After 21 years of dedication to Sunnyvale Community Services (SCS), Nancy Wu is retiring from her position as the Director of Emergency Services.

“I have been with this agency since September of 1990,” says Wu who started with SCS as a social worker and was later promoted. “I love my job. To me, it’s very rewarding...I get to work with the human side of the community.”

Her love for assisting the underprivileged originated from her childhood days where she sought to help contribute to her family income. After graduation from San Francisco State University, Wu began her community service venture at the Abraham Lincoln High School where she was the Community Relations Assistant and Counseling Aide under the Federal Emergency School Aid Act.

For the past two decades, Wu and SCS have been fighting against and preventing homelessness and starvation. Yet in the past few years, her job has been increasingly difficult as a result of the failing economy. “Everyone coming in [to SCS] has a sad story. The joy of my work is to assist the families and help them get stabilized.”

Wu has done everything in her reach to provide assistance for seniors, families, and individuals. Even with difficult times in the economic environment, she has attempted not to “turn [people] away with nothing.” A hero to her community, Wu will be missing her ‘SCS family’ the most after retirement. “I’ll miss the people a lot - we’re a team. I’ll also miss working with our clients...will miss talking with them and advising them.”

Working ever since junior high school, it is time for Wu to take a much needed break and spend more time with her family and possibly travel with her husband. Wu concludes, “I have great confidence in my SCS team and can expect for this organization to grow. I would never want to turn away a family because we cannot provide them with help.”

Story by Lucia Tran
It takes a village to find a job. Many activities go into finding a new job: networking, resumes, workshops, ProMatch, job fairs and volunteering. August 2009 I'm laid off. Some days later I went to Sunnyvale Community Services to see if they were “hiring” volunteers. As the Community Services Coordinator for my last company I had been volunteering here for the last 12 years. I now had a new place to work. I had a weekly assignment and a monthly one. Of course, at Christmas time I had all the hours I wanted! I was needed and trusted, it is important to feel you are contributing, when you’re in job search mode. I owe a lot to the staff and other volunteers for helping me stay upbeat during my job search. Thank you all for your support!

I started volunteering at Sunnyvale Community Services in September 09. My girlfriend Lucy and I were both out of work, she’d been out about 18 months at that point, me just over

6. We had both reached the point where it was obvious it was going to be tough to get a new job, we were not happy just staying home trying not to spend money, so we wanted something that would both give us a place to go in the morning with a purpose, and do something that added some value. I found a newsletter that mentioned volunteering, emailed Marie Barlahan and she started us off at 7:30am one morning bagging up produce. We liked it right away, hard work but the time flies by, lots of nice people from Lois who gives everyone a hug to Marie herself we quickly felt like we were part of something again and it really helped us get through the downtime being unemployed.

Lucy got a new job in April 2010 but I continued to volunteer without her and in addition to bagging I often helped out in the warehouse moving around pallets of food and setting up things again, good honest work with hard working volunteers that all knew I was looking for work and kept their eyes open for me and kept my spirits up. Several times I had interviews and they went nowhere and there was always someone to tell me to hang in there or wish me luck. Finally in December I landed a new job, at a local company in Sunnyvale 5 minutes from home. Perfect commute, small growing company and a job I really like. I am convinced my time volunteering helped me both in keeping my mind sharp, but also in showing prospective employers that I wasn’t just sitting on the couch watching tv I was doing the best I could in a bad situation and I think it absolutely helped me get the opportunity to interview and ultimately helped get the job.

I learned a great deal during my time volunteering I had no idea there were so many people freely giving of their time to help people less fortunate than themselves, it restored my faith in people and I met a lot of really nice people along the way too. I’m extremely glad I chose to volunteer and would do so again in a heartbeat if I find myself in that situation again.

Why do I volunteer at Sunnyvale Community Services? It’s a very simple question with a complex answer. During my freshman year of high school, I discovered Sunnyvale Community Services from a list of agencies recommended by my school.

I still remember opening the large front doors and asking for Nancy Wu. I worked alongside Sue Barbieri, a long-time volunteer, who showed me how to appreciate the small efforts I made, how to recognize the collective efforts of the whole agency, and how to realize the impact that we were making. She was my inspiration.

