



Share Our Selves News

January 2014

Looking Ahead

SOS holds strong to its roots while preparing for the future

As leaders in the community, Share Our Selves has been providing care and assistance to our most vulnerable populations in Orange County since 1970. As we begin our 44th year of service to the community we are called to look back at our roots as an organization – providing the most basic of necessities to those most in need. For the past four decades we’ve carried the belief that no one should go hungry, no individual should be denied access to healthcare, no mother should have to explain why the lights won’t turn on, and no child should start the school year without the basic supplies they need to ensure success. We’ve advocated for the poor, we’ve held the hands of the sick, and we’ve listened without judgment to so many who came to Share Our Selves after having every other door slammed in their faces. We have done so because our mission has remained the same, our staff has remained devoted, and because we will not rest knowing that there are still so many in our community who have been denied their basic human rights. We still have work left to do.

As we turn the page on another year, we are excited about where we will go in the coming year. What sets SOS apart from others is that while we hold fast and strong to our roots, we do so with an eye on the future. With our pulse on the ever-changing landscape of Orange County healthcare and human services, we are focused on transformational care – finding new solutions for the issues our clients face and creating ways to serve an even broader population. In the past few years we have expanded our scope of care to become a community clinic – able to treat all persons regardless of age. We have broadened our coverage programs, expanded our case management program, and grown our team of dedicated employees.

It is here that we could list the thousands of individuals and families Share Our Selves served in 2013, or how many bags of food went out our doors, but we won’t. As we look ahead we strive to be known not for what we do but for who we are. We thank you for your support in 2013. Some of you have been receiving this newsletter since our humble beginnings in 1970 and others might be receiving it for the first time. Please know that no matter your role at Share Our Selves, you are providing transformational care that will not only better the lives of our clients but also better our community. Some of us are doctors. Some of us are givers of goods and services. But all of us are caretakers. We wish you a wonderful 2014 and look forward to working alongside you to create a stronger healthier community.



Reflections

How to begin a new year is always the question for me – I usually commit to changing my ways, and hopefully ending the year with fewer items on my “to do” list. This past year gave me great pause to reflect on my priorities, which includes my family, friends, my faith, and SOS. What is different this year is the urgency I feel to communicate to you what is in my heart for SOS.

SOS for me is not what some may describe as a charity or nonprofit, but rather a true vessel of the people. We were founded to care for people with kindness, dignity, and love that is all enduring. We are called to be risk takers, visionaries, and courageous of heart and soul. I’ve laughed, cried, mourned, celebrated, and cherished so many people over the years. I have found goodness, the wisdom of a community, and the healing power of touch, all within the walls of SOS. These life lessons are etched onto my soul.

So, what does SOS call me to do this year? It calls me to recognize the brutal damage that suffering from mental illness can inflict and the overwhelming pain that haunts a mentally ill person. Recently, a young woman I know committed suicide because suffering was no longer a choice she could make. I want no other person to see this choice as the final option; therefore, SOS must have no wrong doors for those who face such pain. We must develop programs of emotional healing, seek funds to support such care, and never give up as we challenge SOS to be more than it is. My SOS “to do” list grows, but there is no turning away from the tasks at hand. May 2014 find your “to do” list short, and know you are always close to my heart.

Karen L. McGlinn
Executive Director

Thank You

Thank you to the many donors, community groups, and corporations that support SOS. We appreciate all you do to make a difference! Recent donations include:

- **Newport Rib Company** for including SOS in their 30 Days of Charity Program

Grants

SOS recently received generous grant funding for our programs from the following:

- **Croul Family Foundation**, for core operating support
- **Disney's Ears Foundation**, in support of the Adopt A Family program
- **Edwards Lifesciences Fund**, in support of the Medical Clinic
- **Google Grants**, in support of information technology
- **Healthcare Foundation of Orange County**, in support of the SOS-El Sol Wellness Center
- **Health Resources and Services Administration**, in support of oral health
- **Henry Schein Cares Foundation**, in support of the Dental Clinic
- **St. Joseph Health Community Partnership Fund**, in support of the Food Pantry
- **Susan G. Komen for the Cure**, in support of the Medical Clinic
- **Taco Bell**, in support of the Food Pantry
- **Ueberroth Family Foundation**, in support of the SOS -El Sol Wellness Center



The Ursini Family presents representatives from SOS with a donation from Newport Rib Company for their 30 Days of Charity Program.

