



SHARE OUR SELVES NEWS

Summer 2010
www.shareourselves.org

2010 - Celebrating 40 Years of Service



Where were you in 1970? Orange County had 1.5 million residents, Richard Nixon was President, VCRs became common place, Orange County still had orange groves, and the City of Irvine had 10,000 residents. If you were a parishioner at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Costa Mesa, you may have been part of a Bible Study group studying the encyclical of Pope Paul VI focused on social justice and economic opportunity for all. Jean

and Frank Forbath, SOS Founders and social activists, led the group, along with Karen McGlenn, SOS Executive Director for 18 years and a leader in the current debate in Orange County and California on healthcare reform. That Bible Study group elected to go beyond study and work on the issues of poverty in Orange County. Little did they know that they were launching Share Our Selves, today one of Orange County's largest, volunteer driven, safety-net organizations serving struggling families.

As Orange County grew, so did SOS. Always with an eye focused on the needs of the community. Early efforts included feeding preschool children and helping farm workers in the OC Farm Camps. From the beginning, Adopt A Family helped families celebrate the joy of the holidays, by 1978 providing food and gifts for 201 families. By 1980 the SOS Food Pantry fed an average of 200 families a month and provided another 150 with financial assistance. The lack of access to medical care for so many led to the opening of the Free Medical Clinic in 1985, with Dr. Don Drake providing his medical license. Three hundred patients a month received care from the very beginning. In 1988, the Free Dental Clinic opened and served 123 patients a month; many had never been to a dentist. After wandering Costa Mesa for several years, SOS landed at 1550 Superior Avenue where service continues for tens of thousands of our neighbors living in poverty.

Since 1970, the population of Orange County has more than doubled to over 3 million, we have our first black president, VCRs are about obsolete, orange trees are relegated to backyards, and the City of Irvine has over 212,000 residents. SOS is still providing safety-net services, mostly with volunteers, and continues to focus resources on direct service, with 86% of community support going to programs. Medical and dental care, counseling and case management, food, financial aid, clothing, and seasonal programs – all focused on increasing access, overcoming barriers, and caring for our neighbors. Helping Orange County be the community where we all want to live, work, and play.

Thank you for 40 years of support for our mission. We look forward to continuing our partnership. As George, a medical clinic patient stated, "I don't know where I would be without you. Your care is everything to me."

Reflections

As I write this letter I am preparing to travel to Kansas to celebrate a most special birthday with our very large immediate family honoring my husband, John. He is one of six sons and so this birthday needed to be with his brothers, their families, cousins, aunts, uncles and many dear friends.

I realize how fortunate we are to have this moment of great joy, music, food, and family. But as is often the case for me through my work with SOS, I know many do not have this great support network of love, kindness, security and hope.

Family can hold you up in the bad times, and share in the joy of the good times, but often clients of SOS can only find this family within the walls of the SOS building. Volunteers, staff and donors, all enveloping people who struggle, find a way to renew hope - whether it is a kind word, a bag of groceries, a birthday box for a child, a healing touch by a provider, or a smile.

I am proud to know that SOS is a family of people dedicated to others and together we shall continue to have our family flourish.

To a happy summer for all,

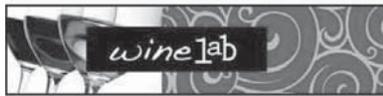
We are servants who provide free care and assistance to those in need and act as advocates for systemic change.

Thank You

Thank you to all the following:

Foundation and Community Support

- ♦ **Alcon Foundation** for generous support of the SOS Eye Clinic
- ♦ **Golden State Food Foundation** for generous support of SOS Social Services
- ♦ **Orange County Community Foundation – Reach Out OC** for generous support of SOS Case Management
- ♦ **County of Orange, Tobacco Settlement Revenue** for generous support of the SOS Clinics
- ♦ **California Wellness Foundation** for generous support of the SOS Dental Clinic
- ♦ **Wine Lab Newport Beach** for hosting a wine tasting fund raiser to support SOS
- ♦ **The Cannery** for donating a portion of food sales on June 10 to SOS



Services Donors

- ♦ Dr. Elo, Dr. Kloss, Dr. Nielson, and the County of Orange for their 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

Our Phone Number Has Changed!



