Director’s Message:  
WHAT A DIFFERENCE 15 YEARS MAKE!

I can’t believe I’ve been at SCS for 15 years. They passed so quickly, yet 1991 seems ages ago. What’s changed besides my getting older and grayer? In 1999, we got our first donated computer, monitor, and printer from Apple then worth $9,999. There was no world wide web, and cell phones were rare. Four bedroom/two bathroom tract Sunnyvale homes now selling for well over $1 million then cost a mere $300,000. The price of a first class stamp rose to 29 cents. A dozen eggs cost $1.01; a gallon of gas, a whopping $1.15.

In 1991, one or one and a half jobs per family were usually enough to sustain even a low-income family. Now, in many cases, the father has two jobs, the mother works, and the teenagers do, too, just to make ends meet. Then, most jobs included benefits (or pensions and benefits no one thought would be revoked). Now, 40% of the workforce in this county doesn’t receive any benefits, including paid sick leave. A doctor visit, prescription (or an over-the-counter medication), or a few days sick in bed can push a family to the brink of eviction. In 1991, many fewer people lived paycheck to paycheck. According to a national study, now only 14% of the county’s population can afford to buy a home compared to 54% in the rest of the country.

In 1991, we rarely saw seniors who needed food or financial aid (nor did you see seniors working for minimum wage at fast food restaurants or movie theaters). Their pensions or benefits covered their monthly expenses, but neither has risen to keep up with cost-of-living increases. Five years ago, we added a monthly food program for seniors and had about 50 participants. Three years ago, there were 125; now there are over 300. In 1991, 80 families participated in our food programs each month; now, there are over 1,100. In 1991, we distributed $34,000 in financial aid; last year, over $500,000.

(continued on page 2)

So far, thanks to the Produce Mobile, we have distributed carrots, potatoes, apples, oranges, pears, celery, mushrooms, turnips, onions, and lettuce, as well as cottage cheese and yogurt. In the summer, there will be even more fruits and vegetables.

**WE’RE #2, BUT WE WANT TO BE DEAD LAST**

Second Harvest Food Bank released the results of two important studies. Hunger In America 2006 provided a comprehensive profile of those seeking food from programs like ours, shelters, and soup kitchens. The other measured the local “food gap” between how much food is being provided by existing programs and how much is actually needed by those experiencing hunger and food “insecurity” (not having enough food everyday of the month).

The analysis listed the Most Needy 10 Zip Codes in Santa Clara County. While Sunnyvale’s 94086 (which included 94085) ranked ninth in terms of most pounds of food needed annually (other zip codes have more residents), it ranked second in the percentage gap 54% the percentage of people experiencing hunger or food insecurity. (For the complete studies and methodologies, check the link on Second Harvest’s website: www.2ndharvest.net.)

To diminish that gap, SCS has implemented two new services. We are one of the first agencies to benefit from Second Harvest’s new Produce Mobile. The Food Bank secures large donations of produce anywhere in the western states, but it must pay the freight and any processing costs. Then the Produce Mobile delivers a range of fresh produce to food programs like ours. The response from the clients is overwhelmingly positive. Why? Almost every supermarket in town is located on El Camino Real or south of it. Smaller markets with less volume can’t afford to stock fresh produce at affordable prices.

SCS is also one of the first nonprofits in the area to participate in the California Association of Food Banks’ Food Stamp Outreach Program. At best, only 50% of people eligible for food stamps actually gets them, primarily due to the lengthy eligibility process. We will publicize the program, and our caseworkers will pre-screen clients, reducing the number of trips to the food stamp office.

For more information on hunger and public policy affecting it, visit the California Food Policy Advocates website: www.cfpa.net.
Thanks to a knowledgeable, dedicated Board of Directors, SCS changed in response to the basic needs of our clients. We dropped less essential services to focus all resources, financial and human, on the most critical needs—financial aid and food. We increased the budget from $400,000 to $2,000,000. We diversified our funding base from 1/3 government, 1/3 United Way, and 1/3 corporate/community to 12% government, 4% United Way, and 84% corporate/community. (Having more pieces of the funding pie helps ensure financial stability, but also means significantly more effort to obtain all of those “pieces” each year.) We reduced paid staff from 12.5 to 7.5 by initiating an extensive volunteer program, and now annual volunteer hours equal 9 full-time employees. And we moved into a larger, permanent facility we own (though we paid only 10% of the $3 million costs) that contains all our activities under one roof and increases efficiency.

I doubt that anyone in 1991 could have envisioned the circumstances our clients find themselves in today, nor do I think anyone can project what will happen 15 years from now. We are the only emergency assistance agency in this county that has provided financial aid to every eligible low-income or homeless family and senior in verified need.