My volunteer work at Sunnyvale Community Services, coupled with serving as President of the Archbishop Mitty High School Advocacy Project, drove me to do further research on food stamps and California’s hunger situation. Here’s what I found. There are 4.2 million people eligible for food stamps in our state. Our state’s budget and economic crisis is only making this problem worse by increasing the demand for food. It’s not a problem anymore though; it’s a crisis.

My motivation grew every time I witnessed a family with infants pick up food, or a senior come by for clothes and other necessities. As just one person in the midst of this crisis, it was easy to feel helpless. However, I realized that my small efforts at Sunnyvale Community Services would be important to sustaining our community.

Along with impacting change, volunteering at Sunnyvale Community Services has opened my eyes to appreciating all that I am privileged to have. In our busy lives, we tend to take food and other necessities for granted, completely forgetting how many people struggle to make ends meet.
Tea at Two

101 guests came to the SCS Auxiliary Spring Tea on April 16th. Guests were serenaded by the Boomerang Barbershop Quartet, who sang tunes from the Beatles to Broadway! The boutique was filled with handcrafted items made with love by auxiliary members. Homestead High School Interact Club members volunteered to set up and graciously serve tea and homemade sandwiches and cookies.

Every week, the dedicated members of the SCS Auxiliary create arts and craft items. The next event is the annual Holiday Affaire Boutique. Come do your holiday shopping early! Saturday, October 22nd from 9:30am to 3:30pm. One lucky person will win the drawing for this year’s handmade quilt, in a beautiful maple leaf pattern. Though all of the items are very reasonably priced, the proceeds from the Auxiliary events raised over $9,000 to SCS this year! If you are interested in joining, the group meets Thursday mornings at SCS.

AARP Tax Aide Volunteers Give Free Income Tax Return Help!

For the fourth year in a row, AARP volunteers came to SCS to give free income tax preparation and filing help to middle- and low-income families. During the ten weeks, the AARP volunteers assisted 571 families with their federal and state income tax forms, and enabled families to receive $62,209 in earned income tax credits!

Your Donations are Helping Families and Seniors!

- A single mom with limited income and her one-year-old foster child were living in an apartment infested with bed bugs and rodents. She had to spend hundreds of dollars to clean their clothes and purchase new bedding, but they could not afford to move to a new apartment. The landlord would not help to fix the apartment. She was able to find a new place to live, but they needed help with the first month rent. SCS was able to help them afford to move, and now the mother and child have a clean and safe place to live.

- A family of four was in danger of losing their home when the father had a stroke and was unable to work. He filed for disability and is waiting for his claim to be approved. Friends and relatives were able to help pay rent for a few months, but they were still struggling as they waited for disability benefits. SCS was able to help them pay their rent and keep their home. SCS also referred them to other community resources for additional assistance.

- A woman with disabilities had been homeless for over a year. She was sometimes able to stay at a shelter, but many nights she had to sleep in her car. She finally got a Section 8 voucher for subsidized rent, but she needed assistance for the move-in deposit. With SCS’s help, the woman is now stabling housed in a secure unit she can afford, and she can come to SCS each month for food and produce.

New Roles and Faces at SCS

With the retirement of Nancy Wu, SCS had the challenging task of finding a replacement for her position. Fortunately, we didn’t have to look far for talent! As of July 1st, Marie Barlahan (right), currently the Director of Operations and Volunteers, will step into the role of Director of Emergency Services. Marie Barlahan, brings over 10 years experience and a Masters Degree in Counseling to the role.

My-Dung Tran (center), who has been the SCS Volunteer Program Associate since 2010, will take over Marie Barlahan’s role to become the new Director of Operations and Volunteers. Filling My-Dung’s former role, we are very pleased to announce our newest staff member, Terry Chavez (left), who takes over as Volunteer Program Associate. Terry brings many years of experience in corporate project management and community outreach at Intel, and has been a long-time SCS volunteer, most recently as the volunteer “lead” for the housewares department in the Christmas Center. Please congratulate Marie and My-Dung on their new roles, and welcome Terry to SCS!

Holiday Auction - December 1st!

All Proceeds Benefit SCS!

Join us at SCS as we kick off the holiday season at our annual holiday dinner and auction. Don’t miss out on the food, wine, desserts, and 100’s of auction items!

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Business is Booming, and That’s not Good
Special Honorees

Nancy Wu and granddaughter Sophia accepted Nancy’s award for 21 years of outstanding service and dedication to our agency and the community.

