

### **Sunnyvale Community Services**

Preventing Homelessness and Hunger in Our Local Community –

# We're moving to a Larger Home in Sunnyvale!



When we moved into our current building in 2003, we never imagined we'd run out of space. Since that time, we have increased our food distribution days from four per month to 22, with an average of 905 families coming every Produce Monday. The generosity of our supporters, including 2,500 volunteers, makes it happen, but our current site limits our services. We've utilized every inch of space and positioned staff at satellite offices in Sunnyvale. After much planning and preparation, we are ready to take this next step and enhance our ability to serve our community.

SCS is happy to announce that we are looking to move into a larger building in 2020. In preparation for the move, the City of Sunnyvale has agreed to buy our current building and allow SCS to remain here until our new building is move-in ready. We have received seed funding from the **City of Sunnyvale**, **Jay Paul**,

**LinkedIn**, the **SCS Board of Directors**, and many individual donors. But we need your help. It's going to take a village to help us buy a new building.

### Please Join Us!

As you plan your annual giving to SCS, we ask that you consider an additional gift to our building fund.

We will share more about our plans in the coming months. Thank you for your help in preventing homelessness and hunger in our community!  $\blacksquare$ 

Marie Bernard, Executive Director

### City of Sunnyvale and Google.org Help Homeless Families

A nna, a single mother of four, was struggling to find stability. She was working hard, but when her landlord raised her rent from \$1,450 to \$2,650, she had to give up her apartment. Anna and her children found refuge at the North County Shelter in Sunnyvale, which supports families and individuals experiencing homelessness. That's when we met Anna.

Anna was helped through the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing (HPRR) program at SCS. We launched HPRR in 2015, with generous funding from the **City of Sunnyvale**, and the need continues to grow. The number of homeless persons we helped last year increased by 22% to 831. Thanks to new funding from **Google.org**, SCS was able to expand our HPRR services in Sunnyvale last year. We are grateful to both the City of Sunnyvale and Google.org for their generous support for this critical service.

HPRR connects clients who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness with a Housing Case Manager (HCM) to help them reach housing stability. HCMs match tenants with landlords and

 $continued\ on\ page\ 2$ 

### **2019 Holiday Auction**

**Thursday, November 21** | 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Sunnyvale Elks Lodge | 375 N. Pastoria Ave.

It's time for the SCS Annual Holiday Auction! Join us for an evening of good food and good cheer while bidding on one-of-a-kind holiday gifts for everyone in your family. Auction items include wonderful family vacations, restaurant outings, wine tastings, theater tickets, and so much more.

Thank you to all who graciously donate items and volunteer time to make this event possible. We again thank the **Sunnyvale Elks Lodge** for donating their venue, **LinkedIn** for catering the evening with savory appetizers, and **Cake4Kids** for providing delicious bite-sized desserts.

The Auction is a free event, but we ask guests to bring a \$25 gift card or an unwrapped new toy to help stock the shelves of the SCS Holiday Center.  $\blacksquare$ 

### Thanks to Our Sponsors

















### **President's Corner**

I am honored to be rejoining the SCS Board of Directors and to serve as Board President at a very exciting time. During last year's "gap year" in my Board service, I remained informed



and humbled, as always, about the efforts of the agency and the people of Sunnyvale to fight homelessness and hunger in our community.

Last year, the Board of Directors authorized senior SCS staff to conduct a feasibility study for a capital campaign to purchase a new building. As was becoming clear to staff, clients, and our wonderful volunteers, our ever expanding efforts to meet our mission have caused SCS to outgrow its current facility.

The results of the feasibility study were clear: the people of Sunnyvale want us to have a place where we can do our job better. More room for case workers to provide one-on- one assistance to those who need emergency financial aid or long-term case management. More room for food storage so we can provide fresh, nutritious food to local families. More room for gatherings and special events, including screenings for our Challenge Diabetes program, workshops on immigrant rights, and seasonal activities such as our Holiday Center.

SCS is in the process of identifying a building that will meet our needs for many years to come. We hope to move into the new building in mid/late 2020. To add to the excitement, 2020 is also the agency's 50th anniversary. Rest assured that we will let you know about celebrations for both of these milestones!

All of the Board members have made commitments to help pay for the new building. I hope you will consider making an extra gift to SCS in the coming months to honor our half-century legacy and help us move forward into the next chapter of our mission to prevent homelessness and hunger in our local community.

Michael Gallagher, SCS Board President Deputy Superintendent, Sunnyvale School District



### City of Sunnyvale and Google.org Help Homeless Families

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offer support to both parties to ensure successful housing outcomes. Our HCMs visit the Homeless Shelter on a weekly basis to identify families who may benefit from HPRR services.