A Season of Thanks

Fall food drives allowed for 1,420 bags of food distributed to families at risk of going hungry

SOS has much to be thankful for due to the tremendous show of community support we receive throughout the year – especially around the holidays. This year, over 1,400 Thanksgiving food bags were distributed the three days before Thanksgiving. The bags were filled with everything needed for a delicious dinner, including turkeys, chickens, produce, rolls, stuffing, pies, and more. 128 volunteers provided 417 hours of service to fill and distribute the bags to our grateful clients. We would like to extend our thanks to the numerous schools, businesses, and groups that held fall food drives to benefit SOS, including:

AMEC • BDO • Carden Hall • Hoag HR • Hoag Rehab Center • Lincoln Elementary • Newport Harbor High • Roosters • Fountain Valley Social Security office • Sowers Middle School • Talbert Medical • Temple Bat Yam • Weight Watchers Fountain Valley

In My Lifetime

Stories of Case Management Success

A generous supporter of SOS decided that instead of waiting until later in life to make a contribution to Share Our Selves, she wanted to do it now in order to see the results of her gift in her lifetime. As a result, the In My Lifetime grant was set up to support the SOS Case Management program. This section of the newsletter is dedicated to sharing stories of case management successes.

Thanks to an extremely generous "In My Lifetime" gift made by longtime supporters Tod and Linda White, SOS will expand its direct assistance to clients facing unexpected financial emergencies. This funding will increase SOS Case Management services, helping to stabilize families and individuals through comprehensive care and assistance.

Tod and Linda shared "having volunteered at SOS, we've been impressed with how well SOS is managed and what a great job Karen McGlenn and her team have done in making SOS a valuable resource to so many in our community. Many SOS clients are living so close to the edge that missing a day or two of work means they are unable to pay the rent, or the utility bill, or the prescription, or some other necessity. The consequences of missing a payment or paying late are too often catastrophic. SOS clients are doing their best to succeed but need help overcoming solvable barriers. Often the only thing standing in their way is the lack of bus fare, or proper clothes, or work boots, or tools or some other low-cost solution - but these are dollars they don't have. A helping hand at the right time is all some clients need to get back on track, but most often, the immediate crisis is just one example of a bigger issue and that is where services, like SOS Case Management can change the trajectory of an entire family."

SOS is so honored by Tod and Linda's compassion and generosity, and is excited to translate their gift into compassionate care for those most in need.

If you are interested in making a gift in your lifetime, please contact Karen Francis, Director of Development, at kfrancis@shareourselves.org or 949.270.2145.

Volunteer Spotlight

Hundreds of volunteers gave their time in 2013

Another amazing year has come to a close here at SOS – and what a year it was! We send a big THANK YOU to the over 300 weekly volunteers who have committed themselves to serving – always with a smile and a heart of kindness. Our programs continue to exist because of all that you do!

In addition to our weekly volunteers, we want to recognize the hundreds of special event volunteers who come together throughout the year to help us accomplish wonderful things. Thank you to the 130 Wild and Crazy Taco Night volunteers, the 278 Back to School volunteers, the 43 Celebrity Chef volunteers, the 130 Thanksgiving volunteers, and the 240 Adopt a Family volunteers, who gave of their time and talents. You always come through in our time of need!

We also would like to recognize many of the organizations that have come in as a team to help us do the impossible. Thank you to Taco Bell Corporation, Yard House, Marriot Corporate, Saint Joseph's Hospital, PIMCO, Harbor Christian Church, the Powers Team at Hom Sotheby's, Banana Republic, Shore Point Insurance, Hoag Hospital, Nicholas Academic Center, National Charity League, Assisteens, National League of Young Men, Tewinkle School, Girl Scout Troop 1596, Carden Hall, Phi Delta Epsilon, Alpha Tau Delta, UCI School of Nursing, UCI Dental Club, Newport Harbor High School SOS Club, Corona del Mar High School football team and the many others who have provided helping hands on numerous occasions.

As we enter 2014, I encourage each of you to reach out and volunteer, whether for a one-time event or on a weekly basis. Volunteers have often said that the time they spend with SOS is as rewarding to them as it is to our clients and patients. For further information, contact Julie Larson at 949.270.2113 or jl Larson@shareourselves.org. Wishing you a wonderful 2014 and hoping to hear from you soon!



Top to Bottom: SOS Facilities Manager, Vanessa Ontiveros with volunteer Gerard Fobes; Yard House's Carlito Jocson volunteers every Thanksgiving with his family and team; Members of Phi Delta Epsilon help out with Celebrity Chef Dinner

Celebrity Chef Dinner

Event raised \$152,000 for Food Pantry

This year's Celebrity Chef Dinner brought together 12 talented local chefs and 270 generous guests, who enjoyed 5 delicious courses paired with outstanding wines, and a lively silent and live auction. The 23rd annual event netted \$152,000 for the SOS Food Pantry.

