On the Streets Where We Live

We Californians love our cars, but few of us would want to sleep in our vehicles. Sadly, that is happening more frequently for many Sunnyvale residents. Seniors, couples, and families with children who are evicted from their homes want to stay near the schools and jobs and the neighborhoods they know—so they park their cars on local streets. The person serving you at a local restaurant or cleaning your house may not have a home to go to after work. The front seat of their car is their living room.

Living in Sunnyvale, we have a lot at stake in the future of Silicon Valley. The housing crisis and transportation challenges are affecting long-time residents who have lived in Sunnyvale for decades. Access to affordable housing can help hard-working families with children live where they work and go to school, and allow seniors and Veterans on fixed incomes to remain in the community where they spent their lives. Without this access, seniors, children, and grandchildren risk being forced to move out of the area, and those who remain risk losing some of the rich tapestry of an inclusive community.

Sunnyvale has always been a welcoming community. Our community voted overwhelmingly to support Measure A, which will raise nearly $1B over the next 30 years for low-income housing and first-time home buyers in Santa Clara County. Voters also approved Measure B, which will raise much-needed funds for improved public transportation and road repairs. Our State of California government is also considering infrastructure and housing initiatives that can improve the quality of life for all residents. Sunnyvale Community Services stands with these efforts.

Sunnyvale Community Services never turns away an eligible person for lack of funds or food. Sunnyvale Community Services stands with these efforts.

—Marie Bernard, Executive Director

2017 Holiday Auction

Thursday
November 16th
5:00 – 7:30 PM
Sunnyvale Elks Lodge
375 N. Pastoria, Sunnyvale

The person serving you at a local restaurant or cleaning your house may not have a home to go to after work.

We Met Our “Match!”

Thanks to so many generous donors, this past January we met the Sobrato Family Foundation grant challenge to raise $117,000 from new, increased, or returning “lapsed” donors! Because we met our match, the Sobrato Family Foundation will now award us $125,000 for the second year of the grant.

Thank you for helping us surpass this goal!
On May 3rd, “Our Kids, Our Community” held its fifth annual summer kick-off event, raising awareness and funds to help low-income Sunnyvale children during the summer months when school is out and children become anxious about whether or not they will have enough food. Corporate support along with generous donations from individuals help ensure that we can provide food to children throughout the summer, with special school-site distributions and SCS summer programs that give over 2,500 bags of nutritious, kid-friendly food from June-August.

Along with meeting the need for summer food, we also raise funds and collect donations for our end-of-summer Back- pack Day, when over 1,400 school-age children come to SCS for a brand new backpack filled with age-appropriate school supplies and a $30 shoe gift card so that children can be ready for school from “Head to Toe.” We give an additional 100 backpacks to local schools so that transfer students who join the school district after school starts can also have a fresh start.

Every summer we find that there are more children in need of food, and more families grateful for the opportunity to help their children start the new school year right. If you would like to make a donation for our summer programs, please visit our website at www.svcommunityservices.org and click the “Donate” button. Thank you for your support!

Backpacks for the Homeless

The men’s group at Peninsula Bible Church of Cupertino (PBCC) is looking forward to their second year in a row packing backpacks for the homeless, each loaded with essentials including toiletries and easy-to-open canned food. SCS is a beneficiary of the group’s “Service Sunday” program, which encourages church members to take part in charitable projects throughout the community. Paul Krukar, a men’s group volunteer, told us his group packed 38 backpacks last year, and this year plans to fill 50!
Choosing between funeral expenses and rent
When her mother died suddenly, our client was faced with unplanned for funeral expenses. Although the cost was modest, even a small unexpected outlay can upset a fragile housing situation. The client’s son was working two jobs to help pay the rent, but the family still needed help to get over the hurdle of paying funeral expenses. SCS was able to help bridge the gap with one month’s rent so that the family could remain in their home. Through the sadness of loss, they were comforted to hold onto their home and to their many wonderful memories.

Safe and sound in a new apartment
A mother, father, and two young children were living in a poorly maintained apartment complex with a landlord who refused to make even the most basic needed repairs. Anxious to find a safer, more suitable home, the family searched for weeks until they found a more appropriate place to raise their young children. However, they couldn’t afford the security deposit since their previous landlord refused to return their deposit. SCS was able to help the family with their move-in costs, and signed them up to participate in our food programs to help them stretch their monthly income. We were happy to help this family make a fresh start and look forward to outfitting their children with new backpacks in August as they prepare for a new school year!