Your support has made our accomplishments possible. We hope that in the coming years Sunnyvale Community Services will continue to earn your respect and support so that we can continue to help all those in such desperate need.

Every month, a crew of faithful SCS volunteers unloads pallets of food from the Second Harvest Food Bank truck, puts away frozen and refrigerated items, and stores the rest in our warehouse. Twice each month, corporate and community groups pack thousands of bags full of canned and packaged foods for our family, senior, and Kids’ Summer food programs.

Shown above are volunteers from One Brick, a nonprofit that brings volunteers together to support other nonprofit organizations by creating a friendly and social atmosphere around volunteering. 28 volunteers packed 1,000 bags in two hours, found places to stack all of them, broke down and recycled all the cardboard crates and boxes. Other groups that have packed bags in the past year include Agilent, IBM, Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church, St. Mark Lutheran Church, Church of the Resurrection, Hands on Bay Area, Fremont High School Key Club, Girl Scout Troops 354 and 636, and 20 SCS volunteers.

On distribution days, another 35 volunteers handle the distribution and recordkeeping processes.

Conventional wisdom holds that a “rising tide lifts all boats.” However, in the Bay Area, the rising tide has left some boats behind. The gap between high-wage and low-wage workers has widened according to a recent California Budget Project study (www.cbp.org), and the enormous wealth generated in the high tech industries has not “trickled down” to those with low incomes.

- Between 1979 and 2004, after adjusting for inflation, hourly earnings of high-wage workers rose 30.5%, while the hourly earnings of low-wage workers declined 4.6%.
- A single minimum wage worker in the Bay Area has to work 106.3 hours per week to afford a studio apartment.
- In Santa Clara County, 8.7% of the population has a family income below the 2004 Federal Poverty Level—$9,310 for one person, $18,850 for a family of four. 20.5% has a family income under 200% of the poverty level.

A dozen years ago, we adopted a catchy but unfortunate slogan: “Our Business is Booming, and That’s Not Good.” We thought and hoped that we’d have to replace it in a few years. Sadly, it appears to be truer than ever.

(15 Years—continued from page 1)
A PICTURE’S WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS— THESE SHOW HELP FOR THOUSANDS

The Scouting for Food drive resulted in thousands of pounds for SCS’ Thanksgiving and Holiday food distributions. Volunteers from the Sunnyvale Rotary Club, Homestead High Interact Club, and Sunnyvale School District, unloaded a truckload of food purchased at substantial discounts from San Jose Grocery Outlet.

Rotarians and Interact members moved tons of food, packed hundreds of bags for Thanksgiving, then set up the Christmas Center, and Savannah Simms decorated. AMD volunteers donated, sorted, and assembled 1,000 toys and gifts.

Dee Imazeki and May Louie created teen gifts. Carol Schweizer created household gifts. SCS’ Auxiliary made and stuffed 500 stockings.

Katy and Billy Moylan each donated $40 from their allowances to buy gifts for other children.

From the first day through the 12th, 1,055 families selected a two-week supply of food, new gifts for infants through teens, and a gift for every household. 588 volunteers working 4,356 hours to make the Community Christmas Center a success—bringing holiday cheer and nutrition for low-income families without breaking their budgets or creating more financial assistance cases at SCS in January and February.
Special thanks to
• The Historic Del Monte Building for donating use of its beautiful ballroom and for preparing a gourmet spread
• Debbie Lyn Owens of Debbie Lyn’s Costumes for her very creative mind and costumes
• Hybrid Commercial Printing (formerly All American Copy) for printing the program and libretto
• Starbucks in the Cherry Orchard for donating the table favors
• Our dedicated, talented Board of Directors who are very good sports and fantastic performers
• Marie Barlahan, Director of Operations/Volunteers, for exceptional work running a huge, very successful volunteer program with over 800 volunteers whose donated hours annually equal those of 9 full-time staff (SCS has 7.5 paid staff)
The Good Witch helped Dottie and her faithful horse Tutu (who wanted to learn ballet) find the Wizard. They had to defeat the evil Wicked Witch of the East and her evil twin sister, the Wicked Witch of the West, who was accompanied by her companion, the Flying Monkey. To do so, Dottie, Tutu, the Scarecrow (who needed volunteers to stuff him), the Lion (who desperately needed food), and the Tin Man (who needed a home to prevent rusting) all followed the Mellow Sick Toad (who needed healthcare). They visited the People of SCozS (who doubled as the Lunchkins) and the Palace Guard, defeated the Witch (who died from hearing terrible puns), and met the Wizard—the staff of SCS who could obtain housing, food, healthcare, and fee waivers for Parks and Recreation activities, supported by dedicated volunteers.

