

GlennArt Arms

A Transitional Housing Program

It seems like just yesterday that we introduced our new transitional housing program, here at Family Supportive Housing/San Jose Family Shelter known as "GlennArt Arms". We have just completed our first year, and what a year it's been....

Our original goal was to be able to assist families at any given time, and as of today, we have nine families participating in our program! We are even currently looking for a 10th unit to add to GlennArt Arms and we will soon be able to move a new family in.

The program provides transitional housing for homeless families, where they are placed in apartments in Santa Clara County and are able to stay in the units for up to two years paying 30% of their income. At the end of the two years the goal for the family is that they will be able to take over the lease at the unit and become self-sufficient and independent from the program. The case manager works intensely with each family to assist them with a variety of needs and to insure compliance in the program. Clients are assisted with food, furniture, household items, pots and pans, holiday gifts, backpacks for the kids, etc. The case manager visits with each family to provide resources for each individual families' need, whether it is day care, employment, transportation or education needs, to name a few. Our families have come in all shapes and sizes and from agencies all over Santa Clara County. We have single mothers, single fathers and intact families.

GlennArt Arms has been able to collaborate with Catholic Charities, the City of San Jose and Emergency Housing Consortium to provide stable housing for the clients.

Here is the success story of the Fuller family who have found respite with the Transitional Housing Program. The Fuller family entered in the San Jose Family Shelter after a long journey across the United States. The family left Kentucky due to the lack of jobs and the high unemployment rate and sought a better life in California. Alex, Joanna and their four children arrived in the Bay Area to stay with Alex's sister. However, after the landlord decided the apartment the family was staying in was too crowded, the Fuller family was forced to seek shelter elsewhere, which is how they ended up here at the San Jose Family Shelter.

While in the Shelter, the family used all the resources available. Both Alex and Joanna met with the Employment Specialist, updated their resumes and looked for jobs. The family worked extremely well with their case manager, and really worked the program to their advantage. Both Alex and Joanna had previously completed college degrees in Kentucky, Alex with his MBA and Joanna with one class shy of her MBA.

Alex, who is bi-lingual, was able to find a job with the Democratic National Party but he knew his real passion lay in teaching. One day, on a whim, Alex applied for a temporary job teaching a summer school class in Spanish at the

MACSA (Mexican American Community Services Agency) charter school in Gilroy. Although, Alex has his MBA, he still needed to get an emergency teaching credential. The Shelter was able to loan him the money to do this and Alex got the job! Upon receiving his first paycheck Alex, promptly paid the money back to the Shelter and the family continued to work hard. GlennArt Arms Transitional Housing Program had one opening in their program and knowing how hard the family was working, and their high expectations for themselves the family was accepted into the program. Alex decided to apply for a permanent position at MACSA as a school counselor. Alex had found his true passion, working with teenagers, and he was thrilled to be in an environment where he could use his bilingual skills and his compassion for kids. Joanna's career desire is nursing; however, she recognized that although she wanted to go to nursing school, right now her priority is to contribute to the family's income. The family also would like to buy a house, possibly in Gilroy, and wanted to start saving for that dream.

Alex has recently learned that he had received the counseling position at MACSA! Not only would the family's living situation change and improve but their income as well. The family has recently moved into their new home and things are improving daily. Joanna is registered for an accelerated eight-week course through San Jose State University

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Mission Statement

San Jose Family Shelter provides shelter and supportive services to homeless families in Santa Clara County to empower them to move from homelessness to self-sufficiency.

Dear Friends,

Happy Fall. The school year has started. Thanks to the generous gifts of many different people, the children went back to school with new backpacks and lots of new school supplies. The children in Bridges AfterCare also received new backpacks and supplies as well as new shoes. Thank you all for making such a difference for the children.

There are lots of fun activities going on in the Shelter for the children. The afternoon activities program has started up again and LEAP, the evening tutoring program, is back to more academics. The routines of the Fall are much better for children and their parents.

Two weeks ago a great man, Jim McEntee, died. He had recently retired as Director of Santa Clara County Office of Human Relations. He was a good friend of the Shelter and was a strong advocate for the poor or disenfranchised in our community. He marched with Cesar Chavez and supported people fighting for justice and peace. He was one of the few advocates who garnered respect from all segments of our community. From the poorest of the poor to the richest of the rich, they came to pay respect to this truly great man. We are all privileged that he lived and worked in our world.

Thank you for all you do for the people living in the Shelter. Your on-going support is truly appreciated.



Trish Crowder
Executive Director

Jim McEntee

April 9, 1931 – September 13, 2004

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall possess the land.

Blessed are they who mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after justice:
for they shall have their fill.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God

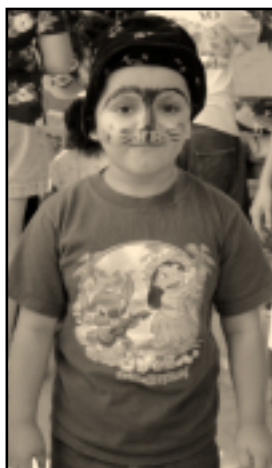
Blessed are they that suffer persecution for justice's sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Jim lived the Beatitudes; we are blest to have known him.

Carnival

The San Jose Family Shelter hosted a Carnival on Friday, August 20, 2004. The families living at the Shelter, the AfterCare families and the Transitional Housing families were all invited for an afternoon of fun and games! We had a great BBQ lunch of hot dogs, hamburgers, salads, chips and sodas. There was a popcorn and cotton candy machine which the kids LOVED! Everyone had a great time playing carnival games such as the ladybug bean bag toss, ball hunt, rubber ducky, and b-ball. Kids of all ages won tickets playing the games and then turned them in for GREAT PRIZES! The face painting was also a huge hit!

