Sunnyvale Community Services and community leaders have come together to support raising the minimum wage in Sunnyvale. The proposed ordinance will increase the minimum wage for workers in Sunnyvale to $10.15/hour, matching the minimum wage in San Jose, with increases tied to the annual Consumer Price Index. Sunnyvale City Council will vote on the planned ordinance in the coming months. If approved, the ordinance will make Sunnyvale the third Bay Area city, after San Jose and San Francisco, with a local minimum wage.

This is great news for low-income workers and for Sunnyvale’s economy!

At $10.15/hour, a full-time worker making minimum wage in Sunnyvale can earn $21,112.00 per year before taxes. This is above the new California State minimum wage of $9.00/hour effective July 1st.

The new minimum wage can’t come too soon for low-income workers. Average “fair market” rents in Sunnyvale are now $2,129 a month. Rents in Sunnyvale went up 40% in just three years! Housing Trust Silicon Valley calculated that it takes more than three current minimum wage jobs to afford housing and other basic needs in Santa Clara County.* One worker would have to work 155 hours a week, 52 weeks a year (no vacation, no time off for illness) to afford the current fair market rents in Silicon Valley. That leaves just 13 hours a week to sleep!

With rents this high, food becomes a luxury for low-wage earners. Many minimum wage earners participate in the weekly produce and monthly food programs at Sunnyvale Community Services.

The local increase from $9.00 to $10.15/hour can mean $184 more gross income every month for a full-time job. What can a Sunnyvale family do with that much money? After paying their taxes, the working poor have to spend it—right away—in the local community. Any increase in pay will go towards rent, utilities, food, gas and car repairs, shoes for their children, and maybe even a needed dental exam. Their purchases will generate local sales tax revenues in our community. Most importantly, they will have a chance to live in the community in which they work and keep food on the table for their family.

We hope that our community will support a local ordinance to increase the minimum wage to $10.15/hour and tied to the Consumer Price Index. If you’d like to show your support, we encourage you to contact members of the Sunnyvale City Council and let them know you support increasing the minimum wage here in Sunnyvale!

Once again, Sunnyvale is living up to its name as the “heart” of Silicon Valley!

*Source: Housing Trust Silicon Valley

—Marie Bernard

“Thank you so much for making an uncomfortable situation painless. I am so grateful for Sunnyvale Community Services. I really appreciate all that you do and the assistance I received from SCS. My headache went away and I can sleep.”

—SCS Client

Rents in Sunnyvale went up 40% in just three years!

2014 Holiday Auction
Sunnyvale Elks Lodge,
375 N. Pastoria Avenue, Sunnyvale

Full story, pg. 5

SAVE the DATE!
Thursday November 20th
5:00 – 7:30 PM
Message from the Board President

Over the years, SCS’s mission has remained the same—to help prevent homelessness and hunger here in our community. What has changed in my 11-year tenure on the Board is not so much the number of people coming for help (though it has increased over the years) but the depth of the need for those seeking assistance. Rents are skyrocketing, food prices are higher than ever, and public transportation is scarce.

26% of our income is from corporate grants, foundations, and government grants. Those grants are often tied to specific programs and services, including paying for rental deposits and medical bills. These grants frequently do not cover the cost of actually running the agency. Keeping the lights on, providing computers for staff, and maintaining our aging building are not covered. And, while we are extremely proud of our low overhead costs of 8% (very low in the nonprofit sector), there still are operational bills to pay and there is simply no way that we could do that if it weren’t for the generosity of our neighbors here in our community.

Today I am asking you to consider becoming (if you are not already) an Adopt-a-Day donor. A $1,000 donation goes a long way toward filling in the cracks not otherwise funded by grants for specific programs like Produce Monday, Monthly Food Distribution, and Backpack Day. In the back of this newsletter you’ll see a list of many people who have taken that step and have generously supported the work we do at SCS. (If you cannot afford $1,000, we are grateful for a donation of any amount.) Will you be next on our Honor Roll?

—Debbie Lynn Owens

Well-Deserved Honor

We want to congratulate our own Carmen Davis for being chosen as one of Silicon Valley Business Journal’s “Women of Influence.” Carmen has been recognized for her decades of service here at Sunnyvale Community Services. Hard work, perseverance, intellect, and compassion all helped her get to where she is today as our wonderful Finance Director.