PLEASE PASS THE RICE AND BEANS

Members of the Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church’s Bag Brigade show the total poundage of food collected one Sunday. In just three years of monthly collections, the congregation has contributed and delivered over 53,000 pounds of food to SCS. The church also purchases tons of rice and beans which church volunteers repackage, a ton at a time, into two pound baggies. These extraordinary efforts, led by Pat and Greg Plant, mean more food for our clients.

SEE OUR NEW VAN GO

Thanks to the Sunnyvale Rotary Club and its partner, the Rotary Club of Kainan, Japan, SCS is the proud owner of a large van. The club had been raising funds for the van for several years. Then it heard that the Cupertino Rotary Club had a van they had given to the YMCA returned to them as the agency couldn’t afford the insurance. (Carrying children raises the insurance premiums sharply, but with the passenger seats removed, our rates are much lower.) Toyota Sunnyvale fixed any mechanical problems and tuned the van, then Kuykendall’s Collision Repair detailed it. The van looks brand new, but because it is older, our insurance rate is much lower. In November and December alone, we made 86 trips to deliver collection boxes and barrels and to pick up food and gifts. Now we also can make weekly trips to the Food Bank—even in the rain—without having to rely on a few volunteers with pickup trucks or renting trucks. Thanks to the Rotary Club and Dick Smith who led the project, we’ve been able to increase the amounts of food we distribute all year and the gifts and food distributed at the Christmas Center.
DON’T MISS DINNER AT THE DUMP
A TRASHY AFFAIR - Saturday, June 17

Get your tickets for Dinner at the Dump. This fantastic event is hosted by Jerry and Julie Nabhan (shown in official aprons) and Rebecca Buldo—not at the aromatic dump itself, but at Specialty Solid Waste and Recycling’s corporate headquarters. The barbecue is the best ever, featuring hors d’oeuvres at Seafood Cove, and superb barbecued steak, chicken, and salmon.

There will be a silent auction and raffle. New this year is a dunking booth with the following “dunkees”: County Assessor Larry Stone; Mayor Ron Swegles; Vice Mayor Otto Lee; Councilmembers Dean Chu and Chris Moylan; Public Safety Department Chief Don Johnson; Toyota Sunnyvale owner Adam Simms; and leaders of the three organizations benefitting from the event—Linda Price and Pat Vorreiter from Sunnyvale Rotary Club, Jim Telfer from Leadership Sunnyvale, and Nancy Tivol from SCS. (Please see the insert, and call Carmen or Nancy at 738-0121 for tickets.)

THANKS A BUNCH

Patrick Rin, Nicole Brown, and Zaria Lovelace delivered a basket of handmade flowers with messages of thanks from Jane Wallace’s 4th grade class at St. Cyprian School to SCS volunteers and staff for helping families and children in need. (Back row: Gloria Marañon, Linda Feeney, Nancy Tivol, Jeanne Yeager, Aldine Looney, and Sue Barbieri)

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Thanks to Network Appliance, Jean Newton Public Relations, and Image Design Video, SCS has a new eight minute video. We will use it in community presentations to give an overview of SCS and as an introduction to a discussion of the needs confronting our clients and our services that address them. Please call us if you would like to schedule an SCS presentation for any civic or social group, business or professional organization, school or youth group, church, or just a group of friends.

CHINESE SENIORS ARE NEARLY 30 YEARS OLD

In the late 1970s, SCS secured a grant from the County to provide services to the growing Asian population, primarily for Vietnamese immigrants and Chinese seniors. The grant has long since expired, and we see very few Vietnamese clients. We do, however, continue to sponsor the Chinese Seniors Club of Santa Clara Valley which formed in 1977.

The club membership has grown from 200 to 800, and their activities have grown from two a month to one or two each day. The club offers English, citizenship, driving-for-seniors classes; Tai Chi and Yuan Chi for health and vitality; choral lessons and karaoke singing; Chinese and ballroom dancing; painting and calligraphy groups; and, occasionally, ping pong and mah jong. The club holds a summer picnic and three annual luncheons celebrating the New Year, spring Dragon Boat, and fall Moon festivals, each with entertainment provided by the members.

Of particular interest to the members are seminars on health issues presented by local experts, for example, on breast and prostate cancer, heart attacks and strokes, and lung disease.

