals to medical, mental health, employment, shelter, education, and legal programs
- Clothes, backpacks/school supplies, household items

Many thanks to Alpha Graphics and California Mailing for their discounts.

Newsletter designed and produced by



Upcoming Events

Annual SCS Holiday Auction Location: Elks Lodge, 375 N. Pastoria Ave.	Thursday, November 20th 5:00 - 7:30 pm
SCS Community Christmas Center Open House Location: Sunnyvale Community Services	Sunday, November 30th 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Rides for Toys Location: Toys 'R Us 130 E. El Camino Real, Sunnyvale, CA	Sunday, December 6th 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Sunnyvale Singers Holiday Benefit Concert St. John Lutheran/Trinity United Methodist Chur 583 E. Fremont Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA A "free will" offering will be collected benefitting SCS.	
SCS Auxiliary Spring Tea Location: Elks Lodge, 375 N. Pastoria Ave.	Saturday, March 14th 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Art Show "Jigsaw Canvas" Opening Location: Sunnyvale Art Gallery 251 W. El Camino Real, Sunnyvale, CA Opening Reception benefitting SCS

Saturday, January 24th 3:00 - 5:00 pm

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Our Business is Booming and That's not Good