AARP Volunteers Provide Free Tax Help

AARP tax aid volunteers have been coming to SCS for 7 years now to help low-income families and seniors complete their tax returns, free of charge. These generous volunteers helped 459 families this year with their federal and state income tax forms. AARP is already recruiting volunteers for next year. They especially need bilingual (English/Spanish) preparers. If you are interested, please contact Carol Reichner at careichner@yahoo.com. Training will be provided.

Sunnyvale Organizes 2nd Annual Poverty Simulation

This past February, SCS, in partnership with Step Up Silicon Valley and Leadership Sunnyvale, held a Poverty Simulation where participants experienced what it’s like to live on limited income in this expensive community. A “month” was divided into four 15-minute “weeks” as participants role-played the lives of low-income families trying to provide food and shelter, while interacting with community resources including a bank, store, utility company, pawn shop, and more all run by participating low-income residents of Sunnyvale and volunteers from Downtown Streets Team.

Texas Instruments was our sponsor and over 60 people participated, with representatives from Texas Instruments and other local companies including LinkedIn and Synopsis. Thank you to Sunnyvale Presbyterian for hosting this event.

Different Ways to Give

Car Donation: Wondering how to get rid of your old “junker” car and give back to the community? It’s easy. Contact Donate for Charity at (866) 392-4483 and they will pick up and handle all the paperwork. Be sure to specify SCS when you call. SCS will get the proceeds and you will get your tax deduction!

Leave a Legacy Gift: Remember SCS in your will or estate. Help us plan for the future!

[Non profit tax ID #94-1713897]
$18,720
annual salary before taxes for a full-time minimum wage earner as of July 1, 2014

$2,129
average monthly rent for a Sunnyvale apartment*

$1,560
gross monthly income for a minimum wage worker

3
number of minimum wage jobs needed to afford rent in Sunnyvale

1
missed paycheck can mean the difference between a roof over a client’s head and homelessness

* Realfacts Online, June 2014 (Note: Rents increased 40% in Sunnyvale in 3 years, from 2011 – 2014.)

SCS Wish List
We need donations of the following items for our Kids’ “Head to Toe” Summer Programs:
- Peanut butter (no sugar added)
- Cans of tuna
- Meals-in-a-can
- Cereals (low or no sugar added)
- New backpacks
- New school supplies

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

Neighbors in Need
Helping our community one family at a time

- **On the Road to a Better Life**
  A man who is homeless and living in his car needed help repairing his car. He had been homeless for over a year, and used up his savings. He had been looking for work but needed the car to get to job opportunities. SCS contacted a local Sunnyvale auto repair shop to estimate the costs to get the car in working order. Thanks to donations from our community, we were able to get the car repaired. The client was enrolled in our food program and received emergency food, toiletries and referrals to job training programs, shelters, and hot meals nearby. His car, which is still his only “home” is safe and drivable.

- **Getting Off the Payday Loan Merry-Go-Round**
  An elderly couple living with their adult son who is disabled was behind in their rent. They had moved into affordable housing, but needed help in paying the rental deposit. The couple had received overpayments from social security through no fault of their own, and the federal government was reducing their monthly checks to recover the overpayments. They couldn’t make ends meet for the past few months while their social security was reduced, so they took out a “payday loan” with high interest rates. SCS was able to pay the balance of their rental deposit and one month’s rent so they can finally catch up and pay off the payday loan.

- **New baby, new home!**
  A new mom came in seeking assistance to pay for a rental deposit. Her family was being forced to leave because their landlord planned to move family members into the rental unit. The client has been out on maternity leave and receiving state disability benefits after having a baby. The couple had found new housing, and they could afford the monthly rent, but they did not have enough money for the rental deposit. Without our help, this working family with a new baby would have been homeless.

SCS By the Numbers
We run a very efficient agency. Last year 92% of our income went directly toward financial assistance and hunger relief for our clients. Thank you for your generous support.
Happy Summer, Hungry Kids

All year long kids look forward to summer. Warm weather, long days, and no homework! But for many children the summer is also a time of uncertainty. Without access to school breakfast and lunch programs, many children are unsure if or when they will eat next. With the help of so many generous donors like you, we are able to fill over 2,500 bags each summer with special, kid-friendly food during June, July and August.

