Poverty that Spans the Generations

When the U.S. Census Bureau ranked all 50 states in the new “Supplemental Poverty Measure” last November, California had the highest poverty rate in the nation, with 23.5% of California residents living in poverty. According to the federal report, nearly 1 in 4 people cannot afford the basics of food, shelter, and health care in our state. The biggest reasons are the high cost of housing and childcare in California. In Sunnyvale, it is especially difficult to make ends meet with rents soaring and childcare costs out of reach for low-income workers. The poverty gap is widening for hard-working families and seniors living on fixed incomes.

At our agency, children make up more than 2 out of every 5 people we serve with food and financial aid every year. We are seeing more and more families spanning three generations who are living together to save money and help each other survive in Silicon Valley. It’s often clear that the children who come to our door are hungry, and their parents are weary from working two jobs with no benefits.

We are a last resort for many of our clients, some of whom have already taken extreme measures by borrowing money from payday lenders. One of these payday loan victims was a woman who had retired and was receiving social security after working hard for many years. A few months ago, she was awarded custody of her one-year-old grandchild. When she assumed care of her grandchild, she suddenly had to buy food and diapers for the baby. Without additional income to cover these unplanned for expenses, she began to borrow from payday loan businesses. By the time she came to Sunnyvale Community Services, she had taken out 6 loans with high fees and interest rates amounting to over 400%. Thankfully Sunnyvale Community Services helped her with rental assistance, so that she could get off the payday loan merry-go-round. Our agency gave her diapers and emergency food, as well as budget counseling and referrals to other resources.

In partnership with the Coalition Against Payday Lending (CAPP), we are advocating against predatory loans that victimize low-income families and seniors. Thanks to community donations from people like you, we are not only able to provide financial support to families in need, but we are also able to give diapers and baby food to parents and grandparents caring for young children. During the summer months, our “Kids Summer Food” program is a vital resource for children out of school who are missing the free or reduced meals that school provides.

Thank you for helping the most vulnerable in our community. Your support is why Sunnyvale is the “heart” of Silicon Valley! You can read more about the Census report on our website: www.svcommunityservices.org.

—Marie Bernard

Family Farm Days

SCS, in partnership with Full Circle Farm here in Sunnyvale, has held two Family Farm Days this year so far, with a third planned for June 29. Through a generous grant from Kaiser Permanente, we have been able to invite our client families for a day on the farm, where they participate in planting, observe cooking demonstrations, feed the chickens, and receive “Farm Bucks” that enables them to purchase fresh, nutritious fruits and vegetables straight from the farm.

On June 29th we will combine Farm Days with our very popular “Healthy Eating, Healthy Living Fair” that showcases a tremendous variety of healthy living tips and resources. This year’s fair takes place right on the farm and is expertly coordinated by our own My-Dung Tran and Full Circle Farm’s Mark Batcheler.

2013 Holiday Auction

Sunnyvale Elks Lodge
375 N. Pastoria Avenue, Sunnyvale

SAVE the DATE!
Thursday
December 5th
5:00 – 7:30 PM

Business is Booming, and That’s not Good
Message from the Board President

This year marks my 5th year on the Board at Sunnyvale Community Services. Although I will be stepping down as Board President this year, my heart will always remain with SCS. In the years that I have been privileged to serve, I have seen the agency withstand tremendous pressure to continually answer the needs of so many here in our community.

Many of the clients that SCS serves are the working poor, struggling to make their monthly rent payment, or grappling with the difficult choice of health care for a child or food on the table. Our many food programs including Produce Mondays and monthly food distributions to families and seniors help clients save money on food so they can afford a doctor’s appointment or make a necessary car repair. Children, who represent nearly half of our clients, always look forward to receiving a new backpack and shoe gift card each summer, and two new toys every holiday season.

As Board President, I have seen first-hand just how much money it takes to serve the 7,000+ clients each year, many of whom require more than one visit with us to get their footing. Rents have gone up dramatically, as has the cost of food, all of which means that SCS must raise more money than ever to ensure our clients stay safely housed and properly fed.

