

# Good Neighbor News Updates from SCS

SPRING 2021

## Ready to Go from Head to Toe!

S CS supporters help make it possible for local children and teens to start off the school year right — with school supplies, backpacks, brand-new school shoes, and nutritious food. This year, we aim to provide 1,600 children with these essentials, helping to promote a bright start and a brighter future! Learn more at www.svcommunityservices.org.



 Our community has donated more than
 \$1 million to help us meet the unprecedented and ongoing need presented by the pandemic.
 Every dollar helps our neighbors!



▲ Good food and school essentials help position kids for success.

# Here for our neighbors since 1970

S CS started with a simple idea — to help neighbors in need. Today, our supporters help us provide food, financial assistance, case management and more to help prevent homelessness and hunger. That good idea is building a stronger community!

#### A Million Reasons to Celebrate!

## NVIDIA & BON APPÉTIT Two caring companies, one great help.

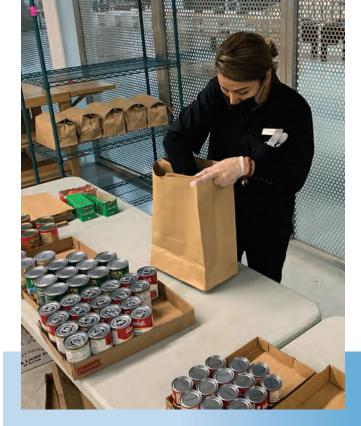
NUDIA and its on-site food-service vendor, Bon Appétit, are helping SCS get food to our neighbors in need.

During the pandemic, SCS had to limit hosting on-site volunteer groups due to COVID-19 safety protocols and was trying to handle food packing and distribution with a skeleton crew. So NVIDIA and Bon Appétit proposed an idea that turned out to be a recipe for success: have Bon Appétit staff pack loads of groceries into bags for distribution to SCS clients.

We gratefully took them up on their proposal, and Bon Appétit is now packing 500 bags of groceries for SCS each week!

It's a win-win! Not only do SCS clients benefit from uninterrupted food distribution, but our staff has also benefited from this much-needed help.

We are grateful to NVIDIA and Bon Appétit for their innovation, generosity, and support. ■



▲ A member of the Bon Appétit team packs groceries at NVIDIA for distribution to SCS clients.

## **Volunteers on the Horizon**



SCS hopes to welcome volunteers back to our warehouse soon.

Stay tuned for more information in the coming months! It's been a long time since we've been able to host teams of volunteers on our site. Lack of space in our Kifer warehouse made working conditions crowded prior to the pandemic; once COVID-19 hit, there was no way for volunteers to safely gather on our site.

Volunteers are key to our work, helping us to keep operating costs low and freeing up more resources to help our clients. Needless to say, we've missed the valuable help — and the priceless smiles that come along with it.

It's too early to say for sure when we'll be able to welcome our full corps of volunteers back to SCS, but with COVID-19 vaccines on the rise, we're hoping it's sooner rather than later. When the time comes, volunteer projects and protocols may look a little different, but the camaraderie and satisfaction of joining together to help others — and our gratitude — will be unchanged.

## BRINGING SCS TO OUR NEIGHBORS Community Navigator Points the Way



Through the Community Navigator program, SCS recruits and trains community members to bring awareness about SCS services and other beneficial resources to local residents. These Community Leaders act as our liaisons, educating residents about our food, financial assistance, case management, and other programs,

as well as providing information about partner agency resources for social services, healthcare, education, immigration, affordable housing, and more. Many — but not all — of our Community Leaders are former or current SCS clients who have first-hand experience with our staff and our programs.

Our Community Leaders deliver SCS information to local schools, PTA meetings, churches, shelters, resource fairs, and other events within their own communities. They also act as first responders in crisis situations — such as when a family is threatened with an eviction — quickly alerting SCS staff for immediate intervention.

Another critical element of the SCS Community Navigator program: Community Leaders provide valuable feedback from the community to SCS, so we can continually modify and improve our programs and outreach efforts. It's all part of our commitment to ensure that our programs and services are meeting the ever-changing needs of our local community.

## Join the Team!

If you are interested in becoming an SCS Community Leader, please contact our Community Navigator, Naomy Valdiosera at **nvaldiosera@svcommunityservices.org** or call **408.470.3024**.