Homestead High School
Student Tania Maxwell, Homestead ASB Social Manager, and Melina Miller, Student Advisor, accepted their award for organizing very successful food/household items drives for the Community Christmas Center and ongoing volunteer support.

Kaiser Permanente of Santa Clara
Elizabeth Sills, Community Benefit Manager at Kaiser Permanente, accepted Kaiser’s award for their generous grant to pay for food for low-income families and seniors.

Andy Frazer and IrisAnn Nelson
Andy Frazer accepted the award for himself and wife IrisAnn Nelson, for their family’s continuous support and inspiration to our endeavors.

Northrop Grumman Marine Systems
Linda Harmon, Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Marine Systems at Northrop Grumman, accepted the award for the company’s ongoing financial and volunteer support to SCS.

Board Members Steve Harms and Connie Verceles joined Marie Bernard in presenting awards to our honorees who made significant contributions to our community.

500 Scarves Project
Join our volunteer Sophia to help us reach our goal of 500 handmade scarves and hats for the holidays! Every year, SCS tries to make the holidays a little brighter for those in need.

This year, we want to distribute scarves and hats to our 500 seniors. Help us reach our goal by knitting or crocheting a scarf or hat with your friends.

A Cool Donation! In May, LG and Fry’s Electronics donated an ultra-large capacity refrigerator stocked with 47 gallons of milk to SCS.
Over 200 were in attendance at the Historic Del Monte Building in Sunnyvale to celebrate and honor the wonderful work and generous support given to SCS!

**Special Thanks to:**

- **The Historic Del Monte Building**
  for their very attentive staff and delicious food as well as for donating use of its beautiful ballroom

- **Debbie Lyn’s Costumes**
  for donating south-of-the-border costumes for the photo booth

- **Robin Fisher, Take Flight Graphics**
  for donating the award certificates

- **Grupo Folklorico Los Laureles**
  for their wonderful dancing and entertainment

- **Chinese Senior Club**
  for A/V and technical support

- **John Pham, SJSU**
  for designing the event program

**Scans of SCS volunteers: Steve Harms, Board Member, and Julia Shen, volunteer, getting into the Fiesta spirit!**

Dancers from Grupo Folklorico Los Laureles performed to everyone’s delight!

Anna Eshoo signed over 500 Certificates of Special Congressional Appreciation for SCS Volunteers. The Certificates were presented by Christine Padilla, Senior Field Representative, on behalf of the Congresswoman, to honor our volunteers for their “outstanding and invaluable service to the community.”

**Steel-Cut Oats a Big Hit with Seniors!**

Thanks to a donation from Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, SCS was able to launch a program to supply Steel-Cut Oats for our senior food program in April. The congresswoman encouraged us to supply this nutritious breakfast food to clients. *It’s what Anna Eshoo has for breakfast every day!* Steel-Cut Oats are freshly milled from high protein oats and cut into neat little pieces on a steel buhr mill. Steel Cut Oats are one of the healthiest foods you can eat, high in B-Vitamins, calcium, protein and fiber while low in salt and unsaturated fat. It takes only 20 minutes on the stove to cook up a week’s supply! Seniors came back for second helpings at our tasting, and took bags of Steel Cut Oats home with recipes. We purchased the Steel-Cut Oats at a bulk discount from Sprouts in Sunnyvale. Many thanks to The Czechoslovakia Society of America volunteers who bagged 300 bags of steel-cut oats in April!

**Steel-Cut Oats a Big Hit with Seniors!**

**Special Thanks to:**

- **Congresswoman Anna Eshoo**
  for her support in launching the Steel-Cut Oats program

**Bread & Pastries Program Volunteers**

Dozens of volunteers were given awards for faithfully picking up, delivering, and packing bread and pastries for low-income clients

**Happy 89th Birthday to our long-time volunteer, Jay Smolik!**

Thank you Jay for spending your birthday with us distributing food to our families!
SCS Volunteers in Action: 2010 Community Christmas Center

Thanks to your support, SCS was able to give two weeks of food and holiday gifts to 1,538 families (4,687 people).

NetApp volunteers spent the morning escorting clients through the Community Christmas Center and restocking shelves.

Our neighbors from Maxim helped us restock shelves and sorted canned foods.

Community Christmas Center Team Leads take a short break after months of hard work prepping for the Christmas Center.

Medtronic volunteers bundled over 400 towels and kitchen utensils as gifts for our seniors.