Making ends meet late in life
A 90-year-old Sunnyvale senior had to think fast when his landlord unexpectedly raised his rent. Always resourceful, he quickly started his own small business, running a private car service driving neighbors to and from appointments. Yet, the added income wasn’t enough to cover for the rent increase, along with loan payments that had been piling up. Swallowing his pride, he came to SCS for help. Fortunately, we were able to provide emergency rental assistance so he could quickly pay off his high interest “payday” loans and stabilize his household income. This vibrant 90-year-old was grateful for the financial assistance and appreciates taking part in our year-round food programs.

Veterans in Need
Stories from our Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program

A disabled 78-year-old veteran came to SCS when he had been forced to vacate the apartment he and his wife called home for over 20 years. His wife suffered from dementia and moved into a facility that could take care of her. But the husband had nowhere to go. With tears in his eyes, he turned to SCS for help. He was afraid to enter a shelter program, and was contemplating living in his van until he could find a unit he could afford on his fixed income. Thankfully, with the support of his SCS case manager (in our SSVF program), our client was able to find senior affordable housing. His voice shaking with gratitude, he said, “I can’t thank you enough for all you’ve done to help me.”

Thank You!
“I would like to express my deep appreciation to you and the SCS staff and volunteers. With kindness and professionalism, you provided critical financial assistance needed for me and my child to keep our housing. Thank you!!”

SCS Client and mom

It’s a Wrap!
Thank you to all who donated, volunteered, and stopped by to say hello at our 2016 Holiday Auction. With your help we raised over $110,000, all of which was used to help our clients in need during the holidays.

Thank you!!

Did You Know?
There are 1,776,465 food-insecure households in California (Mazon Foundation). In Santa Clara County, Second Harvest Food Bank research shows that one in four persons is at risk of hunger. (2016 Hunger Report)

Outreach in Alviso
This past fall, SCS began serving the Alviso neighborhood of San Jose, as part of a realignment of zip codes among the Emergency Assistance Network (EAN) of agencies in Santa Clara County. With specific funding from Santa Clara County and donations from San Jose public and private donors, SCS is helping Alviso families in crisis with financial assistance, preventing homelessness and the more expensive interventions that occur once a family has lost their home.
Landlords—A Secret Ingredient to Success

The SCS staff works hard to help families remain housed. When evictions do happen, our approach is to rapidly re-house Sunnyvale residents as quickly as possible. This rapid re-housing philosophy has proven to be the most successful way to prevent homelessness in our community.

We all know that there are not many affordable or low-income housing choices in our community, and high rents persist in Sunnyvale. At SCS, our dedicated staff is building strong connections with local landlords who commit to being a part of the solution by making available safe, permanent housing.

One such landlord is Mr. Inder Bhandel, a Sunnyvale property owner who steps up and offers housing to our clients whenever possible, with well-maintained, clean apartments at rates our clients can afford. We are honored to work with such an outstanding landlord and we appreciate all that he’s done to help those less fortunate here in our community.

Let the Sun Basket In!

We are so pleased to have a new partner fighting hunger here in Sunnyvale. Sun Basket, the San Francisco-based meal delivery company, has joined with SCS to provide pallets of beautiful fresh fruit and vegetables for distribution to families during our Thursday and Friday school grocery delivery program. Families participating in the program are delighted to have such high-quality, healthy food for the weekend, when school meal programs are unavailable and tight budgets don’t cover organic, healthy produce.

SCS Wish List

We need donations of the following most needed school supplies:
- 1½” and 2” 3-ring binders
- 24-packs Crayola® crayons
- 19” high school backpacks
- 17” elementary school backpacks
- Graph paper packs
- 12-packs colored pencils
- pencil boxes

Check our website for the most needed items.

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

Housing Workshops at SCS

This past April, SCS Housing Case Manager, Elisha St. Laurent, held a series of four workshops for clients to help them navigate the competitive Sunnyvale housing market. Each workshop focused on a different aspect of being a successful renter, including learning how to navigate through strict credit requirements, how to be “tenant ready” for landlords willing to rent to them, and tips and tools for how to be a good tenant once they’ve moved in.