Fast forward to today. With the support of her SCS Housing Case Manager, Anna secured adequate affordable housing. Once she was stably housed, she was able to concentrate on improving her employment, and received a promotion at work.

SCS will further support Anna by providing three months of financial education so she can continue to improve her financial health.

Our thanks to Google.org and the City of Sunnyvale for continuing to support SCS's mission to prevent homelessness and hunger in our local community.

### **Donate a Car**

Wondering how to get rid of your old car and give back



to the community?

It's easy. Contact Donate for
Charity at (866) 392-4483 and
they will pick up the car 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!

Non profit tax ID #94-1713897

### **Concerts Support SCS**

We were treated to two special concerts earlier this year.
Thank you to the **Sunnyvale Singers** and **Voices of Hope Humanitarian Choir** for their memorable performances.

The Sunnyvale Singers, directed by Mary Hamilton, performed a series of upbeat renditions at **Trinity United Methodist Church** in preparation for their annual Spring Fling concert.



▲ Sunnyvale Singers

▼ Voices of Hope Humanitarian Choir



Voices of Hope Humanitarian Choir sang wonderful selections from composer and conductor Henry Mollicone's Beatitude Mass at **St. Luke Lutheran Church**. Thank you to all the performers and attendees who gave generously of their time and donations to support SCS. ■

### **Client Success Stories**

### Financial Coaching Helps Vet

Benjamin\* is a 49-year-old veteran who suffers from PTSD. Although he is an accomplished cook, he has had trouble keeping jobs because the noisy nature of commercial kitchens triggers his trauma. He sought financial assistance from Sunny-vale Community Services after losing another job, which resulted in disputed unemployment benefits. When he came to us, he was falling behind on his rent and his utilities had already been disconnected.

We gave Benjamin emergency financial aid and also enrolled him in our Financial Literacy program. Financial literacy is increasingly being recognized as a foundational skill for self-sufficiency. New funding from the **Silicon Valley Community Foundation (SVCF)** is allowing one of our case workers to spend part of her time providing vital financial coaching to SCS clients.

Benjamin began keeping close track of all his income and expenditures, which helped him discover expensive habits such as eating out a lot. He eventually received retroactive unemployment benefits, has held down a new restaurant job for several months, and recently began a second job delivering food. We look forward to helping many more people like Benjamin stabilize their incomes through the SVCF Financial Literacy program.

### **Overcoming Domestic Violence**

Paloma\*, who has a daughter in high school and two elementary-age sons, became homeless when she had to flee domestic violence (DV). We enrolled her in our SCS case management and food programs and referred her to Nextdoor Solutions for DV assistance and to the United Way's Sparkpoint program for credit counseling. We were able to find the family a two-bedroom apartment in Campbell. We subsidized the rent payments at first, but with her new budgeting skills, Paloma was able to take over the full cost of the apartment within months.

\*All names have been changed to protect the privacy of our clients.

### **SCS Programs & Services**

### **Year-round Food**

providing over two million pounds of healthy food at our on-site pantry, or at low-income Sunnyvale schools, and through deliveries to homebound residents.

#### **One-time Financial Assistance**

for rent, deposits, utilities, medical care, prescriptions, and other critical bills

### **Case Management**

for families and individuals who are homeless or at risk of eviction and need longer-term assistance.

### Kids' Head-to-Toe Summer Program

distributing backpacks with school supplies, gift cards for new shoes, and extra food.

### **Holiday Center**

providing toys, household gifts, and extra food in December.

### **Screening & Enrollments**

for Medi-Cal, CalFresh, and other benefit programs.

### Financial & Credit Repair Classes and Counseling

#### **WorkFirst Sunnyvale**

a partnership with Downtown Streets Team to address homelessness through the dignity of work.

#### **Bus Passes & Gas Vouchers**

#### Other In-kind Assistance

e.g. diapers, refurbished bicycles, household move-in kits.

### Advocacy

on policies and programs affecting the most vulnerable.











# Did You Know?

989

of SCS clients have extremely-low to low incomes.

**\$2,027** 

Our median check for emergency financial aid

**50**%

of our clients are either children or seniors

900

Every week, more than 900 SCS client families receive fresh fruits and vegetables on Produce Mondays

### ----Ready for School from Head to Toe ----

 ${f B}$  ackpack Day on August 1st marked the culmination of our summertime "Head-to-Toe" program, when families receive additional food over the summer when schools are closed and children miss out on meal programs. SCS provided over 1,700 children with new backpacks, school supplies, dental hygiene kits, a \$40.00 gift card for shoes, and a nutritious snack. Additional backpacks and shoe gift cards have been delivered to Sunnyvale schools and the North County homeless shelter for distribution to low-income transfer students and homeless students throughout the school year.