If you believe, as we do, that our community is only as strong as the neighbor who struggles most, join us in our work.





# **Everyone deserves a hom**



SCS delivers food to our clients who are unable to leave their homes.

I was overwhelmed when you paid for my medicines and gave me food right away. Now that I get food every week and the other services you arranged for me,

### I can make it.

- SCS Client

Nearly half of the 10,000+ neighbors we serve are among the most vulnerable: *children and seniors.* 



# e with food on the table.

If I could tell families anything, I'd tell them to come to us as soon as they can — right after job loss, right after it looks like they may be having trouble, we are here to resource them as best we can. Don't wait until the crisis is imminent.

The earlier we can intervene, the better the outcomes will be.

*— David Hernandez* SCS Director of Programs & Services



SCS case workers like Luis Lopez coordinate services for those with greatest need.



A staff member from a local school called us in tears. A parent had told her she had nothing to feed her family that day. She asked if we could help. We said, 'Of course!'

That's how community works.

— Hiroko Odaka SCS Director of Operations



# Find Yourself in Good Company Become an SCS Donor

We are grateful to all of our donors, volunteers, partners, and friends who are part of our compassionate community. Every supporter plays a critical role in helping us keep families housed with food on the table.

Lane Partners

### MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

\$5.000 & up

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### Adopt-a-Day



Aaron Wong

Alice Yu

Megan Young

Clay Joncas-Carrell

#### Adopt-a-Day program underwrites costs not covered by grants or contracts.

Robert & Tammy Salwasser

Henry & Sandra Lee

#### 4 Days (\$4,000)

Anonymous (2)

Valerie Armento Jenelle Brav Gordon Chan Kevin Christopher City of Sunnyvale Employees' Giving Campaign Michael Dickman Dena & Clark Donahue Mark & Janet Farabaugh Andrew & Deborah Frazier Philip & Junko Freidin Jeffrey William Grafton Erika and Per Hammarlund Mr. Mustafa & Mrs. Hussaini Max & Mara Kaehn Keith & Ellen Kitchen Philip Kurian Marie Keese Lelash Foundation Emmanuel & Pamela Lugos Alejandro Marti Minguez Paul & Kathleen Meagher Carol L. Morrow Camille Barnes-Mosley Brian & Kristin Nadreau Russell & Mira Nakano David & Susanne Newswanger Helen Rutt & Gil Ohana Pine Cone Lumber Amy & Bob Plunkett Janice & William Roberts Brian S. Shew May & Gary Slater Stephen & Aja Sulack Sunnyvale Host Lions Rimas Svarcas Roshan Baliga & Nenuca Concepcion Syquia Tri Counties Bank Neerja Bhatt & Aniruddha Vaidya Whole Foods Market, Sunnvvale Robin & Larry Willhalm

#### 3 Days (\$3,000)

Habib Ahmad John & Stephanie Allen Doris Altman Michael A. Aman Anonymous (5) Aiit Balakrishna Chip & Diane Benson Bimbo Bakery Bose Family Charitable Fund Boston Private Bright Bird Creative Erin Buteau California Water Service Company Michele Carlson Chun-Lung Chen David Chin Georgina Clark Cumberland Elementary School Ronald B. David Shandor Dektor James DeLoach, Jr. Denali Summit School, Sunnyvale Patrick & Luann Dugan Javad M. Esmaeili Excite Credit Union Andrew & Kathleen Fung Michael & Kelly Giannini Russ & Kathy Gottfried Jackie & Gregory Govatos John & LuAnne Graves Jeffrey & Janet Harp Anita & Alan Herrmann Jasen Higgins Debra D. & Spencer Hiraki HMC Designing Futures Foundation John & Jodi Howe Hunter Properties Sved & Jamie Imam Chris Iremonger Chelsea Jones Tiang Lye Khoo Carla J. Klein Alamuru Krishna Chia La Deborah Williams & Jean Luc Laminette

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#### 2 Days (\$2,000)

