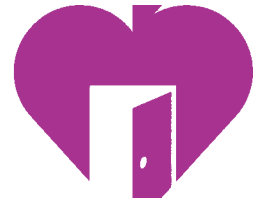


San Jose Family Shelter

serving homeless families in Silicon Valley



www.SJFamilyShelter.org

December 2003/January 2004

'T was almost the night before Christmas and the mice are scurrying. The Holiday season has already started. Halloween was a joyous time for the children. They had a number of parties and were taken trick-or-treating by students at University of Santa Clara. What fun!

Thanksgiving is always a special weekend, with meals and a homey atmosphere provided everyday by church groups and many others.

We are now about to start the Christmas festivities. We have lots of parties planned and the highlight of the festivities is Santa's Shoppe. This is the fourth year we have offered this for the families, it is a lot of work but it is worth the effort. The parents will choose gifts for their own children, wrap them and present them to the children whenever their family tradition dictates. The children are then able to choose and wrap a gift for each of their parents. The joy on their faces when they have "shopped" for their parents makes all of the hard work worth while.

We would like each child to have a "special" toy, a smaller toy, an activity, a book, something warm to wear and something to love. If you would like to help, we need many things for the Santa's Shoppe. Teenagers are a particularly difficult group to buy for so we need teen-appropriate gifts.

We also need people to help with the shopping, the wrapping and entertaining the children while the parents shop. Helping is a joyful experience.



Wish List for Santa's Shoppe

Age appropriate toys for boys and girls from infancy to teens
Educational toys/games for infants to adults
Books for infants to adult

Sports Toys • Batteries for toys • Dolls & doll houses
Small trucks & cars

Personal items

Umbrellas, socks, slippers, alarm clocks or clock radios, portable CD players, radio/tape cassette players, watches, wallets, cosmetics, perfume, powder, jewelry, cameras, hair accessories, blow dryers, curling irons, manicure sets, gift sets (soap, powder, cologne, etc.)

Clothes

For infants, toddlers, children, teens and adults. Also jackets, sweaters, sweatsuits, pajamas. NO navy blue, red or blue for older children. These are gang colors and are not allowed in the schools.

Gift Certificates

Target, K-Mart, Wal Mart, Payless Shoe Store, Warehouse, Blockbusters, movie theaters, Baskin Robbins, phone cards, fast food places such as McDonalds, Burger King, Taco Bell

Other Items

Gift wrapping paper and gift bags, ribbon, gift tags and tape, Helpers for Santa's Shoppe.

Call Nikki if you are able to help or donate.
(408) 926-8885

Santa's Shoppe
December 19, 20, & 21



San Jose Family Shelter



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Trish Crowder
Executive Director

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.

San Jose Family Shelter

Concern for The Poor Inc.

1590 Las Plumas Avenue,
San Jose, California 95133-1667

Tel: 408.926.8885

Fax: 408.254.2056

Director's Report

Happy Holidays!!

Life is sure busy at the Shelter right now. Getting ready for Christmas is a fun activity and so many people participate in making a good time for the children. The weather has been very cold so it is especially important that all is warm inside, the food good and nourishing, the rooms clean and warm, and staff friendly and supportive. It is a hard life to be homeless and we work to make the Shelter as comfortable and encouraging as we can.

The Soup Kitchen Dinner, a major fundraiser to support the Shelter, was held in the middle of November. Thank you to all who helped make it a success. The event was held at Bellarmine College Preparatory and approximately 400 people attended. We are fortunate to have such good friends who support the work of the Shelter. The event was great fun and the live auction of the bears was a sight to behold. Great fun!!!!

Peace and blessings to you and yours
this Holiday season.

Trish Crowder
Executive Director

Contributions

The economy at the Shelter is in the same predicament as the economy in our Valley, precarious at best. Two-three years ago, 70-80% of the families had one or both parents employed. Housing was impossible to find, but people were employed. Now only 20-30% of the families have one or both parents working and rents are low. Housing is more available but the jobs are not.

As you are planning your year-end donations, please consider a gift to San Jose Family Shelter.