We are grateful to our many sponsors who helped make our summer Head-to-Toe program such a vital part of the services we provide to our young neighbors in need.







### Sunnvvale Rotary

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

California Water Service Company City of Sunnyvale Employees Family Giving Tree Homestead High School IBM Volunteer Outreach Council Intuitive Surgical Employees James A. Doran, DDS NetApp

Pharmacyclics Employees Sunnyvale Host Lions Club San Jose Earthquakes ServiceNow Employees Silicon Valley Association of Realtors St. Mark Lutheran Church Sunnyvale International Church Texas Instruments







### **Rides for Toys:** Fun for the Whole Family!

On Saturday, November 30, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., the whole family is invited to come to the annual Rides for Toys event sponsored by the Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety. Located in the Macy's parking lot (downtown Murphy Street, between Macy's and Target), this event will give children a chance to sit in a fire truck and to learn the importance of giving to kids less fortunate. We appreciate your donation of gift cards for teens and young adults, as well as toys — especially for ages 7-11. All donations will benefit the annual Holiday Center at SCS.



### Holiday Season Starts with SCS Auxiliary

The all-volunteer SCS Auxiliary did it again! Their fall craft fair was A a hit with beautiful homemade crafts and scrumptious homebaked goods — all benefitting Sunnyvale Community Services. In addition, they displayed this year's beautiful "Autumn Leaves" quilt that will be raffled off at the SCS Holiday Auction. Autumn Leaves is rich in colors and textures. It features gorgeous shades of fall leaves, vines, and wonderful wave textures, all enhanced with metallic gold. This lovely piece was professionally quilted by The Granary in a lovely

We are grateful for the talented Auxiliary whose unflagging support is a vital part of the success of SCS.

### Join us for the Quilt Raffle!

Purchase raffle tickets at the Holiday Auction on November 21.

### Major Program Contributors

Gaylord & Carmita Mossing

Omar Family Charitable Fund

Robert & Anne Pochowsk

Mr. & Mrs. Wolfgang Polak

Jim & Janet Reynolds

Safeway Foundation

Our Daily Bread

Medical Group

The Babulak Fund Mary Ellen & Stephen Baraso Mary J. Bradley California New Car Dealers A Employee Benefits Trust D. Delange & G. Calvert Christopher & Lucy Cesa Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day

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Sunnyvale Public Safety

Sunnyvale Rotary Club

### Adopt-a-Day Honor Roll

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

#### Roy Clifton Scott Corzine & Reena K. Khare 4 Days = 2,000 meals-in-a-can

Anonymous (1) Michael & Theresa Benkert Jeffrey William Grafton Shane & Kimberly Jacksteit Hans-Theo Jungeblut Kenneth & Susie Lamarche The Mary W. Lernihan Charitable Fund Level 10 Construction Mission City Community Fund Pacific Gas & Electric Company Courtney Shenberg Mike & Patti Simon ZSPACE, Inc.

### 3 Days = 3,000 quarts of milk

Anonymous (3) Camille Barnes-Mosley Bob & Chervl Bartholomev Mike & Diana Brzozowski California Water Service Compar Thomas & Judith Cern Crosswalk Community Church Peter N. Doelling Andrew & Kathleen Fung John & LuAnne Graves Richard & Diane Horn Russell & Susan Hull Mr. & Mrs. Mustafa Hus Keith & Ellen Kitchen Matthew & Donna Leacock

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Zanotto's Family Market, Sunnyvale

#### 2 Days = 1,260 cans of tuna

Advanced Micro Devices Alpha Delta Kappa, Alpha Lambda Chapter Elizabeth & Paul Archambeault Aiit Balakrishna Charles L. Barndt, Jr. Jim & Lynn Briody Stenhen & Susan Campello Children's Dental Center Dean & Wilma Chu