Members and the club itself support SCS financially, and club volunteers prepare our semi-annual newsletters for mailing, saving us nearly $10,000 a year.
Adobe Systems
AMD
Alpha Graphics
Applied Materials
Applied Signal Technology
Ariba
Assistance League of Los Altos
Casa de Amigos Arts & Crafts
Chinese Seniors Club
City of Sunnyvale and Employees’ Giving Campaign
Comerica Bank
Community Foundation Silicon Valley
County of Santa Clara

The Historic Del Monte Building
Family Giving Tree
FEMA
Ralph Folsom
Homestead High School
Housing Industry Foundation
Housing Trust of Santa Clara County
Hybrid Commercial Printing
II Postale Restaurant
Juniper Networks
Lockheed Martin Employees’ Foundation
Grace and Einar Lorentzen
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
Barbara McClellan Foundation
McKenna Family Foundation
Menlo Equities
National Semiconductor
Network Appliance
Orchard House
Pacific Gas and Electric
Jay Paul Company
Pearson Pontiac Buick Pontiac GMC
Sandisk Corporation
San Francisco Chronicle Season of Sharing
San Jose Grocery Outlet
Satterberg Foundation

Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara & San Mateo Co.
Sobrato Foundation
Specialty Solid Waste and Recycling
Sunnyvale Chamber of Commerce
Sunnyvale Community Services Auxiliary
Sunnyvale FISH
Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church
Sunnyvale School District
Thai Basil Restaurant
Toyota Sunnyvale
Union Bank of California
United Way Silicon Valley
Yahoo! Employee Foundation

ADOPT-A-DAY HONOR ROLL (underwriting SCS’ $1,000/day operating costs not covered by contracts/grants)

1 week
AMD
Applied Materials
Bruce and Vivian Euzent
Juniper Networks
Christopher Knorr
Lockheed Martin Employees’ Foundation
David and Holly Mendel Fund
Menlo Equities
Gaylord and Carmita Mossing
Network Appliance
Jay Paul Company
Lois Sibbach
Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church
Sunnyvale Rotary Club
Union Bank of California
anonymous (5)
Agilent
Harry and June Amos
Stephen and Mary Ellen Barasch
Nancy Barry-Jansson
Bob and Cheryl Bartholomew
Ron Beebe
Paul and Kathryn Besser
Congregation Beth Am
William Black
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Borrison
Mary Bradley
Nicholas and Anna Brosnaham
Les and Beth Brubaker
Heather Campbell and Jeff Meyer
Chinese Seniors Club
Church of Latter Day Saints Fdn.
John and Maya Clifton
Ellyn Corey
Harlan and Lorraine Crowder
James and Susan Lietz Davis
LaAnn Duggan
Jim and Judy Dupport
Chuck and Lorraine Eanoff
Chester E. Elliott
Elrcco, Inc.
Kent and Barbara Fielden
First United Methodist Church
Keith and Marcia Flager
Janis Freestone & David Charlton

4 Days
Sandy Ellyson
Ray and Natha Ostby
3 Days
William and Aline Baeck
Eugene Coogan in memory of Germaine Coogan
Tim and Jill Dunkin
Philip Feralito
Diane Hagglund
John S. and James L. Knight Fdn.
Philippe Lacroute
David and Kathy Moore
Bruce and Michael Payne
Gregg and Belle Pullano
Thomas Pyle in memory of Susan Pyle
Robert Fruehsamer
Pearl M. Gilmore
Sandra Glass in honor of Michael Glass
Thomas and Mary Granvold
William and Carolyn Gross
Dan and Donna Hafeman
Hewlett Packard
John and Marie Elena Hopkins
Richard and Diane Horn
Suzanne Horrigan in memory of Pat Horrigan
Russell and Susan Hull
Jerry and Anne Infeld
Robert and Kathleen Jackson
In memory of Phyllis Jeckell and Barbara Mordy
Randolph Jones
Patricia Keenan
Terence Kenney
Michael and Debbie Klein
Dr. David S. Ko
Philip Kurjan
Brucer and Jing La Fountain
Matthew and Donna Leacock
Bobbie Lemberg in memory of Herb Basescu
Manuel and Judy Macias
Macy’s Sunnyvale
Allen and Amy Maddox
Guy and Patricia Malcolm
Jerry and Linda Mar
Joseph and Dorian Martinka
Glen Martinson
John and Dianne McGowan
Marc Merlin
David Milani
Dennis and Linda Moreno, MGM Realty
Michael and Arlene Mori
Carol Morrow
Douglas Mow
Arthur and Claudia Muller
Glenda and Tom Murray
Paul Murray
Charles Nabor
Russell and Mira Nakano
Lance Nakata
Benjamin Newsom
Jim and Kathy Quinnan
Ron Robinson
Jeff and Sandra Ruggles
Safeway/Pak ‘N Save #3103-06
St. Luke Lutheran Church
St. Mark Lutheran Church
Arthur Saville III
Timothy Schaff
Carol Schweizer
Sctor Corporation
MaryBeth Selvin