Highlights of the live auction included a homemade pizza party with Chefs Alan Greeley and Alessandro Pirozzi at Alessandro's home, and 2 Super Bowl tickets donated by NFL referee and SOS Supporter, Laird Hayes. A big thanks to our chefs, committee, volunteers, and donors for ensuring the success of the event!



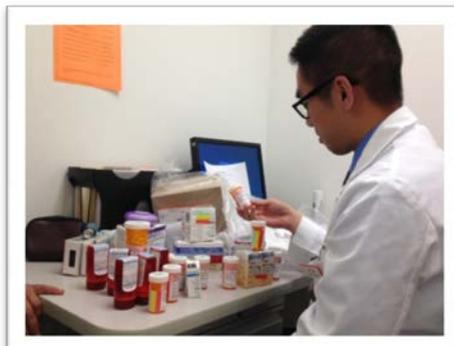
Chefs Manfred Lassah (Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach), and Brian Hirsty (Bluewater Grill)

Pharmacy Wins Award

Nationally recognized for improving patient safety

Our Clincial Pharmaceutical Services team was awarded the Exceptional Team Award 2012-13 from the Health Resources and Services Administration's Patient Safety and Clinical Pharmacy Services Collaborative (PSPC). Our team is one of three teams out of 250 nationally to be selected for the award.

The award is in recognition of their work in integrating medication management (IMM) into patient care, resulting in decreased costs and fewer adverse drug events. Through this program greater than 70% of our focus population has their health status under control within 12 months.



Sunny Cheung helps a patient sort through all of their prescriptions to understand what to take and when

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair, Dr. Gwyn Parry, Director, Community Health, Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian

Sue Epstein, President, Susan Baerg Epstein, Ltd. Management and Technology Consulting

Sara Flores, Educator, El Sol Science and Arts Academy

Patricia Harrigan, SOS Volunteer

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Kathy Lewis, Retired President, PSD, Western Digital Corp.

Gabriela Robles, Executive Director, St. Joseph Health Community Partnership Fund

Michael Stephens, Retired President, Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian

Share Our Selves' 44th Annual Adopt A Family Program

By the Numbers

2013 Program Highlights

- 1,337 Adopted Families
- 4,260 Children Received Gifts & Toys
- 65 Participating Schools and Organizations
- 553 Total Number of Donors
- 2,579 Total Volunteer Hours

Special thanks to the **OC Fair & Event Center** for hosting our program, **Side Street Café & BJs Pizza** for donating lunch for our volunteers, and **Penjoyan Produce** for delivering fresh fruits & vegetables to ensure that our families had a healthy holiday dinner.



Thank you to the donors, Adopt A Family Committee, volunteers, and community members who made our 44th year of this program such a great success. We were able to deliver Christmas gifts and a special holiday meal to **1,337** families. Our incredible team of volunteers put in over **2,579** hours, over many months, organizing this wonderful community program. We sincerely appreciate the generosity of the families, companies, and organizations that adopted families and held food and toy drives throughout Orange County. Thank you also to our wonderful team of volunteers, worked tirelessly to make this program possible!



Top: A team from the Anaheim Ducks delivers gifts for their adopted families. Bottom: Toys filled the hangars at the OC Fair and Event Center



Notes of Thanks from Our Adopted Families

"We might not know who you are, but we do know that thanks to your kindness we are going to have Christmas. You have put a smile back on our kids' faces."

"Thank you very much for the all the help that you gave me and my family. We really appreciate all the gifts. You have made our holidays very happy."

The following groups adopted 5 or more families. Thank you for your dedication to the Adopt A Family Program!

Our Lady of Mount Carmel - 206	The Pegasus School - 9
United Healthcare - 41	Lincoln Elementary - 9
Newport Harbor High School - 34	Innocean - 9
Oakley Inc. - 34	Hyundai - 8
Anaheim Ducks - 29	Shorebreak Hotel - 7
DGWB Advisors - 25	St. John the Divine - 6
Memorial Care - 14	Kathryn Kosuth - 6
Harbor Day School - 13	Taco Bell - 6
Wescom - 12	Reliance - 5
Sares-Regis Group- 10	Opus - 5
Pacific Sunwear - 10	



Our amazing Adopt A Family Committee

To learn more about the Adopt A Family program and how you can help out next year, please call 949.270.2150. Donor forms will be available in the fall.