\$6,000 provides food, shelter and day care for a family for the usual stay of 3 months • \$2,000 provides food, shelter and programs and child care to a family for one month • \$1,000 provides housing support services for all families • \$750 pays for new paint, furniture and floor coverings for a family's room • \$500 furnishes three nutritious meals each day for one week to all 35 families • \$100 provides a welcoming pack—sheets, towels, blankets, pillows, toiletries and cuddly toy for each child • \$60 provides milk for all the children in the shelter for one week • \$25 provides new linens for one bed.

Community Corner

Connie Cronin's sixth
grade class at St.
Frances Cabrini
knows what it is like

to have your own pillow at night, how much better you sleep and how much more comfortable you are. The students knew that we needed pillows for our residents and they collected over 100 pillows for people coming into the Shelter. Thank you for thinking of us with this thoughtful gift. The families coming into the Shelter appreciate this important little piece of home.



Fundraising

November 12th was the 17th annual Soup Kitchen Dinner. This outstanding event benefited the San Jose Family Shelter for the third year.

Thanks to our generous sponsors: *Flextronics, Central Concrete, Clare McDermott, E2C, Inc., Heritage Bank, San Jose Mercury News, Imwalle Stegner and Therma.*

Twenty-three wonderful area restaurants provided delicious appetizers, soups, salads and desserts. Thanks to *Aramark, Bella Mia, Café Primavera at the Tech, CB Hannigan's, Chef Chu's, Entrée's Unlimited, Eulipia Restaurant & Bar, Evvia Estiatorio, Gordon Biersch Restaurant & Brewery, Il Fornaio Restaurant, Hyatt St. Claire, La Pastaia, Le Boulanger, Los Altos Golf & Country Club, Los Gatos Coffee Roasting Company, Lou's Village, Original Joe's Restaurant, Palermo's Ristorante Italiano, Paolo's Restaurant, Parcel 104, Roma Bakery, Sent Sovi Restaurant, Stratta's Grill and Bar, Togo's Restaurant in Pruneyard, Viaggio Ristorante Mediterraneo and Willow Street Wood-Fired Pizza.*

Thanks to our great host *Bellarmino College Prep* and to the wonderful musicians *Magnolia Jazz Band*. Thanks also to all of the individuals and corporations who donated auction items and the many volunteers who made the evening possible.

Special thanks to Carole Marks and Kathy Imwalle, Board members who worked so hard on this event. The food was delicious, the event was lively and the Shelter made some serious money.

Mark your calendars for next year, this is an event not to be missed.

The Ode To Joe Bear

Once upon a time in the land of Soup
There appeared a bear, a big bear,
A big, friendly, yellow, Pooh Bear named Joe,
With fifty of his short, furry, cuddly, bear friends.
The small brown bears said,
"We come from a land of magic,
A land of big trees, small rivers and swimming holes.
This is a land of pancakes, barbecued hot-dogs and s'mores.
We spend our day hiking, running, swimming, crafting and
Playing with friends. At night we watch the world move
And tell wondrous stories.
But, alas, all is not well, we are tired.
We wish to live in your house, to spend our days being
Hugged and loved by small soup-eater bears like you!"

"We have a deal to offer, take us home to your hearth and
Send one of those small, hairless, noisy, rambunctious
Bears to our land of magic.
Let them too enjoy the wonders of our magic land
And then they will have a full life."
Then appeared a large, white, hairless, tuxedoed bear
To say "Soup-eaters unite!!! Send hairless, small bears
To this magic land of Camp."
So there came a great roar, arms in the air, pens at the ready
Yes, Yes, Yes, we will!!!!!!!!!!!!!! send a bear to Camp.
So in the end, it was all good in the land of Soup,
The bears were rewarded with a quiet life in retirement and
Many small, hairless, rambunctious bears will be able to
Go to the magic land in the trees, called Camp.

(Thank you for changing children's lives!)