These workshops were well-attended and armed our clients with useful information in their search for housing.
Would you like to minimize your taxes and help Sunnyvale Community Services at the same time? If you are 70½ and are facing a Required Minimum Distribution from your Individual Retirement Account, you may want to consider making a contribution directly to SCS. Qualified Charitable Distributions are direct gifts of cash or securities up to $100,000 from a traditional IRA to a qualified charity such as SCS.

Using this method, the amount distributed is excluded from adjusted gross income for federal income tax purposes. It also doesn’t increase your tax bracket or your Medicare bracket. For example, a $1000 distribution from your IRA to you is considered ordinary income and could result in $280 in federal taxes, or $350 in federal and state taxes, based on an average tax rate. However, if you make a distribution directly to SCS, it is not subject to any taxes. This will allow you to avoid taxes and meet your giving goals at the same time! If this idea appeals to you, consult your tax preparer or financial adviser for details.

Since it opened in 2013, Sunnyvale’s Summit Denali School has become a great partner to SCS and the clients we serve. Every afternoon, Sue Johnson, the meal server, brings all unused school lunches to SCS. This ready-to-eat, nutritious food is provided to our homeless and new clients. In 2016, these small daily donations added up to 15,510 lbs. of food that would otherwise have been discarded. We are grateful to the students and staff at Summit Denali!

At Homestead High School, competition is a Mustang tradition, not just on the field but in other activities too. The Leadership Class is no exception. Each year, they partner with SCS to determine what is most needed and build a school-wide plan to raise awareness and support. This past year’s campaign was their biggest yet, with Sunnyvale Community Services receiving over $6,000 in cash and almost $20,000 of food, toiletries, toys, and other in-kind donations. Activities Director Sara Frausto said, “While the competition and tradition are helpful to driving the students’ success, the fact that they know the money and goods being contributed are going to help families directly in our community and even in our school is the true impact.” Go Mustangs!

SCS’s Federal tax ID is: 94-1713897

Donate to SCS without spending an extra dime!

Let your online shopping go the extra mile by registering for Amazon Smile. That’s right, you can support SCS whenever you shop through Amazon. Just register at smile.amazon.com. After your account is set-up, a donation will be made by Amazon for each eligible purchase.

Just 3 easy steps!

1. Go to smile.amazon.com and sign in to your normal Amazon account.
2. Type Sunnyvale Community Services in the charitable organization search box; select us.
3. Do your shopping and Amazon will automatically donate to SCS. To make it easier, bookmark smile.amazon.com for quick and easy access!
This spring, SCS honored exceptional donors and volunteers at our annual celebration, graciously hosted by LinkedIn.

Our donors and volunteers are MAGIC!

TWIN PINES MANOR APARTMENTS FIRE FUND AWARDS
1. County of Santa Clara  L-R: David Hernandez, Supervisor David Cortese, Marie Barlahan
2. City of Sunnyvale  L-R: Mayor Glenn Hendricks, David Hernandez, Marie Barlahan
3. Google  L-R: David Hernandez, Javier Gonzalez, Marie Barlahan
4. Housing Trust of Silicon Valley  L-R: Marie Barlahan, Sandra Murillo, David Hernandez

LANDLORD AWARDS
5. Preston Powell  L-R: Tomasine Cole, Preston Powell, Claudia Young
6. Inder Bhandel  L-R: Elisha St. Laurent, Inder Bhandel
7. John Vidovich  L-R: Marie Barlahan, Dena Rosa, David Hernandez

DONOR AWARDS
8. Applied Materials  L-R: Jessica Stanford, Marie Bernard
9. Sunnyvale International Church  L-R: Marie Bernard, Jorge Marsal, Shirley Marsal

Not pictured: Jay Paul Company, Palo Alto Medical Foundation, Wells Fargo, Westly Foundation

VOLUNTEER AWARDS
10. Steve Harms – Chuck Quanz Volunteer of the Year Award  L-R: Terry Chavez, Steve Harms, Carolyn Alexander
11. Jennie Irvine and Casey Elliott – New Volunteer Award  L-R: Carolyn Alexander, Jennie Irvine, Casey Elliott, Terry Chavez
12. Operations Desk – Group Volunteer Award
13. Jim & Elvire Lee – Family Volunteer Award  L-R: Carolyn Alexander, Elvire Lee, Jim Lee

