



SHARE OUR SELVES NEWS

Fall 2010

www.shareourselves.org

The SOS - El Sol Wellness Center

There is an oasis in central Santa Ana – a place that brings a smile every time you visit. A place filled with art and music and children’s laughter while holding to rigorous academic standards. It is the El Sol Science and Arts Academy, a charter school that SOS is proud to team with to provide health and wellness services in Santa Ana.

SOS is pleased to announce the opening of the SOS – El Sol Wellness Center - an exciting opportunity to extend health and wellness care to low income families in Orange County. The Wellness Center will be an integrated program of the El Sol Science and Arts Academy and Share Our Selves. Both agencies recognize the importance of an expanded view of health and operate programs that integrate that concept. This vision includes both physical and mental health and healthy environmental, economic, and social conditions, which support families as they strive for economic stability and educational advancement for their children. While one Wellness Center cannot fix the complex problem of lack of access to healthcare in our county, it can provide a



El Sol students at play

model, a place to begin the process. When that model is launched by two nationally recognized, yet locally focused organizations, you can have confidence it will effectively and efficiently address the problem. Share Our Selves has provided comprehensive safety net services to struggling county residents for 40 years. El Sol Science and Arts Academy has quickly become the premiere charter school in Santa Ana primarily serving low income



The Exterior of the SOS - El Sol Wellness Clinic features a bright mural painted by an EL Sol student

Latino students. SOS’s health and social services expertise and El Sol’s intimate knowledge of the needs of the families it serves is the perfect combination of skills, knowledge, and experience to launch a Wellness Center initially serving El Sol’s families.

Beginning a major new collaborative program in these difficult economic times may seem like too big a challenge. Many well established charities are struggling and the philanthropic community is closely watching how it shares resources in this uncertain environment. However, the pressing health and wellness needs of the community have expanded due to the economic recession and the solutions cannot wait. Given the continuing high level of unemployment, the lack of health insurance, and the national focus on healthcare reform, now is the time to address this problem. We are confident that you will agree.

Reflections

Welcome to the beginning of the holiday season. Honestly, I cannot believe it is already that time of year. The years have a way of seeming shorter, days not enough time, and projects are too many to fit into a day.

Please know I wish you a Thanksgiving, Christmas, and holiday season filled with the richness of family and friends, a bounty of joy, and the blessings of sharing yourself with others.

We can never be too generous if we allow ourselves to see through the eyes of others and find in our hearts the ability to give whatever we are inspired to share. As always, you are my dear friends, and I shall hold you close in my thoughts throughout these closing months of 2010.



We are servants who provide free care and assistance to those in need and act as advocates for systemic change.

Thank You

Thank you to all the following:

Foundation and Community Support

- ♦ **Blue Shield of California** for support of the SOS Free Clinic
- ♦ **California Wellness Foundation** for support of SOS's core services
- ♦ **Cotton Foundation** for support of the Back to School Program and SOS Food Pantry
- ♦ **Womenade Newport Beach** for their generous support of Social Services and a local family in need
- ♦ **Hyundai Motor America** for support of the SOS Food Pantry



Employees from Hyundai Motor America spent the day volunteering and presented a donation to SOS

Services Donors

- ♦ Dr. Jeffrey Elo, Dr. Paul Kim, Dr. James Kloss, Dr. Chitra Mathur, County of Orange, Loma Linda University Medical Center, and Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian for their continuous support of the SOS Dental Clinic
- ♦ Coast Mailing for donating mailing costs
- ♦ David Ballard Electrical for electrical service
- ♦ Mesa Center Automotive for van maintenance
- ♦ Westcliff Medical Lab for support of the SOS Lab

Major Donor Appreciation



SOS supporters, Sandra and Gary Crouch



Event hosts, Maura and Travis Carr

On Sunday, August 29, SOS supporters Travis and Maura Carr, opened their beautiful home for a reception to honor Share Our Selves' major supporters. Over eighty guests attended the event and were treated to delicious food donated by the restaurants of The Lab/The Camp. We thank all our supporters who continue to embrace our mission!

Back to School Program

Share Our Selves' 15th Annual Back to School Program was the biggest and best yet! On August 28th, SOS distributed 2,335 backpacks filled with school supplies to Orange County students from low income families. Additional backpacks and supplies were shared with local family resource centers.

The tremendous success of this year's event was due to an outpouring of volunteer and community support. SOS received 86,112 school supplies from the Orange County Fair's We Care Wednesday Back to School Drive. These supplies made a critical difference in the amount of students that SOS was able to assist. Also key to this year's program was Hunter Matthews, a high school volunteer from San Clemente working on his Eagle Scout Project. Hunter contacted family, friends, neighbors, and businesses who donated over 2,200 backpacks.

Thank you to the many volunteers who packed and distributed the bags, and the numerous service groups, community members and businesses who donated backpacks and school supplies.



Star Team BBQ

In August, SOS A-Team, Star Team, and their guests attended a BBQ at the beautiful bay front home of Jerry and Kathy Thompson. The annual summer event is a way to recognize and thank the Star Team members for their contribution to SOS. A big thank you to the A-Team and Star Team members for their continuous support!

20th Annual Celebrity Chef Dinner

Share Our Selves' 20th Annual Celebrity Chef Dinner was a delicious success! The event highlighted 15 outstanding local chefs who are committed to providing food for the poor in Orange County and netted over \$259,000 to support the SOS Orange Aid Project. Guests enjoyed an elegant five course dinner paired with specialty wines. The live auction emceed by Conan Nolan, general assignment reporter for NBC4 Los Angeles and host of "News Conference," featured exciting dining packages from the chefs. Jean Forbath, SOS founder, was honored for her 40 years of service. Additionally, Chefs Alan Greeley and Michael Kang were honored as the founders of the Celebrity Chef Dinner and for their commitment to providing food to those who need it most. They were presented with a bronze plaque that will hang in the SOS Food Pantry to commemorate their contributions. Thank you to our generous chefs, sponsors, committee, and volunteers for making the event a success!