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Judy's Handmade Cake, Inc. Derry and Charlene Kabcenell Karen L. Kao Arthur Gleckler & Kristine Kellv Scott Corzine & Reena K. Khare Alice & Daehwan Kim Michael & Debbie Klein, State Farm Insurance Austin Kropp James & Claire Lakner Tim Lambert Mr. and Mrs. Larson Perrv Lee Richard Leveille Steve Breiner & Katherine Li Light A Candle Fund Scott Lindberg Los Altos United Methodist Church Outreach Team Mukund Madhugiri Debbie Colden & Gary Marker Nancy McDonough Mary Elaine McEnery Michael & Carol Megas Marc & Jennifer MERLIN Jim Meverson Sean Montgomery Douglas Mow Arthur & Claudia Muller Kristen Myburgh Dan & Doreen Nakamura Jasmin & Natasa Nakic Christopher Nguyen Jean & Bill Nix Scott Panzer & Dianne Olivera Charles Olson Alan & Ivy Orcutt Brendan O'Shea Parnell Charitable Fund Craig & Jenny Peasley Andres & Renee Pech Charitha Perera Jonathan & Marilyn Perry Kathleen & Mark Peters Michael Prindiville Thomas Pyle, in memory of Susan L. Pyle Quality Glass, Inc. Susanne Mulcahy & Jan Raissle, in memory of Anita Mulcahy Frank & Martha Rebagliati Paul Reed Jason Roberts Donna Rose Dennis Rossman Elaine T. Rowan Jeff & Sandra Ruggles Samuels Family Fund Thomas N. Kilsdonk & Beverly Sanford Arthur Saville III Clifton & Karen Shak Lois Sharp Richard & Julianne Simone Smith Family Fund Nancy & Wade Smith Jerry Burger & Marlene Somsak Douglas & Alexandra Standing Rachel Steger Mr. & Mrs. Larry Stone Gerard Luk-Pat & Peggy Su Parvathanathan Subrahmanya Sunnvvale Community Services Auxiliary Sunnyvale Grocery Outlet Sunnyvale International Church Blake Sutton Scott Switzer Robert Bosch & Ming Tsai Tom & Linda Vachon Richard & Jeanette Vargus Venable Foundation Srinivasan Venkatachary Sudhir & Kathleen Virmani Linda Vu Nguyen Joseph Ribera & Mary-Ann Wallace Paula Wallace Raymond C. & Lynn D. Warneck John Wehner & Asunción Martinez-Wehner Owen & Elizabeth Whetzel

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### President's Corner



**I** t's spring, it's a new year, and we are looking at 2021 as a transitional year with the hope that everything can begin again as we move into the post-COVID reality. With school campuses opening up, renovation starting on our new building, and the hope that we may soon be able to welcome volunteers back to our warehouse, there are signs of renewal all around us!

As I write this, COVID-19 cases are leveling in our region and vaccinations are going up, providing some promise that we may soon catch a glimpse of the light at the end of the pandemic tunnel.

But we know that even when the pandemic recedes, the economic toll will linger, especially for low-income families. A combination of pandemic-related job losses and business shutdowns has sent our community into a continuous crisis recovery mode. Prepandemic, the demand for our services was great due to the cost of living in Silicon Valley. Once COVID-19 hit our community, the need for our services significantly increased. In the first month after the shelterin-place order went into effect, requests for financial assistance grew 600 percent and have continued to grow since.

Working with partners and donors, we have found creative ways to meet the vast need. I am pleased to share a few of these good-news stories in this newsletter.

We have learned so much this year — not just about how we can effectively respond to crises, but also about how we can depend on our neighbors to show compassion every day.

With gratitude,

**Camille Barnes-Mosley** SCS Board President



## Cool Moves to Halt Hunger New Building Updates

Once we received our building permit, we moved quickly to start refurbishing the building that will become our new home by the end of the year.

We were then able to start the coolest part of the project, literally — building an insulated platform for our new refrigerator and freezer units. The combination of these two 1,000-square-foot units will provide cold storage for more than ten times the amount of perishable food products as our current cooling system. The units will also be accessible with a forklift, greatly improving efficiencies of our food storage and distribution to clients.

Completing this first phase of remodeling was a giant step forward on our journey toward building the home that will help us serve our neighbors for decades to come.

Stay tuned for more exciting updates in the months ahead!



▲ Once renovations are complete, our new home at 1160 Kern Avenue will help us meet the needs of our neighbors for decades to come! We hope to move in by year's end.



www.svcommunityservices.org