Not pictured: Severns Family Foundation, Level 10 Construction
Major Program Contributors

Alpha Graphics
Jeffrey Andrews
Anonymous (8)
The Applied Materials Foundation
George & Joanne Ballard
Bay Area Modern Quilt Guild
Donna L. Brewe
Mary J. Bradley
Nicholas and Anna Bronnman
Karen Bruener
D. Delange & G. Calvert
Christopher & Lucy Cser
Church of the Resurrection
City of Sunnyvale
City of Sunnyvale Employee Giving Campaign
Robert & Christine Cline
Community Services Agency of Mountain View and Los Altos
County of Santa Clara
Lynn & Bill Crane
Crosswalk Community Church
Dentai Summit School, Sunnyvale
Dimensional Research - Diane M.
Gary Chern
Haggett-Pearman
Peter N. Doelling
Conner & Millaude Duke
Leonard & Fred Gay
El Camino Health care District
Bobby L. & Vasia A. Eureni
Family Giving Tree
Mack & Janet Fausbaugh
Ferguson-Spries-Fung
Cynthia J. Fong
GCP Corporation
Google, Inc.
James R. Griffith
Don & Donna Hoffman
Glen & Cynthia Hendricks
Ogil & Mirchla Hamilton
Homestead High School
Housing Trust Silicon Valley
Huffington-Johnson Charitable Trusts
Intuitive Surgical
Derek Inouzo
Jay Powell Company

JIP Electric
Annette Moore
Gary Pedram & Carmita Moxing
Paul & Penny Murray
NetApp
George & Margaret Olsh
Omar Family Charitable Fund
Paradise Gas & Electric Company
 Palo Alto Medical Foundation
Camino Medical Group
Haas-Furlaux
Payless Shoes
Jeff & Cindy Pedger
Shahlae Foundation
Jim and Janet Reynolds
Jeff and Sandra Ruggles
St. Luke Christian Life
San Francisco Chronicle Season of Sharing
San Francisco Rent-A-Robot Motor Sales USA Inc.
San Jose Mercury News Wish Book
Fund Inc.
SanDisk Corporation
Santa Clara & San Benito Counties
Building Trades Council & Construction Employers' Council
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties
Severns Family Foundation
Shasta Fire Protection Agency
Sherborne Fellowship
Sunnyvale Community Foundation
Sunnyvale Monterey Bay Council,
BSA
Blake Family, Sunnyvale
Sobrato Family Foundation
Specialty Solid Waste and Recycling
Sunnyvale Neighbors
Star One Credit Union's Community
Involvement Committee
Sunset Goodwill
Sunset Lighting
Sunnyvale Community Services Auxiliary

Sunnyvale Elks Lodge / B.P.O.E.

Sunnyvale FISH
Sunnyvale International Church
Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church
Sunnyvale Public Safety
Sunnyvale Rotary Club
Sunnyvale School District
Target, Sunnyvale
Sunnyvale Tedos Restaurant
Sunnyvale Union Bank
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
United Way Bay Area
Village Harvest
Estate of Paul Walkowski
Walnut Creek Mission Church
Welsh Farms
White Sierra
Stephen Wright Jr.
Tad & Florence Yoshikawa
Zanezio's Family Market, Sunnyvale

4 Days = 2000 meals-in-a-can
Nancy Garrett
Lee & Sophia Ott
Judith Petruski & William Wiegand
Safeway Foundation
Dennis & Jean Stein