- **Chefs** - **Bert Agor**, TAPS Fish House & Brewery; **Franco Barone**, il Barone; **David Man**, Island Hotel; **Dennis Brask**, Five Crowns Restaurant; **Victor Cabral**, Orange Hill Restaurant; **Alan Greeley**, The Golden Truffle; **Carlito Jocson**, Yard House; **Louie Jocson**, f&f Concepts; **Michael Kang**, 5'; **Chad Krahling**, Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa; **Rich Mead**, Sage Restaurant & Canyon; **Ken Mukai**, Yoshi's Sushi; **Alessandro Pirozzi**, Cucina Alessa'; **Amar Santana**, Charlie Palmer; **Paul Squicciarini**, Culinary Concepts
- **Sponsors & Underwriters** - Taco Bell Corporation, Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian, Ernie & Annick Klatt, Rutan & Tucker, Fred Siegel Foundation, St. Joseph Health System, Anne Hirschman, Frome Family Foundation, George Hoag Family Foundation, Michael Stephens, Kavanaugh Family Foundation, Nancy & Geoffrey Stack, Waldron & Bragg, Richard & Helen Wrate, Azonic Insurance Agency, Inc., Christopher L. Blank, Hennie and Jay Lichman, Link, Murrel & Co., Wm. Gary Crouch, Newport Beach Plaza Retirement Community, Agility, Anonymous, Janet L. Curci, Dulcie & Larry Kugelman, LA & SF Specialty, Mary and Norm Moyer, Specialty Restaurants Corporation, Barbara and Bob Boies, Cynthia D. Kipers, Fortus Property Group, Marla C. Bird, Paul & V. Marlene Bergdahl, Newport Emergency Medical Group, Inc.

Volunteer Spotlight

It is hard to believe how quickly summer has flown by and that the holidays are rapidly approaching! We hope you were able to enjoy some time off this summer and are ready for the holiday season! A big THANK YOU goes out to all of our faithful volunteers and visiting volunteers, who helped serve our neighbors in need over the past few months. We are blessed with a team of AMAZING individuals! We have several volunteer opportunities in the near future and would love to have you join us:

- **Thanksgiving Food Distribution:** We will be pre-packing hundreds of food bags on Saturday, November 20th, and holding a special food distribution on November 22nd, 23rd and 24th. We need LOTS of help! **Adopt A Family gift packing and distribution:** Held at the OC Fairgrounds on December 14th-16th. It will take many hands to make Christmas a reality for those who might otherwise go without.

As always, weekly opportunities are available on the **Food Line**, in the **Kitchen** and at the **Front Desk** in Social Services. We are also looking for Drivers to pick up food and Gardeners for our new "Eat Fresh with SOS" project. Let us know if you'd like to be a "regular" or are interested in being a sub! Please contact Julie Larson to make arrangements to volunteer for any of our projects at jl Larson@shareourselves.org or 949-270-2113.

SOS Board of Directors

CHAIR

- Dr. Gwyn Parry, Director, Community Medicine, Hoag Hospital
Mary Cappellini, Author, Educational Consultant
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Ways to Benefit SOS

- **Donate your vehicle. Download the form on our website.**
- Renew & register your Ralphs card at www.ralphs.com and use the SOS number 84538. All cards must be renewed.
- Register Vons grocery cards, credit or debit cards with eScrip at www.escrip.com and use the number 150239969.
- Donate old toner cartridges, iPods, laptops and cell phones to SOS. We recycle them for cash. Please visit our website for a list of accepted toner cartridges. www.shareourselves.org/donateNow.html

For details, call Veronica Rodarte at SOS, 949-270-2142



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SAVE THE DATE...SAVE THE DATE



Festival of Trees



November 30 - December 2, 2010
Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa
3050 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa

Bring your children and grandchildren and celebrate the holidays with SOS. This is a fun and festive way to kick-off the season. Details inside.

Wish List

The need for support continues all year. Here is how you can help:

- Soft Toothbrushes and Dental Adhesives
- Baby Items - Clothing, food, and diapers in all sizes
- Birthday Boxes for Children, Hygiene Kits
- Sleeping bags, blankets and winter jackets
- New EKG machine for adults and pediatrics for SOS-EI Sol Wellness Center
- 4 Ophthalmoscope/otoscopes for SOS-EI Sol Wellness Center
- Children's books and new toys for waiting room at SOS-EI Sol Wellness Center
- For ideas on how to help from home, work or school, email Julie Larson at jl Larson@shareourselves.org

Go Green - Email Newsletter!



Go green and save SOS mailing costs! If you would like to receive newsletters and event invitations via email, please send an email to efevans@shareourselves.org.

Calendar of Events

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| November 4 | Open House 8:00am-1:00pm |
| November 15-19 | Thanksgiving Food Drive |
| November 30 | 5th Annual Festival of Trees Board/Corporate/Sponsor Night |
| December 1 | 5th Annual Festival of Trees Free Open House Night 5-7pm Children's crafts, photos with Santa & more! |
| December 2 | 5th Annual Festival of Trees Family Celebration Night 6-8:30pm Elegant buffet, kid's buffet, cookie decorating, Santa & entertainment! |
| December 13-16 | Adopt A Family |
| February 24 | Guardian Donor and Legacy Society Recognition Tea |
| April 28 | 18th Annual Wild & Crazy Taco Night |

For more information on these events, please call Ashley Carlton at 949-270-2134, or visit our website, www.shareourselves.org.