I encourage you to look around you and notice the many people who help us, serve us, and care for us. What would we do without our waiters, our gardeners, our handymen, and our baristas? They are all a part of the fabric of life here in Sunnyvale, yet they barely make minimum wage, which is too little to cover rent, utilities, transportation, medical bills and food every month, especially for families with children.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, please think about the struggle so many of our neighbors face every day. Your generous donation could help a family stay in their home, a parent keep their job, or a child receive an overdue check-up at the doctor’s office. Fully 90 cents of every dollar we receive goes right out the door to help families and seniors in need.

—Barbara McClellan, Board President

We Met Our “Match!”

The Sobrato Family Foundation Challenge Grant

Thanks to generous donors, we met the Sobrato Family Foundation grant challenge to raise $80,000 in new, increased, or returning “lapsed” donors! As of January 7th, we raised $145,074 in matching funds. Because we met our match, the Sobrato Family Foundation will now award us $84,000 for the second year of the grant. But, we are still encouraging donors to continue in all these categories. The need continues to grow!

“Tea at Two” a Hit!

The SCS Auxiliary pulled out all the stops this year for a sell-out crowd on March 16. Guests enjoyed tea, sandwiches, and delicious home-baked cookies, all served by the wonderful students from the Homestead High School Interact Club. The crowd was entertained by the Boomerang barbershop quartet who sang old favorites in beautiful 4-part harmony. Everyone who attended had a great time!

“SAVE the DATE!”

Saturday
October 19th
9:30 AM – 3:30 PM

SCS Auxiliary Holiday Boutique / Quilt Raffle

You don’t want to miss a chance to win this year’s hand-stitched, queen-sized quilt, which is a gorgeous “monochrome” pattern with bold black and white fabrics and geometric patterns. The boutique also features a wonderful variety of handmade gifts for family and friends of all ages. All of the proceeds support the SCS Community Christmas Center. Check our website in September for more information about the boutique and how to buy tickets to win the quilt.

Leave a Legacy

We are fortunate that from time to time we have been the beneficiary of one of our donor’s estates. If you would like to start planning now to leave a legacy gift to SCS, please contact Executive Director Marie Bernard for a confidential discussion. You can reach her at 408.738.0121 or mbernard@svcommunityservices.org.

[Non profit tax ID #94-1713897]

Turn Cars into Cash for SCS

If you have an old car, boat, or RV you want to donate for a tax deduction, contact Donate for Charity. They handle all the details, and Sunnyvale Community Services gets the proceeds. Please call toll free (866) 392-4483 or go to www.donateforcharity.com.
Preventing homelessness for a Sunnyvale family

Recently a new client in her early thirties came to us in need of a first month’s rent payment and deposit. This client has legal custody of her 16-year old brother because their mother is battling life-threatening cancer. The apartment where they currently live has been sold and they have been forced to relocate. Because of the timing of the client’s paycheck, and the urgency of the move, the client came to us asking for help with the transition. We were able to assist the client with $2,700 to cover the deposit and first month’s rent for their new apartment, thereby preventing the potential of becoming homeless.

Family of 4 with unexpected loss of wages

A husband and wife (parents of a daughter, age 5 and son, age 10) both work for the same family as a handyman and housekeeper, respectively. They found themselves suddenly without income when their employer left the country for a month for medical reasons, leaving them without an income. With the help of the Housing Industry Foundation, who paid $1,000, SCS paid $320, and the client paid the remaining balance of $600 to cover the rent for the month. This assistance means the family can remain housed until the employer returns to the country.

A long-time employee’s worst nightmare

A single mother of a 16-year old son thought she would never be laid off from her high-tech job. Yet, it happened, and when unemployment benefits dried up, she depended on family to make ends meet. She has also been using credit cards to survive, racking up enormous debt. SCS referred her to Sure Path for credit counseling and helped her pay her accumulating utility bill. This assistance ensures her lights will stay on, buying her time to secure a new job.