In August, as our young clients begin thinking about back-to-school, we hold one of our favorite events, “Backpack Day,” when we distribute over 1,000 brand new backpacks filled with age appropriate school supplies plus a $25 shoe gift card so our kids can be ready for school from “Head to Toe!” This year’s Backpack Day is on August 14th.

Please consider making a donation of food, backpacks, or school supplies to help our summer programs be a success.

Books, Books, Books!

Our friends at Homestead High recently launched a program called “Project Paperback” through the high school’s Future Business Leaders of America Club. High school students held book drives in the community and at their high school in an effort to make a positive impact on illiteracy here in the Bay Area. Through their efforts they were able to collect nearly 6,000 books, all of which were donated to local organizations, including Sunnyvale Community Services. Thank you, Homestead High, for your commitment to helping those less fortunate.

A Spring Bouquet from the SCS Auxiliary

The SCS Auxiliary’s Annual Spring Tea Affaire, “Tea and Flowers” was a smashing success, raising nearly $5,000 to help our neighbors in need. The Sunnyvale Elks Lodge generously donated their space, giving attendees more room to shop, dine and socialize. The children’s choruses from the Sunnyvale Music School sang beautifully, Yamagami Nursery in Cupertino provided lovely centerpieces, and the wonderful Interact Club from Homestead High set up & served at the tea. To join the mailing list, contact Ruth Perkins at ruthiperkins@yahoo.com.

SCS Auxiliary Holiday Boutique / Quilt Raffle

Be sure to mark your calendar for the Fall SCS Auxiliary Boutique and Quilt Raffle. The boutique features a variety of wonderful handmade gifts for family and friends of all ages as well as a raffle for a special heirloom, hand-stitched, quilt that began in 1937 and is being completed this year in a blue Dahlia pattern. All of the proceeds support the SCS Community Christmas Center. Check our website in September for more information about the boutique and for how to buy tickets to win the quilt.

Down on the Farm

We were very happy to have our first Family Farm Day of the year this past March at Full Circle Farm, Sunnyvale’s own 11-acre farm. With the help of a generous grant from Kaiser Permanente, we were able to invite our client families (who came in record numbers) to a fun-filled day on the farm, with cooking demonstrations, planting activities, and walking tours.

On June 14 we will again be down on the organic farm when we will hold our annual “Healthy Eating, Healthy Living Fair” which showcases a wide variety of healthy living tips and resources. We anticipate over 250 low-income clients will attend. El Camino Hospital District and Palo Alto Medical Foundation are helping to sponsor this event.

This is Sharks Territory!

Our new favorite color is teal, thanks to receiving our first-ever grant from the Sharks Foundation for $25,000. The money will go toward our summer programs for kids, including backpacks, shoe gift cards, and healthy food while school lunch is not available during the summer break. Thanks to the Sharks grant, almost all of our shoes are filled!
SAVE the DATE!
M
ark your calendar for our Annual Holiday Auction at the Sunnyvale Elks Lodge! This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we’re moving it up to November so that all of the proceeds we raise can go directly toward the 2014 Community Christmas Center, giving low-income families the dignity of “shopping” for toys for their children and food for the holidays.

Every dollar you spend helps a family in need!
1. SanDisk: L to R Gisela Bushey, Stephanie Georgio; for generous financial support and in-kind donations supporting emergency assistance for low-income families and seniors in our community.

2. Maple Tree Inn: L to R Bruce Pressman, Elizabeth Anderson; for generous financial and in-kind donations to assist low-income families and seniors.

3. Orchard House Foundation: L to R Peter Colver-ley, Betty Sauer, Sharon Kreider, David Morley, Diana Aldrich, Jean Nix, Larry Yaggi, Jack Cole; for their generous financial donation to provide emergency and food assistance to low-income seniors.

4. Lois Sibbach: for generous financial support to improve the lives of those in need in the City of Sunnyvale.

5. In Memory of Vivian Krodel: L to R Greg Krodel, Kathy Shaw; for her bequest donation to provide food and gifts to our families during the holidays.

