



SHARE OUR SELVES NEWS

Spring 2010
www.shareourselves.org

The Safety Net and You



Sounds like the title of a best seller, a book about the difficult times in which we find ourselves. What is the safety net and what is its relationship to you? What is the impact of the safety net and how does it affect your life?

The Encarta Dictionary defines the safety net as “protection for people in difficulty often as the result of hardship and misfortune.” At SOS, we would agree and add a community component; the safety net protects individuals and families and whole communities. The safety net provides stability for the community, keeping families in their homes and children in schools. A stable community is more secure, a better place to do business, and a place where people want to live, work and play. In this broader context of the safety net, everyone is impacted and everyone is involved.

SOS is a multiservice safety net organization. A broad spectrum of services addresses the many barriers faced by those living in poverty, whether the working poor or the newly unemployed. Because at SOS we understand the community nature of the safety net, we strive to make sure that there is place for everyone to be involved. Many of you provide generous funding and others also volunteer your time either onsite in a program and/or with special events. Many service clubs, youth groups, businesses, and faith based organizations hold food, toy, book, backpack, or clothing drives. Others make newborn layettes, birthday boxes, or hygiene kits. Medical, dental, and mental health providers care for our patients. Students learn skills and the importance of giving back



OCC Food Riders Club collects donated food items and ride their bikes to deliver it to SOS

(and that it feels good!). Contractors keep our facility in good repair and gardeners grow food to share.



An SOS client proudly shows off his new tomato plant, grown by the California Organic Gardening Club

Consider your role in the safety net, in the stability and security of your community. At SOS, we believe that an important lesson learned by the economic crisis is that everyone is vulnerable and everyone has a stake in supporting a strong safety net. Let us know how you would like to help.

Reflections

I write this reflection with a happy/sad thought. Our wonderful Development Director, Karen Harrington, will be relocating to Northern California in the near future and leaving SOS. She will be joining the Peace Corps and embarking on a new adventure in her life. So, I am happy for her decision to move toward one of her goals but sad that she will not be at SOS.

Karen has been with SOS for eleven years and she so reflects all that is good about SOS. She is diligent in her job, tenacious in effort, and her standards all reflect excellence. But those are just a few of the exceptional qualities Karen has brought to SOS. More importantly she is a humanitarian, a person of quality, who seeks to share her time in this world with others. She cares deeply for her family, friends, and quite simply for her community and those who are most vulnerable. She has written beautifully about those who come to SOS and her words have created a sustaining picture of SOS.

We shall long treasure Karen Harrington's time with us. She is a woman of beauty, character, strength, and a dear friend. Let's all toast Karen and wish for many blessings in her future.

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

- ♦ **Eberhard Foundation** for generous support of Social Services
- ♦ **George Hoag Family Foundation** for generous support of the Food Pantry
- ♦ **Ueberroth Family Foundation** for generous support of the Dental Clinic
- ♦ **Womenade** for generous support of Social Services
- ♦ **National Charity League, 11th Graders,** for assembling Easter baskets to distribute to SOS clients
- ♦ **Newport Harbor - Costa Mesa Lions Club** for generous support of the Medical Clinic
- ♦ **Girl Scouts Troop 2360** from Mariners Elementary for donating over 600 books to the Children's Corner
- ♦ **Curves Costa Mesa** for donating 1,649 pounds of food during their annual food drive for SOS
- ♦ **Newport Beach CROP Walk** for support of the Food Pantry



Services Donors

- ♦ 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

SOS Legacy Society Tea

In February, the 1st Annual Legacy Society and Guardian Donor Tea was held to honor Legacy Society members and those donors who had given \$5000 or more to SOS in the past year. A gorgeous table was set with delicious tea sandwiches, scones and other sweet treats! Guests shared stories and memories of their involvement with SOS. For more information on the SOS Legacy Society and Donor Recognition Groups, please contact Karen Harrington and 949-270-2100, ext. 2131 or kharrington@shareourselves.org.



SOS Medical Clinic Goes Electronic!

Congratulations to the SOS Medical Clinic for completing the transition to electronic medical records. This improvement provides for our patients to be participants in their personal health information and allows us to link with



Nancy Pierre-Paul, FNP, discusses lab results with SOS patient, Maria Escalante

other providers and hospitals to assure patient safety is a hallmark of care. Late summer we will begin to transition the Dental Clinic. This month we will also be implementing a new phone system. Please note our new phone number for all services is 949-270-2100. These technology improvements assure that we are delivering high quality, efficient, cost effective services in all of our five core service areas.

SOS Receives Award from American Pharmacists Association

The SOS Clinic received the 2009-2010 Community Outreach Immunization Award, Honorable Mention, from the American Pharmacists Association, in recognition of SOS's extraordinary contributions toward improving the community's vaccination rates. Since October 2009, SOS has vaccinated over 2,500 individuals in Orange County for seasonal flu and H1N1. The Clinic targeted their patients with chronic diagnoses, medical workers, and those living in poverty. The SOS Pharmacy team also provided counseling and education about the risks and benefits of vaccination. The APhA Immunization Champion Award is a wonderful validation of the work done at Share Our Selves to improve the health of our community.

Dine at the Cannery on June 10th and Support SOS!



Bring this newsletter with you when you dine at The Cannery between 5:00 PM and 8:00 PM on Thursday, June 10th and SOS will receive 33% of the proceeds from food sales.