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 Costa Mesa, CA 92627
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 www.shareourselves.org
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21st Wild & Crazy Taco Night

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Thursday, April 10, 2014
 Share Our Selves

VIP Pre-Party: 4:30pm-5:30pm
 General Event: 5:30pm-7:30pm
 VIP Tickets: \$150 General: \$70

For more information, contact Elizabeth Evans •
 949.270.2137 • efevans@shareourselves.org

Wish List

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

- Donate your car with You Pick You Save
- Toothbrushes, dental floss, toothpaste
- Baby Items – clothing, food, and diapers in all sizes
- Hotels & Motels – consider donating toiletry items or half-full shampoos, lotions, etc.
- Food – Hold a food drive in your neighborhood (canned goods and dry goods)
- Professional attire for high school seniors getting ready to graduate (slacks, ties, shirts, blouses, skirts, etc.)

Facility Requests

- Manual pallet jack

To donate any of the items above, please contact Vanessa Ontiveros at 949.270.2150 or vontiveros@shareourselves.org.

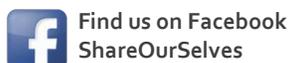
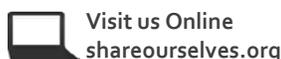
Calendar of Events

Please join us for our upcoming programs and events:

April 10	21 st Annual Wild & Crazy Taco Night
May	SOS Star Team Onion Luncheon
August	Donor and Volunteer Appreciation Event
August	SOS Star Team BBQ
November 7	24 th Annual Celebrity Chef Dinner

For more information on any of our events, please contact Elizabeth Evans at 949.270.2137 or efevans@shareourselves.org or visit our website at www.shareourselves.org.

To receive our newsletter by email, please contact Katie Santore at ksantore@shareourselves.org



Share Our Selves 21st Annual Wild & Crazy Taco Night™

Benefiting the SOS Food Pantry

April 10, 2014

Sponsorship Opportunities

_____ **\$10,000+, Habanero** (\$8,500 is tax deductible), entitles you:

- 10 VIP tickets to **Wild & Crazy Taco Night**
- Recognition on **Wild & Crazy Taco Night** event signage
- Recognition on SOS website

_____ **\$7,500+, Mariachi** (\$6,300 is tax deductible), entitles you:

- 8 VIP tickets to **Wild & Crazy Taco Night**
- Recognition on **Wild & Crazy Taco Night** event signage
- Recognition on SOS website

_____ **\$5,000+, Piñata** (\$4,100 is tax deductible), entitles you:

- 6 VIP tickets to **Wild & Crazy Taco Night**
- Recognition on **Wild & Crazy Taco Night** event signage
- Recognition on SOS website

_____ **\$2,500+, Cactus** (\$1,620 is tax deductible), entitles you:

- 4 VIP tickets to **Wild & Crazy Taco Night** and 4 general admission tickets
- Recognition on **Wild & Crazy Taco Night** event signage
- Recognition on SOS website

_____ **\$1,000+, Sombrero** (\$710 is tax deductible), entitles you:

- 2 VIP tickets to **Wild & Crazy Taco Night** and 2 general admission tickets
- Recognition on **Wild & Crazy Taco Night** event signage
- Recognition on SOS website



Service Underwriting Opportunities

Rental assistance for a family at risk of losing apartment	\$600
Upper and lower dentures for 3 uninsured patients	\$300
Groceries for 225 Families	\$500
Lab tests for 100 medical patients	\$245
Eyeglasses for one patient (excluding medical visit)	\$100
Pay one family's utility bill	\$75
Buy five clients a nine ride bus pass	\$45

Wild & Crazy Taco Night Underwriting Opportunities

Rentals	\$2,500
T-Shirts	\$1,200
Invitations	\$1,100
Postage	\$900
Graphic Designer	\$500
Entertainment	\$325
Decorations	\$150

\$3 provides a bag of groceries for one family. Bags of groceries include fresh produce, dairy and protein.

I would like to purchase _____ bags of groceries at \$3 each.

My total contribution is \$._____

_____ **Underwriter:** I would like to underwrite _____ or \$_____

All underwriters of \$150 and above will be listed on our website and on Taco Night event signage.

All Underwriting Opportunities are 100% tax deductible

Name (as you would like it published) _____

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Website _____

Please make checks payable to **Share Our Selves** and send to: **Share Our Selves, 1550 Superior Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627.**

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

**You may also pay online at www.shareourselves.org/events

Deadline for sponsors for Taco Night publicity & signage is March 27, 2014

For more information, please call Elizabeth Evans at 949.270.2137

Share Our Selves Federal Tax ID # 95-3222316