6. Downtown Streets Team: for their partnership in the “Work First Sunnyvale” program, giving homeless individuals hope through the dignity of work.

7. Aldine Looney: for over 20 years of exceptional service to our agency and the community.

8. Tiffany Hoang, Matthew Kim: for tireless dedication of time and service to our agency.

9. Lobby Administrative Volunteers: for faithfully managing the front desk and supporting the SCS clients and staff on a daily basis.

Also honored were:

1. Yahoo! Employee Foundation and Yahoo!: For exceptional volunteer work and continued financial support to improve the lives of those in need in the City of Sunnyvale.

2. In Memory of Paul Walkowiak: For his bequest donation to sustain our emergency assistance to those in need for years to come.

3. Panera Bread: For their continued donation of bread and baked goods to feed families in the City of Sunnyvale.
Major Program Contributors

2 Days (cont.)
Betty & Mark Chase
Anita Clement
John and Maya Clifton
Debbie Cohen & Gary Marker
The Domain Foundation
Kathie Dunham
Fred Emswiler
Farwood School
Robin Fisher, Take Flight Graphics
Fry’s Electronics
Jennifer and Brian Garnett
William & Carolyn Gross
Brian Haas & Marilyn Taggart
Richard and Diane Horn
Alan and Rhonda Hubert
Russell & Susan Hull in memory of Walter L. Hull
India Cash & Candy Inc.
Derek Iwamoto
Ashvin K. Kamaraju
Jaelee Klein in memory of Barbara Klein
Michael & Debbie Klein - State Farm Insurance
Philip Kurian
Kaytendall’s Collision Repair
Keith and Joanne Kuechle
Bruce and Jing-xi Le Fountain
Dr. Daicy H. Lee in memory of Dr. Ken-kou Lee
Kristine & John Lentini
Jerry and Linda Lee
Robert and Kathleen Menise
Moona School of Sunnyvale
Benjamin Nemeth
Gene and Margaret Oishi
Lee & Sophia Ott
FIRE PRESS
Robert and Anne Pochowski
Pondosa Elementary
Thomas Pyle in loving memory of Susan L. Pyle
Gianmarie Raddavio
Lucy Ramos
Redwood Gospel Assembly
Tim and Yolanda Rech
William R. Roberts, Architect
Dennis Rosman
St. Cynthia’s Church
St. Luke Lutheran Church
Sunnyvale Foundation
Sandi Spies
Mr. and Mrs. John E. Sheehan, Jr.
Dan & Joyce Solomon
Flo Stafford, Starlite Storage
Dennis and Jean Stein
Sunnyvale Firefighters
Robert N. and Florence Slinger Foundation Fund
Tim Teichman
Travis Teodoro
Twist & Tango
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Sunnyvale - Social Justice Committee
Tim and Linda Vayda
Bill and Jo Vanderbeek
Joe and Connie Vercotes
V Aren Foundation
Peter & Joy Wallack
Brad and Debbie Westmore
Judith Petrokis & William Wiegand

2 Days = 1260 cans of tuna
Anonymous (2)
Alphabeta, Inc.
Alpha Graphics
Applied Materials
City of Sunnyvale
City of Sunnyvale Employees Giving Campaign
Conor Duke
County of Santa Clara
Lynn & Bill Curren
Peter N. Dotting
El Camino Hospital District
Emergency Food and Shelter Program
Family Giving Tree
Stuart Ferguson & Susan Spires
Fresh & Easy
Genentech
Genentech Foundation
The Grainger Foundation
James Golden
The Historic Del Monte Building
Homestead High School
Housing Industry Foundation
Hurt-Handel Johnson Charitable Trusts
Il Posto Restaurant
Intuitive Surgical
Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara
Gregory and Carmita Moseley
Kwesi A. Johnson Organization of Northrup Grumman
Orchard House Foundation
Palo Alto Medical Foundation, Camino Medical Group
Paxera (Sunnyvale)
Paysage Storage in Sunnyvale, CA
Plaza Del Rey Mobile Park in Sunnyvale
R&amp;R Co.
Jeff and Sandra Ruggles
Safeway Store #1439
Barbara McClean Foundation
Keith McMichael & Mary Boyle
Marc & Jennifer MERLIN
Microsoft
Gary and Carmita Moseley
NetApp
Employee Charity Organization of Northrup Grumman
Orchard House Foundation
Palo Alto Medical Foundation, Camino Medical Group
Paxera
Payless Shoe Store in Sunnyvale, CA
Plaza Del Rey Mobile Park in Sunnyvale
R&amp;R Co.
Jeff and Sandra Ruggles
Safeway Store #1439
Safeway Store #2887
SanDisk Corporation & Mary Boyle
San Francisco Chronicle Season of Sharing
San Jose Mercury News Wish Book
SanDisk
Scouting for Food
Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara County
Scout Treasurers
Se/></p>
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