SCS Wish List

We are grateful for donations of the following items for our Kids’ Summer Programs:

- Peanut butter
- Meals-in-a-can
- Cereals with low sugar content
- New backpacks
- New school supplies

Please check out our website for the most needed items.
http://www.svcommunityservices.org/donate-wish-list.html

We run a very efficient agency. Fully 90% of every dollar that is donated goes directly to assistance and hunger relief for our clients. Thank you for your generous support.
Helping Kids From “Head to Toe”

There is nothing more universal than kids looking forward to summer break. But for the children we see here, summer break isn’t all fun and games. Our kids are hungry, missing out on the free or reduced school meals their school provides. Thanks to generous donations from people like you, we are able to fill 2,500 bags with kid-friendly food during the months of June, July, and August. In addition, our younger clients don’t have to make do with last year’s school supplies. All year long we accept donations of brand new backpacks and school supplies so that we can distribute over 1,000 backpacks each summer, filled with age-appropriate school supplies plus a $25 shoe gift card so that our kids can be ready for school from head to toe!

For 6 straight years AARP tax aid volunteers have been coming to SCS to help low-income families and seniors complete their tax returns, free of charge. These generous volunteers helped 596 families this year with their federal and state income tax forms, enabling families to receive $116,724 in earned income tax credits. Thank you, AARP, for all the work you have done on behalf of our community.

An Eagle Scout for SCS

Matthew Klein was brought up to give back to the community. Though only 17, Matthew has already volunteered at SCS for many years. When it came time for Matthew to plan his Eagle Scout project, he immediately thought of SCS. The Eagle project is a major requirement for every Life Scout to become an Eagle Scout. Matthew had to plan, develop, and give leadership to others in a service project that benefited the community. Matthew looked at what was needed at SCS, discussed options, and then planned the installation of a much-needed security system for SCS. Matthew recruited volunteers to install security cameras throughout our building, installed two new shelving systems, and documented an evacuation plan for our site. Only 5% of all boy scouts earn the Eagle Scout rank. We are so pleased that Matthew chose SCS for his project!

Wedded Bliss for SCS

Loyal SCS supporters, Paula Krumm and John Amick, were married on December 8, 2012. Rather than receive wedding gifts, this lovely couple asked all of their guests to make a financial contribution to SCS. Because of their generosity, we are pleased to count the friends and family of Mr. and Mrs. Amick among our wonderful family of donors. Thank you so much for supporting us on the occasion of your marriage.

Mourning the Loss of our Friend and Partner, Libby Gruender

This past January we lost our friend and CEO of Cake4Kids, a nonprofit that provides beautiful, homemade birthday cakes for children who would otherwise have nothing special on their birthday. Sunnyvale resident and SCS supporter, Libby Gruender worked in high-tech until she founded Cake4Kids in 2010. Today her nonprofit provides special cakes for 1,000 underprivileged children throughout the Bay Area. We miss Libby very much, but we are so grateful for the wonderful work she started and for the smiles she will continue to bring to each child who is a lucky recipient of a special birthday cake made with love.

Sign up for our eNewsletter!

Did you know that you can stay up-to-date on what’s happening at SCS every month? Sign up to receive our monthly eNewsletter at www.svcommunityservices.org. Each issue has information about what’s going on at SCS, along with pictures, links to additional articles, and more.
Our Helpful Neighbors

Board Members Receive Amity Award

This past February we were delighted to share in the honor that three of our esteemed Board members received from the Sunnyvale Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce. Becky Griffey, Leslie Lawton, and Debbie Lyn Owens (pictured with Marie Bernard) received the 2013 Amity Award for community service. Each of these women has given so much not only to Sunnyvale Community Services, but also to a variety of organizations and groups throughout the area and we are delighted to see them get the recognition they so deserve.