Car Wash a Sparkling Success

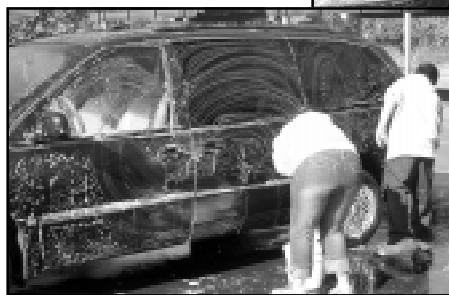
On Thursday, October 16, Hester School's 5th grade students taught by Mr. Griffith held a car wash to raise money for the San Jose Family Shelter. Students were given invaluable assistance by some dedicated parents. The car wash was the class's idea as a way to perform community service in honor of September 11th.

The car wash raised \$146.00 for the San Jose Family Shelter's Homework Center to spend on supplies for the students who work there.

Thank you to everyone who was kind enough to allow us to clean their car. A special thank you to the students and parents who volunteered their time and effort for a great cause.

Students: Angelina De La Rosa, Andrea Lam, Karen Lojera, Xuan Bi, Erick Zepeda, Adriana Galvan, Richard Celaya, Isaac Garcia, Adriana Alvarado, Joey Whitebread, Vanessa Casares, Joaquin Salas, Vanessa Torres, Anthony Padilla, Valeria Ayala, Alex Lopez, Victor Sandoval, Griselda Verduzco and Ryan Balli.

Adults: Stella Balli, Richard Delgado, Sal, Genoveva Rocha, and Nuria Zepeda.



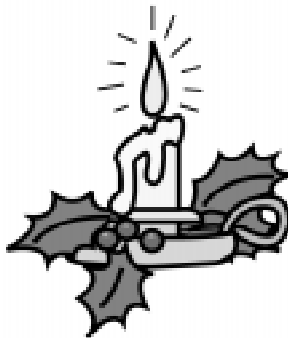
San Jose Family Shelter



Family Supportive Housing, Inc.
1590 Las Plumas Avenue
San Jose, California 95133-1667
Tel: 408.926.8885

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Visit the web site at
www.SJFamilyShelter.org



May the peace of the holiday season be with you and yours.

Volunteer Meal Teams

December 2003

Breakfast Teams

Dec. 6	Sat.	St. Joseph Cathedral Basilica
Dec. 7	Sun.	Sathya Sai Seva Group Subbu
Dec. 13	Sat.	(not yet filled!)
Dec. 14	Sun.	Sathya Sai Seva Group Gopal
Dec. 20	Sat.	Saratoga Presbyterian Church
Dec. 21	Sun.	Bethel Lutheran Church
Dec. 27	Sat.	Sathya Sai Seva Group Jayshree Jain
Dec. 28	Sun.	Evergreen Caring Heart

Dinner Teams

Dec. 6	Sat.	St. Francis of Assisi
Dec. 7	Sun.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
Dec. 13	Sat.	Nw Restoration Church
Dec. 14	Sun.	Calvary Church
Dec. 20*	Sat.	St. Justin Parish
Dec. 21	Sun.	Almaden Hills
Dec. 27	Sat.	St. Andrew's
Dec. 28	Sun.	Good Samaritan United Methodist Church

* Birthday Party by River of Life Christian Church!

January 2004

Breakfast Teams

Jan. 3	Sat.	St. Joseph Cathedral Basilica
Jan. 4	Sun.	Sathya Sai Seva Group Subbu
Jan. 10	Sat.	(not yet filled!)
Jan. 11	Sun.	Sathya Sai Seva Group Gopal
Jan. 17	Sat.	Saratoga Presbyterian Church
Jan. 18	Sun.	St. John Vianney Church
Jan. 24	Sat.	Sathya Sai Seva Group Jayshree Jain
Jan. 25	Sun.	Evergreen Caring Heart
Jan. 31	Sat.	Siemens

Dinner Teams

Jan. 3	Sat.	St. Jude Church
Jan. 4	Sun.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
Jan. 10	Sat.	First Baptist Church
Jan. 11	Sun.	St. Stephen in the Field Church
Jan. 17*	Sat.	St. Justin Parish
Jan. 18	Sun.	Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Jan. 24	Sat.	(not yet filled!)
Jan. 25	Sun.	Good Samaritan United Methodist Church
Jan. 31	Sat.	LENS

* Birthday Party by River of Life Christian Church!