- **Kids’ Summer Food Program Kick Off**
  Co-sponsored by Sunnyvale Rotary, Sunnyvale School District, Northwest YMCA
  Location: LinkedIn, 580 N. Mary Ave @Maude, Sunnyvale
  Hors d’oeuvres, Wine Tasting, Children’s Choir
  Thursday, June 12th
  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 14th
  9:00 AM - Noon

- **SCS Auxiliary Holiday “Affaire” & Quilt Raffle**
  Location: Sunnyvale Community Services
  725 Kifer Road, Sunnyvale, CA
  Saturday, October 18th
  9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

- **Annual SCS Holiday Auction**
  Location: Elks Lodge, 375 N. Pastoria Ave.
  Note the November Date!
  Thursday, November 20th
  5:00 - 7:30 PM

SCS Wish List
Check out our website for the most needed items.
http://www.svcommunityservices.org/donate-wish-list.html

Staff

- **Marie Bernard**
  Executive Director
- **Marie Barlahan**
  Director of Emergency Assistance
- **David Hernandez**
  Case Manager
- **Maria Buenrostro**
  Jose Hernandez
- **Diana Hernandez**
  Martha Montenegro
  Caseworkers
- **Carmen Davis**
  Finance Director/Office Manager
- **My-Dung Tran**
  Director of Operations & Volunteers
- **Terry Chavez**
  Program Associate
- **Ed Roberson**
  Warehouse & Facilities Manager
- **Tory Bers**
  Marketing Director
- **Penny DaVilla**
  Administrative Coordinator

*Part-time staff

Board of Directors 2013 - 2014

- **Camille Barnes-Mosley**
  VICE PRESIDENT
  Northrop-Grumman Electronic Systems—Marine Systems
- **Becky Griffey**
  Owner
  BG Specialty Printing
- **John Harrison**
  Chaplain
  El Camino Hospital
- **Nancy Hill**
  Vice President, Human Resources
  Intuitive Surgical
- **Michael Gallagher**
  Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
  Sunnyvale School District
- **Calvin Gee**
  Senior Software Engineer
  Oracle Corporation
- **Becky Griffey**
  Owner
  BG Specialty Printing
- **Mary Bradley**
  Finance Director (Retired)
  City of Sunnyvale
- **John Harrison**
  Chaplain
  El Camino Hospital
- **Nancy Hill**
  Vice President, Human Resources
  Intuitive Surgical
- **Shane Jacksteit**
  SECRETARY
  Financial Advisor
  Edward Jones
- **Isabella Karabed**
  Senior Case Manager
  Downtown Streets Team
- **Barbara McClellan**
  Community Volunteer
  (former Genentech Manager)
- **Tom McEvoy**
  TREASURER
  Broker
  RE/MAX Santa Clara Valley
- **Julia Nelson**
  Sr. Director, Worldwide Order Mgmt.
  Synopsys, Inc.
- **Debbie Lyn Owens**
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  Owner
  Debbie Lyn’s Costumes
- **David Pitts**
  Deputy Chief
  Sunnyvale Dept. of Public Safety
- **Jim Slevin**
  Senior Director, Customer & Sales Analytics
  Equinix, Inc.

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members

- **Marie Bernard**, Executive Director
- **Ruth Perkins**, SCS Auxiliary President

Business is Booming, and That’s not Good