Volunteers from Scitor took down the Community Christmas Center in a record breaking 1 hour!

Students from Homestead High School's Interact Club and the Sunnyvale Rotary decorated the Christmas Center.

Christmas is only 6 months away!

It's never too early to be good! You can help SCS get ready for the 2011 Community Christmas Center. We’re already collecting new toys and new household gifts for needy families this holiday season. We especially need toys for boys and girls ages 7-11, and gift cards for teens.
### Major Program Contributors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anonymous (3)</th>
<th>AMD</th>
<th>Alpha Graphics</th>
<th>Applied Materials</th>
<th>Chinese Seniors Club of Santa Clara Valley</th>
<th>City of Sunnyvale</th>
<th>City of Sunnyvale Employees’ Giving Campaign</th>
<th>County of Santa Clara</th>
<th>El Camino Hospital</th>
<th>Emergency Food and Shelter Program</th>
<th>Family Giving Tree</th>
<th>The Historic Del Monte Building</th>
<th>Homestead East School</th>
<th>Housing Industry Foundation</th>
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<td>Ray and Natha Ostby</td>
<td>Palo Alto Medical Foundation, Camino</td>
<td>Medical Group</td>
<td>Greggie and Belle Pullano</td>
<td>St. Mark Lutheran Church</td>
<td>San Francisco Chronicle Season of Sharing</td>
<td>San Jose Grocery Outlet</td>
<td>Satterberg Foundation</td>
<td>Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara</td>
<td>San Mateo Counties</td>
<td>Lois Sibbach</td>
<td>Silicon Valley Community Foundation</td>
<td>Sobrato Family Foundation</td>
<td>Specialty Solid Waste and Recycling</td>
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### Adopt-a-Day Honor Roll

#### 5 Days = a year of monthly food for 17 families (or 200 filled bags of groceries)
- James Dudley
- The Grainer Foundation
- Diane M. Hagglund
- Infinera
- Bruce and Jing-Xie La Fountain
- Robert Locke
- Keith McLaurin & Mary Boyle
- Safeway Corporation
- Alan Templeton

#### 4 Days = 2000 “meals in a can”
- Jim and Lynn Brody
- Mary E. Boyle and Keith McLaurin
- Mr. and Mrs. James Reynolds III
- Robert N. and Florence Slinger Foundation
- Sunnyvale Elks Lodge/B.P.O.E. #2128

#### 3 Days = 3000 pts of powered milk
- Philip Basham
- Jim and Judy Duport
- Bruce and Vivian Euzett
- Bret and Janaa Fuller
- William and Carolyn Gross
- Dan and Donna Hafeman
- Olaf Hirsch and Melinda Hamilton
- Richard and Diane Horn
- David and Holly Mendel Fund
- Marc Merlin
- Tim and Yolandia Risch
- Rubio’s Fresh Mexican Grill
- Chad and Elizabeth Steward
- Nancy Tivol

#### 2 Days = 1260 cans of tuna
- Anonymous
- Rafael & Sarah Alvarez-Horne
- Jeffrey Andrews
- Valerie Armento
- William and Aline Baek
- Charles L. Barndt, Jr.
- Dr. and Mrs. I. B. Bernhardt
- Christopher and Lucy Cesar
- Kenneth and Miriam Clark
- Clay Foundation-West
- Anita Clemsen
- Congregational Community Church
- Janis Freestone and David Charlton
- John and Maya Clifton
- Robert Fruehsamer
- Donna Fuzeré
- James Griffith

#### 1 Day = 300 jars of peanut butter
- Anonymous (6)
- Ali Abbadi
- Sandy and Holly Agbayani
- Alpha Delta Kappa, Alpha Lambda Chapter
- Argon ST, Inc.
- Howard Baldwin and Monica Delzeit
- Stephen and Mary Ellen Barash
- Camille Barnes-Mosley
- Ronald Beebe & Diane Wilson
- Donna Beres
- Marie Bernard and Bruce Paton
- Dr. and Mrs. Richard Borrison
- Mary Bradley
- George Brandtss
- James and Madeline Bridges
- Ellen Brigham
- Philip and Laurel Brock
- Nicholas and Anna Bronsahan