Please be advised that Share Our Selves' phone numbers have changed. In order to provide better customer service to our patients and clients and reach our staff in an efficient and timely manner, we now have one main number for all of our services - **949-270-2100**. Please feel free to contact us should you have any problems reaching the correct

staff or service, as we are still refining a few details with the new system.

20th Celebrity Chef Dinner

October 9th - Save the Date!

On October 9th a group of Orange County's most generous chefs will team up to prepare a fabulous five course dinner paired with specialty wines. The event will again be held at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa. The evening will include a silent auction and live auction where the chefs will offer exciting dining packages, as well as other surprises to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Celebrity Chef Dinner and the 40th Anniversary of SOS. Mark your calendars - you won't want to miss this great night! For more information, contact Ashley Carlton at 949-270-2134 or acarlton@shareourselves.org.



Chefs Alan Greeley and Michael Kang

OC Fair We Care Wednesdays August 11th - School Supply Drive for SOS

Get FREE admission to the OC Fair and help Share Our Selves' Back to School Program! On **August 11**, from 12pm-6pm, bring one new school supply item valued at \$3 or more and get one free admission into the fair and one free carnival ride. Bring your friends and enjoy the OC Fair!



Community Partner of the Year

Share Our Selves was awarded the **Community Partner of the Year Award from Public Law Center** at their annual Volunteers for Justice Awards Dinner on Monday, June 21st at the Hyatt Regency Irvine. The dinner celebrated Public Law Center's pro bono volunteers and honored award recipients for distinguished service. SOS and PLC have formed a strong partnership over the past decade - working together to meet the legal needs of some of Orange County's most vulnerable residents. PLC and SOS are a model of collaboration. Working together promotes equal access to justice, a critical value of our legal system.



SOS Executive Director, Karen L. McGlimm, with Public Law Center Executive Director and General Counsel, Kenneth W. Babcock

16th Annual Star Team Onion Luncheon

In May, the SOS Star Team members, SOS A-Team members and their guests attended the 16th Annual SOS Star Team Onion Luncheon, held at the beautiful Five Crowns Restaurant in Corona Del Mar. The luncheon honored the members of the Star Team, a support guild of Share Our Selves. The fund raising efforts of the guild directly benefit the life sustaining services SOS provides to Orange County residents living in poverty.



SOS A-Team President and Founder, Kathy Thompson, with SOS Executive Director, Karen L. McGlenn and Director of Development, Karen Harrington

A-Team President and Founder, Kathy Thompson, was recognized at the Luncheon for her longtime service to Share Our Selves.

Thank you Margo and Dennis Brask of Five Crowns for a wonderful luncheon and thank you A-Team and Star Team for all you do for SOS!



Star Team members Elaine Keck and Tia Anderson

Volunteer Spotlight

It has been an interesting few months for volunteers in our Medical Clinic and we thank all of you for “hanging in there” during our transition to electronic health records. You have all been KEY to our success! The fall promises to bring with it new and exciting volunteer opportunities and will prove to have been worth the wait!

Speaking of New and Exciting Volunteer Opportunities, our volunteer program is expanding in new directions in many other areas of SOS:

- ♦ We are looking for volunteers who are interested in serving on one of our event committees - Celebrity Chef, Festival of Trees and Wild & Crazy Taco Night. New committee members bring new ideas!
- ♦ Our Urban Garden Project and Eat Fresh With SOS campaign are moving forward. Please call Julie if you have an interest or passion for gardening and would like to be part of our gardening team.
- ♦ Lastly, with the holidays just around the corner, please remember that we will have some amazing opportunities available for you and your family. As you begin to plan your holidays, please contact Julie to schedule some time to help those in need.

As always, a BIG thank you to all of our volunteers in the Medical and Dental Clinic, in Social Services and to those who joined us for the summer months – you are the HEART of SOS!!! **Julie Larson, Volunteer Services Manager: 949-270-2113 or 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

SOS Trustee Council

- Jean Forbath, Founder, Share Our Selves
Michael Kang, Restaurateur, 5th 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, 949-270-2100, ext. 2132



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

August 5	Open House 8:00am-1:00pm
August 11	OC Fair We Care Wednesday School Supply Drive 12-6pm
August 22	Star Team BBQ
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.