1 Day
Robert Locke

2 Days continued
John and Dorothy Mark
Timothy McLaughlin
Robert and Kathleen Menifee
Jon and Carol Nickerson
Scott and Kristina Peterson
Pine Cone Lumber
Robert and Anne Pochowski
Joe and Nancy Rager
St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Sociedad Señor’s Isabel la Catolica
Nancy Tivol
Bill and Jo Vanderbeek
Paul Walkowiak
Breit and Suzanne Young

Dorothy Shanahan
Silicon Valley Association of Realtors
Mario Silveira
Larry and Gail Smith
Starbucks, Cherry Orchard Center
Dennis and Jean Stein
Chad and Elizabeth Steward
Sunnyvale Elks Lodge #2128
Sunnyvale Federal Credit Union
Sunnyvale Lumber
Sunnyvale Service Athletic Club
Sun Microsystems Foundation
Gareth Thomas
David and Cathy Tsang Foundation
Susan Twietmeyer
Charles and Leanne Untulis
Verity, Inc.
Brian and Elizabeth Verstegen
Pat Vorreiter
William Wathen and Gail Hoben
Bruce and Marilyn Watts
John and Asuncion Martinez-Wehner
Nora Weissman
Bill and Janne Witt
Kevin and Grace Witt
Esther Wong and Shayne Stubbs
Jack and Nancy Wu
Yahoo!

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YOUR DONATIONS SAVE LIVES

A 35 year-old father of three with no history of health problems suffered a heart attack. Hospitalized for 17 days, he lost substantial wages as his full-time job did not provide any benefits, including paid sick leave. After making payment arrangements for the health care services, the family faced eviction as the wife’s income as a day care provider wasn’t enough to cover monthly bills. SCS paid the family’s rent.

A grandmother assumed custody of grandchildren age 10 and 12 after one parent died and the other was arrested. She needed to move to a two-bedroom apartment. She could afford the monthly rent but needed help with the deposit. SCS paid it.

An 82 year-old woman came to register for our monthly food program. It was the first time in her life that she ever asked for help. She said, “By the time you ask for help, you’re already depressed. Coming to a cheery place with caring people gives you hope and let’s you keep your dignity.”

A gardener (and father of two) came for help because his income was drastically reduced. The boss cut his hours because the extended rainy season meant fewer jobs and work days. He got another part-time job, but he needed help with the rent until that new paycheck arrived.

Staff

Nancy Tivol
Executive Director

Marie Barlahan
Director of Operations/Volunteers

Nancy Wu
Director, Emergency Assistance Program

Carmen Davis
Office Manager

Jose Hernandez
Caseworker

Dien Ton
Caseworker

Jeanne Yeager
Caseworker

Jerry Mou
Program Assistant (part-time)

SCS Auxiliary
Jean Gryc and Sue Barbieri, Co-Presidents

Chinese Seniors Club
Roger Lin, President

Board of Directors

Jim Gibson
Regional Sales Director
U. P. E. C.

Colleen Hurley
Corporate Real Estate Mgr.
Juniper Networks

Shelly James
Director, Human Resources
Sunnyvale School District

Marie Kuykendall
Owner/Operator
Kuykendall’s Collision Repair

Leslie Lawton*
President
We Produce Transcription Services

Manny Macias*
Realtor/Pharmacist
City of Sunnyvale

Karen Davis
Economic Development Mgr.
City of Sunnyvale

Sharon Davis
Medical Center Representative
Schering-Plough

Steve Harms
Customer Service Officer
Union Bank of California

Brenda Hendricksen
Community Affairs Program Mgr.
AMD

Debbie Lyn Owens
Owner/Operator
Debbie Lyn’s Costumes

Bruce Paynter**
Senior Director, Site Operations, Core Asset Services
Applied Materials

Peter Pazmany
President/CEO
Advanced Solutions in Logistics

Pat Plant
Program Manager and Hunger Advocate
Presbytery of San Jose

Dee Simms
President
Toyota Sunnyvale

Nancy Smith
President
Visage Consulting

Manuel Valerio**
Community Relations Mgr.
Fry’s Electronics

* term ends 6/06
** term begins 7/06

In memory and honor of Barbara Hook, dedicated member of our auxiliary