#### 1 Day (cont.)
- Harvard Brown
- Thomas and Judith Cerry
- Andrew Chagoya
- Elizabeth and Mark Chase
- Congregational Community Church Women’s Fellowship
- Eliny Corey
- Steve Curry
- Mark Del Porto, D.D.S.
- James Doran, D.D.S.
- Pamela Dunn
- Chester E. Elliott
- Robert & Elizabeth Fickett
- Janet Fire
- Robin Fisher, Take Flight Graphics
- Ralph Folsom
- Michael J. and Kelly A. Giannini, CPAs
- Steven and Tanis Glass
- Fidel Gutierrez
- Nancy Handel
- Jeffrey and Janet Harp
- John and Mary Harrison
- John Harrison Photography
- Robert and Melanie Hathaway
- Cathy Haynes
- Robert Heath
- Ray Heraldo
- John and Maria Hopkins
- Russell and Susan Hull
- IBM
- Denis and Dee Imazeki
- Ann Infeld
- Sally James
  - In memory of Phyllis Jeckell and Barbara S. Mordy
- Joyce Johnson
- Kalpatharu Foundation
- Gregory and Sarah Kevin
- Javed and Shaheena Khan
- Keith and Ellen Kitchen
- John and Dee Komas
- Ken and Sharon Kunkel
- Kenneth & Josie Kwong
- Gloria Beasley Lausten
- Judith Lawrence
- Dr. Daisy H. Lee in Memory of Kuo-wei Lee
- Martin Lee in memory of Linda Lee
- Allen and Amy Maddox
- Guy Malcolm
- Malleswara Manda in memory of Dr. Ananda Rao Manda
- Lynn Marcus-Wyner
- Kevin McGreevey
- Don and Irene McMullen
- Andrew and Jan Miller
- David and Kathy Moore
- Justin Moore
- Carol L. Morrow

#### 1 Day (cont.)
- Douglas Mow
- Chris and Julie Moyal
- Arthur and Claudia Muller
- Glenda and Tom Murray
- Russell and Mira Nakanbo
- Linda Nguyen
- Northrop Grumman Marine Systems
- Gene and Margaret Oishi
- Judith A. Petroski
- Fine Cone Lumber
- Mr. and Mrs. Wolfgang Polak
- Judy E. Poutré
- Stephen and Karen Quick
- Joseph Ribera and Mary-Anne Wallace
- Eric Roberts
- George & Charlotte Rogers
- Dale and Diane Ross
- St. Luke Lutheran Church
- St. Timothy Episcopal Church
- Chandramauli Sangor
- Arthur Saville III
- Eugene Segna
- Clifton and Karen Shal
- Thomas R. Shannon, Jr.
- Mr. and Mrs. John E. Sheehan, Jr.
- R and Narmada Shenoy
- Single Squares of Sunnyvale
- R. Kehl Sink
- Raymond and Yvonne Skitt
- Stephen and Lois Smallwood
- Larry and Gail Smith
- Sandi Spies
- St. John’s Lutheran Church
- Sunnyvale Service Athletic Club
- Biao Tang
- Karen Taylor
- Stanley and Teresa Terada
- Raymond Tivikica
- Trinity United Methodist Church-Church & Society Committee
- Susan Twietmeyer
- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Sunnyvale
- -The Social Justice Committee
- Tim and Linda Vachon
- Bill and Jo Vanderbeek
- Joe and Connie Veceles
- Gary and Sharon Vephiro
- Dave Yosebinsk and Audrey Wong
- Richard Wales
- Mr. and Mrs. Peter Wallack
- Rose & James Waltz
- William Wathen and Gail Hohen
- William Webeg
- Kyle Welch
- Bret White and Suat-Kheng Saw
- David Whittum
- Katharina and Alistair Woodman
- Debbie Wu

Business is Booming, and That’s not Good
Programs and Services

- Financial assistance for rent, utilities, medical care, prescriptions, other critical bills, and for homeless families with sufficient income for monthly bills but not deposits
- Daily, monthly, and Kids’ Summer food programs
- 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

Upcoming Events

Dinner at the Dump
Saturday, June 25th at Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling
4:00 pm – 8:00 pm | www.dinneratthedump.org

Auxiliary Holiday Faire and Quilt Raffle
Saturday, October 22nd at SCS | 9:30 am – 4:30 pm

Annual SCS Holiday Auction
Thursday, December 1st at SCS | 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Open House & Tour of the Community Christmas Center
Sunday, December 4th at SCS | 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm