



# News from the Food Closet

SOUTH SACRAMENTO INTERFAITH PARTNERSHIP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER ♥ DECEMBER 2022

## KUDOS TO OUR GROCERY PARTNERS

# 400,000 POUNDS OF GRATITUDE

As we celebrate the season of gratitude during the holidays, the SSIP Food Closet wishes to thank the generosity of our long-time grocery partners: the Nugget Market, Raley's, Trader Joe's, and Pocket Grocery Outlet. Their donations of mostly perishable foods, like deli sandwiches or ready-made salads along with fresh produce and packaged dry goods, are what our clients enjoy the most about the food they receive from the Food Closet. Collectively, our grocery partners donated over 400,000 pounds of food in 2022.



Grocery Outlet owner Richard Wierzbicki, flanked by SSIP Food Closet drivers (L to R) Craig Chalmers and John Sugar.

A shout out to Grocery Outlet at the corner of Florin Rd. and Riverside Blvd, independently owned and operated by Richard and Christie Wierzbicki, for conducting food drives to keep the food supply flowing for SSIP. Their store manager and daughter-in-law, Anna, pulled together a Veterans Day weekend holiday food drive to benefit SSIP Food Closet because she saw how great the need was this year compared to past years - with inflation driving up the costs of almost everything. Sincere thanks for your support and commitment to feeding the food insecure in Sacramento. Thank you, partners!

SSIP continues to see an increase in clients coming to the Food Closet, and it's the "new normal" to serve over 200 families a day. While the Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services keeps us well stocked with dry, staple goods that our clients can always depend on, it is the variety in our food offerings, made possible by our long-time grocery partners, that our clients look forward to each visit to the Food Closet.

With gratitude, Simon Yeh, on behalf of SSIP Food Closet

## PARKVIEW PRESBYTERIAN JOINS SSIP MEMBERSHIP

The SSIP Board of Directors added a much-appreciated new member, Parkview Presbyterian Church, and along with church membership came a dynamic duo, representatives Carla Hart and Lois Van Beers. The new membership was enthusiastically approved by a unanimous vote of the SSIP Board of Directors in August. In October, the SSIP Board welcomed Carla and Lois as new board members.

"The first day I volunteered at SSIP I thought I'd like to be on the board." Lois continued, "I was impressed by the dedicated volunteers and how well organized it was, and there's no better service than providing food." Concerned about continuing to help meet the needs of food insecure and homeless neighbors, Parkview members found SSIP Food Closet after their other activities came to an end during the pandemic.

Parkview members are committed to volunteering and have made SSIP their major mission. Carla agrees wholeheartedly. "Connecting with the amazing food ministry of SSIP is an absolute inspiration! The harmony among volunteers, the gratitude of the clients, the generosity of the donors, and the hard-working, positive, and competent staff are the many streams merging into a great river of Holy Spirit flowing throughout our community." (continued on page 3)



Parkview Presbyterian Church representatives (pictured L-R) Carla Hart and Lois Van Beers

# VOLUNTEERS SHINE BRIGHTLY

## THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

You make us SHINE during these times of economic hardship for our neighbors in need.

You have many choices about where to spend your precious time. Thank you for choosing to serve at the SSIP Food Closet.

Want to give volunteering at the food closet a try, or know someone who's interested? You can volunteer once a month, or commit to serving one day a week at the Food Closet if that's all your schedule permits. Email [volunteers@ssipfoodcloset.org](mailto:volunteers@ssipfoodcloset.org).



Table Farm Fellows Day



Thanks giving Week



Univision Community Service Day

## SSIP FOOD CLOSET LOOKS FORWARD TO 2023

As we approach the new year, at SSIP we are busy planning a series of events that will support our community of caring and mission. Thank you to our community of caring. You make our work possible.

- Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, April 20
- SSIP Community Outreach, May 3
- The Big Day of Giving, Thursday, May 4
- Full Plates, Full Hearts, Silent Auction & Community Event, Summer
- Donor Appreciation Event and SSIP Annual Report, Fall
- KCRA3 Kids Can! Food Drive, November
- Giving Tuesday, November 28

<u>Month</u>	<u>Households</u>	<u>Individual</u>
<b>JULY</b>	<b>3,699</b>	<b>11,153</b>
<b>AUG.</b>	<b>4,219</b>	<b>12,353</b>
<b>SEPT.</b>	<b>4,249</b>	<b>13,094</b>
<b>OCT.</b>	<b>3,995</b>	<b>12,097</b>

## LONG-TIME VOLUNTEER RECOGNIZED

At the October Board meeting, Tom Busch, Chair recognized the more than 30 years of service of Board member, Mrs. Joyce Forrest, who represented Hope United Methodist Church. She was an active member of SSIP until health concerns no longer permitted.

Flowers were sent through her daughter, Venéta Forrest Saulny who has been appointed the new representative from Hope UMC.

We wish Mrs. Forrest well and welcome her daughter's continuation of a family tradition.



Long-time volunteer, Mrs. Joyce Forrest

## DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF AND HONORING VOLUNTEERS

Donations received January - October 2022

**In Memory of Pam Anderson**  
Robert Anderson

**In Memory of Ralph Buell**  
Agnes Buell, Dawn David, Fernald Steven

**In Memory of Casper Carlton**  
Leroy & Laura Griffin, Carol & Jack Harris,  
Al & Linda Scarborough, Cathy Wicks,  
Derek and Aaron-Marie Thoms, Joy Cole,  
Katherine & Jason Wilmot

**In Memory of Jim Fowler**  
Cynthia & Richard Fowler

**In Memory of Bruce Guenther**  
Cynthia & Richard Fowler

**In Memory of Alan Nakamura**  
Shigeko Shibata

**In Memory of Fred Nichols:**  
Lana & Michael B. Berriesford, Christopher Coombes,  
Margaret & Charles Brown, William & Linda Evans,  
Zori Friedrich, Marianne & Michael Hardin,  
James & Nannette Henderson, Billie & Ralph Johnson,  
Pat Aguiar & Alfonso Ramirez

**In Memory of Wayne Rankin**  
Barbara Davidson

**In Memory of David Sabiston**  
Margaret & Charles Brown

**In Memory of Larry Toy**  
Kathy Gosney

**In Celebration of Tom Busch**  
Linda Revilla

**In Honor of Dolph and Hester**  
Gwen Joy

**In Honor of Donna Lee**  
Zachary Allen, Jonathan Bronstein

**In Honor and Memory of Rebecca**  
Maryann Rabovsky

**In Honor of Loretta Fransham, Jane Hing, Kathy Anderson**  
Cindy Kazee

### A MESSAGE FROM SSIP BOARD CHAIR

As we enter the holiday season, the Board of Directors have much to be thankful for and celebrate. The dedication of our part-time staff of four and the commitment of more than 100 volunteers effectively embrace the spirit of SSIP's mission to serve the food-insecure of Sacramento. The challenge can be daunting, but these committed individuals show up and seamlessly work together to organize, pack, and distribute approximately 30 pounds of food to each of the nearly 200 families who come to our door each day. In addition to weekday pick-ups at grocery stores, drivers work on weekends to assure that our shelves are stocked for the coming week. We are truly grateful.

Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services, our grocery partners, faith congregations and the funds we receive from grants and our generous donors have all played a crucial part in enabling SSIP to do this good work and do it well. We appreciate you.

While we have our challenges—a shortage of space being the primary one—we are a dedicated and resourceful group, and we will find a way to continue the mission that we have pursued for more than 50 years. Your involvement and contributions are what makes this endeavor successful. We give thanks to each one of you and the part you play in this vital service.

Happy holidays to all.  
- Tom Busch

### Follow Us on Social Media



facebook.com/  
SSIP Food Closet



@SSIPFoodPantry



instagram.com/  
SSIPFoodCloset

### PARKVIEW PRESBYTERIAN (From page 1)

Parkview Presbyterian Church is located across from Southside Park at 727 T Street, where it has been since 1940. Members recently celebrated its 110th anniversary and the significant role the church played in Sacramento's history. Learn more about Parkview Presbyterian at their website at [parkviewpc.org](http://parkviewpc.org).



5625 24th Street  
Sacramento, Ca 95822

### PAPER OR DIGITAL?

If you prefer to receive only an electronic version, please email your request to [info@SSIPfoodcloset.org](mailto:info@SSIPfoodcloset.org)

## THE SSIP MISSION

The primary mission of the SSIP Food Closet is to maintain and operate an emergency food distribution to help alleviate food insecurity for Sacramento residents. Partner faith-based organizations, with assistance from local businesses and other community members, provide the support and resources for the SSIP mission. In carrying out its mission the Food Closet adheres to the values of service, integrity, stewardship and accountability.

## GROCERY PARTNERS

Grocery partners serve an important role in providing a vital resource for our clients in the form of perishable foods, fresh produce, and packaged dry goods.

### Grocery Partners:

- Grocery Outlet (Florin Rd./Riverside Blvd.)
- Nugget Market (Florin Rd./Greenhaven Dr.)
- Raley's (Freeport Blvd.)
- Trader Joe's (Folsom Blvd.)

## FAITH-BASED PARTNERS

Faith-based partner organizations, with assistance from local businesses and other community members, provide the support and resources for the Food Closet's mission.

### Members:

- Bethany Presbyterian Church - Rev. Jesse Larson
- Centennial United Methodist Church - Loretta Fransham, Kathy Anderson, Mary Lou Hanzlik
- Faith Presbyterian Church - Chong Choe-Smith, Tom Busch, Deb Kanner
- Florin United Methodist Church - Chuck Snyder
- Hope United Methodist Church - Venéta Forrest Saulny
- Parkside Community Church, United Church of Christ - Margaret Brown, John Sugar
- Parkview Presbyterian Church - Carla Hart, Lois Van Beers
- Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church - Shigeo Shibata, Elaine Maeda
- Saint Anthony Catholic Parish - Leonor Alvarez, Pat Aguiar Ramirez, Henry Sepulveda

### Associate Members:

- Fruitridge Christian Church
- Lutheran Church of the Master
- Prince of Peace Baptist
- Wesley United Methodist Church

**THANKS TO OUR 2022 COMMUNITY SPONSORS**  
3 Heart & 4 Heart Donations



**SOUTH SAC CARE CENTER**



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**harris & sloan**



**The TABLE**



**KAISER PERMANENTE**



**JILL T. SHIBATA**  
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WAI & CONNOR, LLP



**PARKVIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**



**SMUD**



**Crawford's Books**