Outstanding Volunteers and Donors

At our annual Volunteer and Donor Recognition event, held on May 9th at The Historic Del Monte Building, we were pleased to recognize the following for their outstanding contributions to Sunnyvale Community Services:

- Auction Committee Volunteers & Sunnyvale Elks Lodge
- Boy Scouts of America - Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council
- City of Sunnyvale
- Full Circle Farm
- Gani Brown (student volunteer)
- Produce Mondays Volunteers
- Silicon Valley Community Foundation
- Sunnyvale Martial Arts Academy
- Union Bank

We are grateful to the many volunteers and donors who give so generously to help those less fortunate here in Sunnyvale.
2012 Christmas Center

Last November, SCS held its annual holiday auction at the Sunnyvale Elks Lodge, a new and much-improved location. We are pleased that we raised a record $55,000 this past year, with over 250 attendees. 100% of the proceeds from the event go directly to the clients we serve, providing much-needed rental assistance, food support, bus passes, gas vouchers, medical care, and more.

The Community Christmas Center was bustling this past December. Volunteers escorted over 1,000 families plus an additional 441 seniors through our virtual North Pole. Clients were able to select 2 weeks worth of food along with two new toys for each child plus a household item for themselves.

We are grateful to the community for your generous support and contributions, without which the holidays wouldn’t be nearly so bright.

The Holidays Were Bright at SCS

Be sure to save the date for our biggest fundraiser of the year. Our annual holiday auction will be at the Sunnyvale Elks Lodge, donated for the second year in a row. The venue is beautiful and the parking is easy. Don’t miss your chance to bid on one-of-a-kind items, vacations, dinners and more.

P.S. We’re ordering sunny weather this year!

Watch our website beginning in October for a list of silent and live auction items:
www.svcommunityservices.org

2013 Holiday Auction

Save the Date!
Thursday
December 5th
5:00 – 7:30 PM
Anonymous (3)
Rafael & Sarah Alvarado-Horne
AMD
Alpha Graphics
Applied Materials
Chinese Seniors Club of Santa Clara Valley
City of Sunnyvale
City of Sunnyvale Employers’ Giving Campaign
Connor Duke
County of Santa Clara
El Camino Hospital District
Emergency Food and Shelter Program
Family Giving Tree
Foster & Adoptive Parent Association
Freeth Easy
Genentech
The Grainger Foundation
Helen Sherman
Hewlett Packard
The Historic Del Monte Building
Homestead High School
Housing Industry Foundation
Housing Trust of Santa Clara County
Hufstetler-Johnson Charitable Trusts
Il Postale Restaurant
Intuitive Surgical
Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara
Vivian and Gregory Krodel
Kumamoto and Peggy Wood
Bruce and Jing Li Fountain
Ken and Susie Larnarche
Barry & Virginia Langdon-Lassagne
Lockheed Martin Employees’ Foundation
Ricardo Martinez
MAQON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
Babson Foundation
Marc & Jennifer MERLIN
Microsoft
Gaylord and Carmita Mossing
NetApp
Employees Charity Organization of Norcross
Grupman
Orchard House Foundation
Lee & Sophie Ort
Palo Alto Medical Foundation, Camino Medical Group
Panera (Sunnyvale)
R. K. & Alice Gallery
St. Mark Lutheran Church
Safeway - 15th Camino Real
Sandisk Corporation
San Francisco Chronicle Season of Sharing
San Jose Grocery Outlet
Satterberg Foundation
Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
Soroptimist Family Foundation
Sparano
Specialty Solid Waste and Recycling
St. Martin Church
Sunset Park Gallery
Sunnyvale Chamber of Commerce
Sunnyvale Community Services Auxiliary
Sunnyvale Community Services
Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church
Sunnyvale Rotary Club
Sunnyvale School District
Synopsys Employees
Toyota Sunnyvale Scion Sunnyvale
Toy R Us
Tri Cth Foundation
Union Bank
United Way Silicon Valley
Village Harvest
David Wake and Nutan Panwar
Paul Walker
West Valley Elementary
Paul & Deborah Whitney
The Willis Foundation
Yahool Employee Foundation
YMCA Northwest
Tad & Florence Yoshikawa

Adopt-a-Day Honor Roll

Underwriting SCS’ $1,000 a day operating costs not covered by grants or contracts