John & Maya Clifton

Faultline Brewing Co., Su Lily Aggarwal Susan Fisher Habib Ahmad Philip & Junko Freidin Michael & Kelly Giannir Wren Clark & Martin Gorfinke Carol Arnett David Gurle BMC Software Debra D. & Spencer Hiraki Albert Howard James Barnette India Cash & Carry, Inc Anne Infeld Justin Becker Clay Joneas-Carrell Deborah S. Kidd Michael Bobick Carla J. Klein Gopal Krishnan Philin Kurjan Rick & Mary La Frentz Duane Loos Los Altos High School Mark Burns Tara Martin-Milius John Wehner & Asunción Martinez-Michele Carlso Wehner Tyler & Jennifer McHenry Charitable David & Holly Mendel Debra Miedema Ron Coens Sunnyvale MOMS Club Arthur & Claudia Muller Russell & Mira Nakano Philip C. Nies Eldon Okazaki On Semiconducto Richard & Deborah Owens Douglas Daetz Jeff & Cindy Pelger Evelyn Dixon Ellis Elementary Redwood Gospel Assembl Bernice L. Eng Lynn Relyea Jeff & Sandra Ruggles Helen Rutt & Gil Ohana David Sacarelos The Shiu Family Silicon Valley Bicycle Exchange Skyrise Real Estate Group Smith Family Foundation John & Susan Sontag Phyllis Free Dennis & Jean Stein Al Frugaletti Ed Fussell Michelle Sullivan Michael A. Gallagher Karen L. Taylor Jennifer & Brian Garnet

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### 1 Day = 300 jars of peanut

Erika and Per Hammarlund Dixie Lee Harner Jeffrey & Janet Harp T. J. Hawkins John & Linda Adams Robert Heller Drs. Aftandilian Heritage Bank of Comm Mary & Brian Hill Lane A. Albanese Hans Hoefler Thomas Albanese Jeff & Debbie Hotter Alpha & Omega Se Hunter Properties Anonymous (15) Lawrence Aragon IBM Volunteer Outreach Counci Sved & Jamie Iman Denis & Dee Imazeki Tab & Rachel Atkins Brad Grantham & Kristin Ingram Patricia Innes Julian M. Knox & Steven A. Banks Chris Iremonger Christine Barmeier Irvine Comp Mikio & Vickie Ishimar Elizabeth & Jim Batson June Janowski Carl & Diane Benson Joyce & Robert Jeckell in memory of Dr. & Mrs. I. B. Bernhard Roberta Bernstein Henrik Jensen Lynda & Richard Borris Max R. Kaehn Bose Family Charitable Fund Edward Bouwhuis Karen L. Kao Bright Beginnings Prescho John Dowding & Denise Kate Paul Kavanagh John Kearney Thomas Kempe Patricia E. Castillo Susan Ketchar Robert Lister & Ana Chan Tiang Lye Khoo Knights of Columbus St. Francis of Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Chew Assisi Council No. 4981 Christ Episcopal Church of Los Altos Sushant Koshti Debbie Colden & Gary Marker James & Claire Lakner Congregational Church of Sunnyvale UCC Timothy & Margaret Coté Scott & Diane Cressler Dr. Daisy H. Lee, in memory of Dr Kuo-Wei Lee Lorraine Č. Crowder Theresa J. Lees Joanne Lee Lewis Michael & Michele Cudzinov Shun-Tak A. Leung & Pik Sum Li Ronald B. David Peter & Debra Loomis Herbert & Elizabeth Lopez-Aguado Julie Luckcuck Emmanuel Lugos Robert & Julie Estko Lawrence & Nancy Lunett Excite Credit Union Karyn MacKie Mark & Janet Farabaugh Paula & Chuck MacQuidd Macy's West Richard & Christine Ferry Blandine Malhet IMD Switzerland Joseph Manca Andrew & Deborah Frazier Pete & Debra Mangar Ali Abedini & Roksana Sadraei Maniili Fremont High School Margaret Mannion Noreen & Joseph Maresca

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Girl Scouts Troop 60418

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Janaan Zender

Zume Pizza



Make your donation to SCS go further!

Check whether your company will match your contribution. Some companies even match gifts by retirees and/or spouses!

### Make a Direct Gift to SCS

### **Qualified Charitable Distribution: A Benefit** for You and SCS

Tf you are 70½ or older and have an IRA, you know you're required to make minimum distributions each year. Even if you don't need all of that income, you could face a tax penalty if you fail to make the minimum withdrawal.

There is a lesser-known option that can benefit you and Sunnyvale Community Services: In lieu of paying taxes on a distribution, you can make a charitable donation that counts toward your annual IRA distribution requirement and is excluded from your adjusted gross income for that tax year.

For example, assume you are required to withdraw at least \$10,000 per year from your IRA, but only need \$3,500 of that for your expenses. If you transferred \$6,500 directly to Sunnyvale Community Services and retain \$3,500 for your needs, you would meet your annual IRA deduction requirement and not be taxed on the \$6,500 donation.

We encourage you to seek advice from your tax counselor to understand how this could optimize taxes for your portfolio. ■

### For more information

Contact Tom Hamilton at SCS:

thamilton@svcommunityservices.org

408.738.4321 x228



2020 GIVING

### Join Us!

As you plan your annual giving to SCS, we ask that you consider an additional gift toward our future building.



