



Sunnyvale Community Services

Preventing Homelessness and Hunger in Our Local Community

Standing With Our Neighbors

"The true measure of any society can be found in how it treats its most vulnerable members." - Mahatma Gandhi

To date, Sunnyvale Community Services (SCS) has already lost **\$80,000** from the federal Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP), and we are at risk of losing additional funds for food and rental assistance at a time when the client numbers are climbing and food prices are going up.



We've already seen deep cuts to the safety net for low-income individuals. Cutting Food Stamps (CalFresh in California), childcare programs, and Medicaid/ Medi-Cal assistance programs will result in millions of people losing access to basic services, and others will see their costs go up. Our neighbors who are already one bill away from homelessness will need to choose between paying rent or getting medicine or putting food on their table.

The sheer scale of actual cuts to lifeline programs is unprecedented. It has always been difficult to navigate federal assistance programs. But now, the welfare of our entire community is at stake.

SCS helped **11,523** people last year, but our clients are not numbers. They are our neighbors – the working poor who live paycheck to paycheck, seniors living on fixed incomes, disabled persons who struggle to access benefits they are entitled to receive. **One third are children.** They are the people who are being affected by cutbacks in federal programs for housing, food, healthcare, and education.

SCS has worked to prevent homelessness and hunger **in our local community for 55 years.** As one of the seven emergency assistance agencies in Santa Clara County, we provide weekly food distributions (1,500 families each week), rental and utility assistance, and wrap-around case management for the most vulnerable households.

Now is the time to support our local community. Your financial gift today will ensure that SCS will be here for our neighbors now and in the future. Thank you!

Marie Bernard

Marie Bernard, Executive Director



Please scan to learn how you can help

Matching Opportunity Alert!

Any donation given before Thanksgiving will be matched up to **\$200,000!**



Now is the moment your gift to Sunnyvale Community Services can go **twice** as far!

As part of this matching, every gift by a **new donor** will also be matched! Please help spread the word and **#ReferAFriend**.

GIVING TUESDAY Open House



Join us on December 2nd from 4pm to 7pm in our Community Room for facility tours and the chance to donate. Enjoy light refreshments and connect with the SCS staff.

If you plan to attend, please call us at (669) 273-8038 or email us at development@svcommunityservices.org

SCS Endorses Santa Clara County Measure A

On November 3rd, Santa Clara County voters will have the opportunity to **vote YES** on Measure A to help fill the funding gap for critical health services.



Measure A is a temporary five-year sales tax that will help offset the cost of healthcare for our most vulnerable neighbors. Measure A will fill part of the healthcare funding gap created by the federal administration's "One Big Beautiful Bill Act" (OBBB).

The OBBB makes significant cuts to federal healthcare spending, particularly for low-income individuals who rely on Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California). OBBB will cut \$1.3 billion from Santa Clara County's healthcare system and social services. These cuts will be devastating to working families, children, and seniors who are already struggling to get by in Silicon Valley, one of the most expensive places to live in the country.

We believe that healthcare is a basic human right.

There are 25,000 Sunnyvale residents on Medicaid/Medi-Cal and all of them are at risk of losing their benefits. Without Medicaid/Medi-Cal, our low-income neighbors will not have access to medicine and health services. Without health services, the only option for medical care for uninsured residents will be hospital emergency rooms, **and that impacts everyone in our community.**

We know that **27%** of rental evictions in Santa Clara County are due to loss of income, often because of illness and untreated medical conditions.

Sunnyvale Community Services (SCS) will do all we can at the local level to keep our neighbors sheltered with food on the table and access to healthcare. Please join SCS in working to ensure that the safety net is there for all of us.

Become a Monthly Hero

Join our Sustainers Club by donating \$40 a month or more, visit our website for more information.



Share the Joy

THIS SEASON WITH SCS



This holiday season, your support will help SCS to provide extra food and new gifts to over 7,500 of our neighbors.