2 Days (cont.)
Camille Barnes Mosley
Jim and Jenny Ritz
Nicholas and Anna Brattanah
Casa de Amigos Bingo Club
Christopher and Larry Cesar
Betty & Mark Chase
Anita Clemenson
Congregational Community Church
John and Maya Clifton
The Domain Hotel
Fry’s Electronics
Donna Fuerte
Jeffrey and Janet Hap
Hubbard Farms - Alan and Barbara Hubban
Russell & Susan Hull in memory of Walter L. Hull
India Cahn at Bay Inc.
Derek Iwamoto
Gary T. Kinda
Janet Klein - in memory of Barbara Klein
Philip Kurjan
Kuykendall’s Collision Repair
Matthew & Donna Leacock
Jerry and Linda Mar
Lynn Marcus-Wynne
Joseph and Doreen Martinka
Robert and Kathleen Mifsud
Paul Murray
Benjamin Newson
Nokia
Gene and Margaret Oishi
Ray and Natha Orthby
Jeff & Cindy Pelger
Robert and Anne Pochowski
Thomas Pyle in loving memory of Susan L. Pyle
Redwood Gospel Assembly
Tim and Yolanda Ruch
Dennis Rossman
St. Vincent de Paul Society, Resurrection Conference
Raymond & Yvonne Sket
Sandy Spers
Flo Stafford, Stardle Storage
Dennis and Jean Stein
Sunnyvale Bingers
Robert N. and Florence Slinger Foundation Fund
Star One Credit Union’s Community Involvement Committee
Committee to Elect Ron Swegle in memory of Ron Swegle
Tim Tramhan
Texas Instruments
Trinity United Methodist Church - Church Society Committee
Tim and Linda Vachon
Bill and Jo Vanderbeck
Joe and Connie Verceles
Brad and Debbie Wetmore
David H. Whittam
Judith Petroski & William Wiegand

1 Day = 300 jars of peanut butter
Anonymous (5)
John & Linda Adams
Sandy and Holly Agbayani
Alpha Delta Kappa, Alpha Lambda Chapter
Carol Arnett Charitable Foundation
Alfred Artis
Howard Baldwin and Monica DeLietz
James Barrette
Rosalee Beare & Diane Wilson
Syeda R. Begum
Donna Beres
Marie Bernard and Bruce Paton
Claudia & Baye. In Loving Memory of my Aunt, June Beckman
Dr. and Mrs. I. H. Bernhardt
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Harrison
Faye Brackel
James and Madeline Bridges
Ellen Brigham
Scott & Betty Britte
Philipp and Laurel Brook
Casual Clubbers Golf Club - in memory of Ron Swegle
Thomas and Judith Cerny
Bik Chew
Debbie Cole & Gary Karger
Congregational Community Church
Wosin Fellowship
Steve Curry
Mark Dal Porto, D.D.S.
Ellen Davidson
Freundich Dwyer
Dunnam Family
Gerald & Linda Fenney
Richard & Christine Ferry
Robert & Elizabeth Fickett
Kent & Barbara Fidlen
Janet Fire
Florence’s Enterprises
Bret and Jassani Fuller
Michael J. and Kelly A. Giannini, CPA’s
Steven and Tanis Glass
Susan Graham, Graham Glass
John A. Graves
Gretel Weil Inc., DBA Xpressions
Garrett (Ebis) Perry Triggs & Robert Gruppo
William & Carolyn Gross
Fidel Gutierrez
John and Mario Harrison
John Harrison Photography
Robert and Melanie Hathaway
Robert Heath
Mr. & Mrs. Julio Heredia
Spencer & Debra Hiraiki
John and Maria Hopkins
Richard and Diane Horn
BIM
Denis and Dei Imarkou
Ann Infeld
Raysmond Irani
Louis Itri