**This offer is good for food sales in the restaurant and bar as well as towards take-out and banquet platters.

The Cannery Seafood of the Pacific

**3010 Lafayette Ave
Newport Beach, 92663**

**Reservations can be made by calling the restaurant at (949) 566-0600.

17th Annual Wild & Crazy Taco Night

With 22 chefs and more than 650 guests, Share Our Selves' 17th Annual Wild & Crazy Taco Night on Thursday was a great success! Orange County's finest chefs lent their amazing culinary talents to this festive event which raised \$33,004 to support the SOS Food Pantry.



Kim Olenikoff, Andrei's Restaurant, dressed as a taco, jokes with Bill Bracken, Island Hotel

Guests were raving about all of the taco choices - pork, duck, lobster, fish & chips, s'mores - no one left hungry! Several supporters were rumored to have made it to every single chef's station. To celebrate the 40th Anniversary of SOS, a beautiful quilt and timeline of our history with photos and news articles was on display.



Chris and Joyce Siegfried enjoy a sampling of the tasty tacos

The spacious new venue for the event, Halecrest Swim & Tennis Club, was the perfect space for guests to mingle, enjoy all of the unique tacos, lively chefs and mariachi band. All SOS programs have been severely impacted by the economic crisis and moving Taco Night to an off site location, allowed SOS to remain open to serve clients.

A huge THANK YOU to our chefs, Orange Aid Sponsors, event sponsors and underwriters, committee and volunteers for making this such a wonderful event!

Volunteer Spotlight

SOS volunteers are AMAZING! Once again we say THANK YOU. Our volunteers truly exemplify the SOS mission of Service and Advocacy! It takes 300 weekly volunteers to provide services to the hundreds of clients and patients who come to us each week. An additional thank you to the 93 volunteers who helped at Wild and Crazy Taco Night - we cannot do it without you!

With summer approaching, the need for interim volunteers increases. This is a GREAT opportunity for students to get their community service hours for school and church!! We have volunteer opportunities for students ages 14 and above. Positions are available Mon.-Fri., from 8-12 OR 11-3. Be sure to make arrangements by e-mail ASAP as positions fill quickly.

Lastly, our Back to School backpack program is coming in August. We need volunteers to help collect school supplies at the OC Fair on We Care Wednesday, August 11 (you must be 16 or older to participate). We also need volunteers to help sort supplies and pack backpacks in our warehouse prior to our August 28 distribution. If you are interested, please e-mail me to make arrangements.

I hope you have a wonderful, fun-filled summer and that you'll find some time to visit or volunteer!! To arrange a tour or discuss volunteer opportunities, please contact Julie Larson at jl Larson@shareourselves.org

SOS Board of Directors

CHAIR

- Dr. Gwyn Parry, Director, Community Medicine, Hoag Hospital
- Mary Cappellini, Author, Educational Consultant
- Dr. Jack Glaser, VP of Theology & Ethics, St. Joseph Health System
- Patricia Harrigan, SOS Volunteer
- Doug Heller, Vice President of Finance, Anaheim Ducks
- Ernest Klatt, III, Partner, Rutan & Tucker
- Larry Kugelman, Retired President, The Health Plan of America
- Juan Laguna, Attorney
- Kathy Lewis, Retired President, PSD, Western Digital Corp.
- Mike Lewis, CFO, Collectors Universe
- Gabriela Robles, Executive Director, St. Joseph Health System Foundation
- Sr. Suzanne Sassus, Senior Vice President, Sponsorship, St. Joseph Health System
- Michael Stephens, Retired President, Hoag Hospital
- Matthew Stewart, CEO, National Services Group
- Bob Warmington, President, Warmington Land Company
- Ellen Wright, Retired Educator

SOS Trustee Council

- Jean Forbath, Founder, Share Our Selves
- Michael Kang, Restaurateur, 5' Restaurant
- Timothy C. Tyson, Chairman and CEO, Aptuit, Inc.

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 Kathleen Bruski at SOS, 949-515-5400, ext. 32



Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Santa Ana, CA
Permit No. 4039

1550 Superior Avenue,
Costa Mesa, CA 92627
949-270-2100
www.shareourselves.org
Change of Service Requested

SAVE THE DATE...SAVE THE DATE

Back to School

August 28, 2010

Share Our Selves

1550 Superior Avenue, Costa Mesa

English & Spanish speaking volunteers are needed to stuff backpacks and help with distribution. Scouts, church groups and other community organizations are welcome. It's a great way for high school students to collect community service hours! For information on volunteering please contact Julie Larson, at jl Larson@shareourselves.org.

Wish List

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

- Backpacks and school supplies
- Baby Items - Clothing, food, & diapers in all sizes
- Birthday Boxes for Children, Hygiene Kits
- Food (merchants - please consider joining the Orange Aid Project - our volunteers will pick up your donated food)
- For ideas on how to help from home or ideas for youth leaders, 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

May 19	A Team Onion Luncheon
June 10	The Cannery Restaurant Fundraiser (see inside for info)
August	Star Team Annual BBQ
August 5	Open House 8:00am-1:00pm
August 28	15th Annual Back to School Day
August 29	Major Donor Thank You Event
October 9	20th Annual Celebrity Chef Dinner
October 16	Halloween Costume Distribution
November 15-19	Thanksgiving Food Drive
Nov. 30-Dec. 2	5th Annual Festival of Trees
December 13-16	Adopt A Family

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