4 Days = 3,000 quarts of milk
Anonymous (1)
Mary Ellen and Stephen Barasch
Dr. and Mrs. I. B. Bernhardt
Marie Bernade and Bruce Patton
Mike & Diana Bronnman
California Water Service Company
Cupertino Host Lions Club
Scott Anderson
Robin Fisher, Take Flight Graphics
Food Runners
Richard and Diane Horn
Russell & Susan Hall
Jockers Family Foundation
Matthew & Donna Leocas
Stephen McKeil
Robert & Kathleen Menifee
Shane & Kimberly McLean
Toyota, Sunnyvale
Sunnyvale Elks Wives
Skyrise Real Estate Group
Raymond and Yvonne Skitt
Safeway Store #1439
Tim and Yolanda Risch
Joseph Ribera & Mary-Ann Wallace
Redwood Gospel Assembly
Susan L. Pyle
Thomas Pyle in loving memory of
Orange Theory Fitness
Connor & Milkasha Oke
Brad and Deborah Wetmore
Gary and Sharon Vergho
Mary Utter
Liz Utter
Betsy Trago, Anchor Auto Body
Shane & Kimberly McLean

30 jars of peanut butter
Mary Alexander
Anonymous (16)
John & Linda Adams
Dr. Aftandlian
Sandy and Holly Aghayan
Elizabeth & Paul Ambrosheva
Kraut Ahlri - to my family
Aji Balakrishnan
DebarptBalakrishnan
Howard and Madison M. Delaet
Elizabeth & Jim Baron
Bay Area Christian Church
Marylinn B. Bearden
Sedna Rashedi Begum
Carmen and Diana Berson
Herman W. Bilemko
Lynda, Nola, and Richard Borrison
Bone Family Charitable Fund
Edward Bowsun
Mary E. Buxby
Philip and Laurel Brock
John M. Brown
Jerry Berger & Marlene M. Semsak
Cape Cod Village Residents
Young Alumni
Irene Company
Joyce & Robert Jeckell, in memory of
Phyllis-Jeckell and Barbara J. Moody
Kapoor Foundation
Yuko Kanagy
Richard Kato
Paul Kenan
John Kearnay
Robert Kennedy
Twang Lyn-Kho
Sushant Kochi - In memory of our
father Sushant Kochi, a wonderful
human being
Jim Kurhte
Kevin Kurtzman
Brian Kusekhal
Rick & Mary La Frentz
LandbankInvestments
Brenda Lee & Jason Wong
Dr. David H. Lee in Memory of Dr.
Kou-wei Lee
Teri Lee
Theresa J. Lee
Mike Lidin
Rooster & Anne McQuilin
Chans
Changs

Sunnyvale Elks Lodge / B.P.O.E.

Sunnyvale FISH
Sunnyvale International Church
Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church
Sunnyvale Public Safety
Sunnyvale Rotary Club
Sunnyvale School District
Target, Sunnyvale
Sunnyvale Tedos Restaurant
Sunnyvale Union Bank
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
United Way Bay Area
Village Harvest
Estate of Paul Walkowski
Walnut Creek Mission Church
Welsh Farms
White Sierra
Stephen Wright Jr.
Tad & Florence Yoshikawa
Zanezio's Family Market, Sunnyvale
Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Sunnyvale CA
Permit No. 334

725 Kifer Road, Sunnyvale, CA 94086 • T 408.738.4321
www.svcommunityservices.org • F 408.738.1125

Programs and Services

- Financial assistance for rent, utilities, medical care, prescriptions, other critical bills, and rental deposits for homeless families moving into housing
- Case management for families, seniors, and homeless individuals
- Daily emergency food, weekly “Produce Mondays,” Pantry Days, Weekend School Food Program, monthly food for families / seniors, Kids’ Summer Food distributions
- Support Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program to help veterans and their families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness
- Work First Sunnyvale - Partnership with Downtown Streets Team, addressing homelessness through the dignity of work
- 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
- Budgeting assistance, support counseling, and advocacy
- Workshops and referrals to medical, mental health, employment, shelter, education, and legal programs
- Clothes, backpacks/school supplies, household items, bus passes and gas vouchers

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

SCR Auxiliary Holiday Boutique & Quilt Raffle
Sunnyvale Community Services
725 Kifer Road, Sunnyvale

Friday & Saturday
October 27, 3:00 - 7:00 PM
October 28, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Annual SCS Holiday Auction
Elks Lodge, 375 N. Pastoria, Sunnyvale

Thursday, November 16, 2017
5:00 - 7:30 PM

Giving Tuesday - SCS Open House
Sunnyvale Community Services
725 Kifer Road, Sunnyvale

Tuesday, November 28, 2017
1:00 - 5:00 PM

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

Newsletter designed & produced by Bright Bird Creative