1 Day (cont.)
In memory of Phyllis Jecell and Barbara J. Moody
Kalpatheru’s Foundation
Denise Kato
Terry Kevlen - on behalf of John and Ellene Kennedy
Carl J. Klein
Kenneth & Josie Kwong
Walter & Louise Kratz
Gloria Beasley Lausten
Eric Lanerodf
Dr. Daisy H. Lee in Memory of Dr. Kuo-wel Lee
Martin Lee in memory of Linda Lee Thomas
K. Lee
Bobbie Lembeg
Gerard Lau-Pat
L. Lai
Allen and Amy Maddox
Maiielswar Manda in memory of Dr. Ananda Rao Manda
Alessandra Martelli
Jennifer Martin
Joseph McKellip
Kevin McGreevey
Mark Meller
Andrew and Jan Miller
Moms Club of Sunnyvale
David and Kathy Moore
Justin Moore
Carol L. Morrow
Douglas Mos
Chris and Julie Moylan
Russell and Mira Nakano
Srivathsan Narasimhan
Nortrop Grumman Marine Systems
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Scott Panzer & Dianne Olivera
Donald & Nancy Perry
Mr. and Mrs. Wolfgang Polak
Judy E. Poutre
Gary & Derry Price
Stephen and Karen Quick
Joseph Siberia and Mary-Ann Wallace
Eric Roberts
George I. Rodriguez
George & Charlotte Rogers
Sara Thomas
Nancy Tish

3 Days = 3000 quarts of milk
Anonymous (2)
Ali Abedini & Roksana Sadraei Manjili
Kirkland & Ellis
Lynn & Bill Crane
Ali Abedini & Roksana Sadraei Manjili
Barbara McClellan Foundation
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
Mary Brees
Darwin D. new
Elizabeth Dickinson
Women’s Fellowship
Congregational Community Church
Bok Chew
Thomas Pyle in loving memory of Susan L. Pyle
Redwood Gospel Assembly
Tim and Yolanda Ruch
Dennis Rossman
St. Vincent de Paul Society, Resurrection Conference
Raymond & Yvonne Sket
Sandy Spers
Flo Stafford, Stardle Storage
Dennis and Jean Stein
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Tim Tramhan
Texas Instruments
Trinity United Methodist Church - Church Society Committee
Tim and Linda Vachon
Bill and Jo Vanderbeck
Joe and Connie Verceles
Brad and Debbie Wetmore
David H. Whittam
Judith Petroski & William Wiegand

1 Week = a year of monthly food for 17 families (or 200 filled bags of groceries)
Herbert & Liz Lopez-Aguado
Chad and Elizabeth Steward
Gregg and Belle Pullano
Pine Cone Lumber
Jose Ojeda
David and Holly Mendel Fund
Curtis McKinney & Julia Edwards
Anonymous (2)
Clay Foundation – West
Clay Foundation – West

2 Days = 1260 cans of tuna
Anonymous (2)
Application Materials Political Action Committee (AMAPAC)
Valerie Armento
Charles L. Barnott, Jr.

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 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.

Upcoming Events

- **Kids’ Summer Food Program Kick Off**
  w/ Sunnyvale Rotary & Sunnyvale School District
  Location: Grand Hotel, 865 W. El Camino Real, Sunnyvale • Hors d’oeuvres, Wine Tasting by Solis Winery
  **Thursday**
  **June 13th**
  **5:30 - 7:30 pm**

- **Healthy Eating, Healthy Living Community Resource Fair**
  Location: Full Circle Farm, 1055 Dunford Way Sunnyvale • Food, Information, & Fun!
  **Saturday**
  **June 29th**
  **9:00 am - Noon**

- **SCS Auxiliary Holiday “Affaire” & Quilt Raffle**
  Location: Sunnyvale Community Services
  **Saturday**
  **October 19th**
  **9:30 am - 3:30 pm**

- **SCS Community Christmas Center Open House**
  Location: Sunnyvale Community Services
  **Sunday, December 1st**
  **1:00 - 4:00 pm**

- **Annual SCS Holiday Auction**
  Location: Elks Lodge, 375 N. Pastoria Ave.
  **Thursday, December 5th**
  **5:00 - 7:30 pm**

We are always grateful for the generous donors and volunteers who support Sunnyvale Community Services year-round. You are the hearts and hands of our mission to prevent homelessness and hunger here in Sunnyvale.