### We Met Our "Match!"

Thanks to so many generous donors this year, we met the Sobrato Family Foundation grant challenge to raise \$125,000 from new, increased, or returning "lapsed" donors! Because we met our match, the Sobrato Family Foundation will now award us \$132,000 for the second year of the grant.



Thank you for helping us surpass our goal!

### CELEBRATING **50 YEARS OF SCS**

### Don't miss a single issue!



**T**/ eep your email address current. As Nwe celebrate our 50th anniversary next year, you'll want to make sure you can receive your monthly copy of our email newsletter. Each month, we'll be reliving success stories and achievements from five decades of serving those in need from the Sunnyvale community.

We will also share SCS updates about activities and events planned throughout the year.

Visit www.svcommunityservices.org and click on "Join Our Email List."



### **Thank You!**

"I really love my community in Sunnyvale. I just think that without them, we wouldn't be able to provide my kids the best education and the best social [environment] growing up."

— SCS Client Claudia Romero on Backpack Day



### We—and our funders care about vets

We all owe a lot to our military veterans. So when a vet comes through the doors of Sunnyvale Community Services, we're very appreciative of the corporations and foundations that give us funding specifically to help former servicemembers.

For example, "Leonard," a 64-year-old Vietnam vet, first sought our help several years ago when he was homeless. We paid his security deposit and first month's rent so he could use his VA voucher to move into an apartment. We also enrolled him in our food programs. Recently, Leonard became an SCS Home Food Delivery client because he has multiple medical conditions and is no longer able to come to our warehouse to pick up food.

This year, the following funders are making it possible for SCS to help vets like Leonard. Our profound thanks to them for this assistance.

FUNDING PARTNERS





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### Western **Digital**<sub>®</sub>

**SEVERNS FAMILY FOUNDATION** 



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\*Part-time



### Mark Your Calendar for December 3rd!

#GivingTuesday

Norget Black Friday and Cyber Monday. #GivingTuesday is a national event dedicated Forget Black Friday and Cyber Monday. "Salary Too online giving to your favorite nonprofit. Come celebrate with us! We will be hosting an Open House on December 3, 2019 from 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. Come by and take a tour of the Holiday Center and enjoy light refreshments. There will be opportunities to donate on-site and online! All donations from #GivingTuesday will go towards helping the families, seniors, and homeless individuals who will be walking through our North Pole this December. Let's keep working together to make this a special year for all our families in need. Thank you for your kind support! ■

MATCHING SPONSORS





### **We Need Gift Cards** for Teenagers!

Please make a donation of one or more gift cards (\$25 max) for a teen in need this holiday season.

Donations are being accepted RIGHT NOW at 725 Kifer Road, Sunnyvale.

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



### **GIFT CARD IDEAS**

Amazon Target **AMC** 

Cinemark Chipotle Starbucks

Jamba Juice **GameStop** In-N-Out

### **SAVE the DATE**

All events are free unless otherwise noted.

### **Annual SCS Holiday Auction**

Elks Lodge, 375 N. Pastoria Ave., Sunnyvale

Thursday, November 21, 2019 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

### **Rides for Toys**

Macy's Parking Lot Downtown Sunnyvale Saturday, November 30, 2019 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

#### #GivingTuesday - SCS Open House

Sunnyvale Community Services 725 Kifer Road, Sunnyvale

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.

#### Sunnyvale Singers Holiday Benefit Concert

Trinity United Methodist Church 583 E. Fremont Ave., Sunnyvale

Sunday, December 8 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

#### **Poverty Simulation**

Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church

Saturday, January 11, 2020 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.



### Join Us for Our 2020 **Annual Poverty Simulation**

Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church 728 W. Fremont Avenue Saturday, January 11 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

oin community members from all walks of life as they discover first-hand the struggles that a low-income family experiences as they try to make ends meet in Silicon Valley. You will spend a morning simulating a month in the life of a low-wage worker or a senior living on fixed income. It will be an experience that will forever change how you perceive the struggles of our neighbors.

Co-sponsored by **Downtown Streets** Team, Leadership Sunnyvale, Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church, Our Daily Bread, and Sunnyvale Community Services.

### Registration is FREE

https://streetsteam.networkforgood.com/ events/16264-sunnyvale-poverty-simulation

### **Update** your mailing or contact info

CONTACT

news@svcommunityservices.org

### **SCS Wish List**









Visit our website for the most needed items. www.svcommunityservices.org/ donate-scs-wish-list/



Newsletter designed & produced by Bright Bird Creative

Many thanks to alphagraphics.













728 W. Fremont Ave., Sunnyvale

