Your donations can bring cheer to low-income families and seniors. The SCS Holiday Center will give our clients the joy and dignity of selecting new toys and gifts for their children. With your help, we will also fill our shelves this November and December with healthy holiday foods.

Together we can fulfill our Mission of "Preventing Homelessness and Hunger in our Local Community." Please join us in Sharing the Joy this holiday season!

Client Story

At just 19, Dominic has already shown remarkable independence and resilience. From a young age, he learned to navigate life on his own, maintaining stable housing and working toward a brighter future.



After landing a job at a local supermarket, Dominic felt proud to stay on top of rent and bills. However, when the store unexpectedly closed, he found himself without income and he was unsure how to make ends meet. That's when he turned to Sunnyvale Community Services (SCS) for help.

Through SCS's Emergency Financial Assistance, Dominic received support to cover his rent and avoid losing his home. This temporary relief gave him the stability and confidence to focus on finding new employment.

Before long, Dominic secured a new job as a security officer, earning a higher wage and regaining his financial footing. Today, Dominic is confidently maintaining his housing and building toward long-term success. His story is a powerful reminder that with perseverance and a little support, stability and independence are within reach.



Ready to Learn

We had an incredible turnout at our Backpack Distribution program, where 2,500 students received school supplies and selected their new backpacks! All summer long, families received additional food with kid-friendly foods, keeping them nourished when schools were closed. A huge thank you to our generous donors, volunteers, and sponsors for helping our local children be “Ready to Learn” this year!



North County Resource Fair

SCS's annual North County Resource Fair on August 23 welcomed over 397 community members for a day of resources, activities, and support. Guests connected with local organizations and enjoyed outdoor activities, face painting, music, and complimentary food and ice cream. Special thanks to Supervisor Otto Lee for honoring SCS and the Fair.



Job Fair

SCS's Job Fair on September 27 welcomed over 250 attendees who had the opportunity to explore a wide range of career paths, receive personalized résumé support, practice their interview skills, and connect directly with employers offering on-the-spot job openings. The event created meaningful connections and opened new doors for job seekers in our community.





TOY DRIVE

Help bring joy this Holiday Season!





Scan our QR Code to donate today!

How You Can Make a Difference:

- Donate new, unwrapped toys
- \$25 Gift Cards for teens
- Organize a toy drive in your office, school, or community group

Drop-off location:
1160 Kern Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94085

Drop-off times:
Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays
9 AM – 12 PM and 12:30 PM – 4 PM

 (408) 617 7335

 agriffin@svcommunityservices.org



Accepting
new toys
now until
December 12th





Sunnyvale Community Services

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If you are not receiving our email updates,
please email us at development@svcommunityservices.org

Celebrating Our Annual Leslie Lawton Legacy Society & SCS Sustainers Club Luncheon

On September 12, we hosted our annual *Leslie Lawton Legacy Society & SCS Sustainers Club Luncheon*, bringing together 45 of our dedicated supporters. The event honored our monthly donors and those who have generously included Sunnyvale Community Services in their wills, recognizing their profound impact on our mission to keep our neighbors housed and fed.

It was a wonderful afternoon of connection and gratitude, celebrating the commitment of these extraordinary donors whose ongoing support ensures that our programs continue to thrive. We look forward to continuing this annual tradition and deepening our partnership with those who help us create lasting change in our community.



Don't Forget About Your RMD

If you're age 73 or older, the IRS requires you to take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from retirement accounts each year, with withdrawals due by December 31 to avoid penalties. One impactful way to use your RMD is through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). A QCD lets you transfer up to \$100,000 annually from your IRA directly to a qualified nonprofit like Sunnyvale Community Services. Your gift counts toward your RMD but is excluded from taxable income, helping you support neighbors in need while receiving a tax benefit. Each QCD provides food, shelter, and stability for families and seniors in our community. If you'd like to explore this meaningful way of giving, please reach out to us at development@svcommunityservices.org