Many thanks to Michelle Low and her team of volunteers from the Sunnyvale branch of Hewlett Packard. They worked hard all day helping to ensure the families of the San Jose Family Shelter had a really special day.



A face-painted smiling child – what a joyous site!

Wish List Items

The holidays will be here soon! Here is a wish list of holiday related items.

Halloween

If you have old costumes or costumes that you no longer wear, why not send them over! We are eager to receive Halloween costumes for every child and adult, so all sizes are welcome!

Thanksgiving

We need Thanksgiving sponsors for the families in the Bridges AfterCare and Transitional Housing programs. Provide a family with a Thanksgiving food basket to celebrate the spirit of thanks. We are also in need of turkeys and gift certificates to food stores.

Christmas

Our annual Christmas Shoppe is scheduled from Friday, December 17 – Monday, December 20. The Christmas Shoppe is a room that is arranged like a store where parents can "shop" for their children's presents and children can "shop" for their parents' presents to give to each other on Christmas Day.

Donate new items like scarves, mittens, wallets, art supplies, gift certificates, books, stuffed animals, CD players, games, cameras, dolls and other toys.

We also need volunteers to work the Christmas Shoppe. Help families with shopping and gift wrapping. We could also use your help setting up and cleaning the room.

Light up a family's Christmas by giving them gifts from the heart. These gifts will go to families in the Bridges AfterCare and Transitional Housing programs who have succeeded in maintaining permanent housing.

For Christmas Shoppe donations or volunteering, please contact Nikki at ext. 106. For donations to the Bridges AfterCare and Transitional Housing programs, please contact Amanda at ext. 111 or Kim at ext. 121.

GlennArt Arms

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to receive her MBA and Alex is working to make sure that he is doing everything he can to assist the kids he works with to succeed, as well as his family. The family has set up chore charts for the kids to help out around the house and each child even takes a turn cooking dinner for the family once a week. The four children are excelling in school; they attend an after-school program which they enjoy and two of them made the soccer team!

Recently, Shelter staff has been working with the family to get them settled and supply them with everything they need to make their house a home. The family has also been looking into housing options in Gilroy and planning for their future. At the end of the one year of the Transitional Housing Program, this family looks like they could become homeowners!

Joanna herself said "I feel the program is very effective, well run and a much needed system. If I ever were to win the lottery, I would come back and find out how the program was set up so I could start one myself!" We have extremely high expectations for the Fuller family and can't wait to watch them flourish in their new home! The Shelter will be around to assist them for the next year in just about any area the family needs help and we can't wait to watch them take off on their own!

Halloween

Halloween costumes for all ages

Thanksgiving

Food and gift baskets. Sponsors for families.

Christmas

Items for the Christmas Shoppe, see article for ideas. Volunteers to work the Christmas Shoppe. Gift Baskets for the families in Bridges AfterCare and Transitional Housing programs.

Save The Date

Save the date for Wednesday, November 3, 2004 for the Soup Kitchen Dinner. The event will be held at Bellarmine College Preparatory, and all profits benefit the San Jose Family Shelter. See enclosed flyer for more information.

October 2004

Breakfast Teams

Oct. 2	Sat.	St. Joseph Cathedral Basilica
Oct. 3	Sun.	Sathya Sai Seva Group Namita
Oct. 9	Sat.	San Jose Christian Reformed Church
Oct. 10	Sun.	Sathya Sai Seva Group Gopal
Oct. 16	Sat.	Saratoga Presbyterian Church
Oct. 17	Sun.	Bethal Lutheran Church
Oct. 23	Sat.	Sathya Sai Seva Group Jayshree Jain
Oct. 24	Sun.	Evergreen Caring Hearts
Oct. 30	Sat.	Slemans
Oct. 31	Sun.	Sathya Sai Seva Group Gopal

Lunch Teams

Oct. 16	Sat.	CRC
Oct. 23	Sat.	St. Clare

Dinner Teams

Oct. 2	Sat.	Beta Sigma Phi
Oct. 3	Sun.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
Oct. 9	Sat.	First Baptist Church
Oct. 10	Sun.	Alchemy Hair Studio
Oct. 16*	Sat.	St. Justin Catholic Parish
Oct. 17	Sun.	Almaden Hills
Oct. 23	Sat.	San Jose Scales of Justice
Oct. 24	Sun.	Good Samaritan United Methodist Church
Oct. 29	Fri.	Milpitas Lions
Oct. 30	Sat.	New Restoration Church
Oct. 31	Sun.	Cisco

November 2004

Breakfast Teams

Nov. 6	Sat.	St. Joseph Cathedral Basilica
Nov. 7	Sun.	Sathya Sai Seva Group Namita
Nov. 13	Sat.	San Jose Christian Reformed Church
Nov. 14	Sun.	Sathya Sai Seva Group Gopal
Nov. 20	Sat.	Saratoga Presbyterian Church
Nov. 21	Sun.	St. John Vianney Church
Nov. 27	Sat.	Sathya Sai Seva Group Jayshree Jain
Nov. 28	Sun.	Evergreen Caring Hearts

Lunch Team

Nov. 18	Sat.	CRC
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Dinner Teams

Nov. 6	Sat.	St. Jude Church
Nov. 7	Sun.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
Nov. 13	Sat.	YaYa Sisterhood
Nov. 14	Sun.	St. Stephen in the Field Church
Nov. 19	Fri.	St. James
Nov. 20*	Sat.	St. Justin Parish
Nov. 21	Sun.	Immanuel Lutheran Church
Nov. 25	Thurs.	THANKSGIVING St. Justin Parish
Nov. 27	Sat.	Willow Glen United Methodist Church
Nov. 28	Sun.	Good Samaritan United Methodist Church

* Birthday Party by River Church Community!