



Brother Benno's Newsletter

“Uplifting The Dignity of Those We Serve”

Volunteers Making a Difference

April 2023



Homeless Resource Fair held at Brother Benno's

Brother Benno's was pleased to support a Homeless Resource Fair at the Brother Benno Center in Oceanside on Friday, March 17th. Many unsheltered guests and those from extremely low-income households attended. The event was sponsored by the San Diego County District Attorney's (DA) office whose DA staff member, six public defenders and a number of California Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) representatives combined their efforts to hold Homeless Court sessions at the Fair.

The Homeless Court cases provide a path for the resolution of a range of misdemeanor offenses that primarily result from a homeless condition. Settlement of the cases follows an agreed path reached at the court sessions that takes into account the causes of a participant's homelessness, the actions participants are taking to improve their lives and the support the settlement will have to the continuing efforts of homeless persons to become employed, enter into permanent housing and, if applicable, resolve family issues such as child support.

The services provided by the Homeless Court included: warrant relief, warrant look-up, parking ticket relief, low level misdemeanors/infractions, loitering tickets, and DUI extensions. The court sessions addressed a total of twenty-nine cases, composed of eight misdemeanors and twenty-one traffic cases, and eighteen stipulations. The DMV representatives identified infractions to the court and provided identification cards/licenses. At the conclusion of the Homeless Court, eighty-nine Guests received assistance.



In addition to the Homeless Court sessions, representatives from fourteen government agencies and non-profit organizations were active in answering questions and in providing assistance. The following is a list of agencies/organizations that participated in the Homeless Resource Fair:

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STRIVING TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR TO ALL

By Steve Oetting

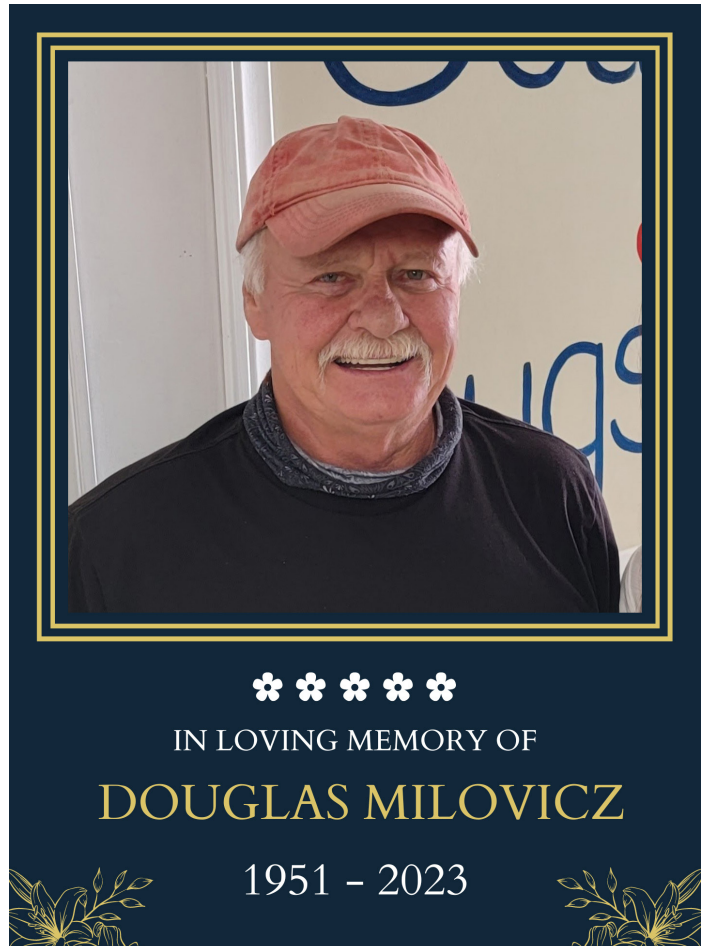
Over the last three years, Brother Benno’s has witnessed a tremendous surge in the number of people requiring assistance. With the closure of other providers and impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, this increase in demand has also resulted in a higher concentration of needy people in the area around Brother Benno’s. The challenges posed by this concentrated surge have been many and varied. They include not only the obvious difficulties of providing resources to those who need them most, but also ensuring that Brother Benno’s remains a good neighbor to the surrounding community at large.

As **Joe McDevitt**, Co-President of Brother Benno’s Board of Directors, notes, “Our team is focused on being proactive in taking the needed steps to be a good neighbor.” To this end, Brother Benno’s has been meeting with local businesses, city officials, and police representatives to determine the concerns of the local community regarding changes brought about by the last three years of increased demand for our services.

As a result of these productive meetings, Brother Benno’s has acted to increase awareness among those receiving services of the rules of conduct necessary to ensure Brother Benno’s good relationship with the community. Brother Benno’s has also expanded patrols of the surrounding neighborhood to remove trash and assist with enforcement of local regulations. Staffed by members of the recovery program, these patrols begin at 4:30 in the morning and extend until 7:00 at night. Perhaps most notably, Brother Benno’s has additionally hired two full time employees to provide enhanced security.

Serving over 5,000 people in need, Brother Benno’s is a fundamental and longstanding part of the solution to the problems facing North County. “Being a good neighbor,” notes Joe, “means being a good neighbor to all—both the unhoused and the industrial businesses nearby.”

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- 1) County of San Diego - LiveWell Mobile Office - Hub of health and community services
- 2) County of San Diego - Department of Homeless Solutions and Equitable Communities- Office of Equitable Communities
- 3) San Diego Humane Society
- 4) League of Women Voters
- 5) County of San Diego - Assessor/Recorder/ County Clerk
- 6) ECTLS -East County Transitional Living Center
- 7) EXODUS – North Coastal Mobile Crisis Response Team
- 8) Legal Aid Society of San Diego
- 9) Pantry of Hope – Operation Hope -North County
- 10) Interfaith Community Services
- 11) County of San Diego - Dept of Child Support Services
- 12) North Coastal Mental Health Center
- 13) Brother Benno’s Outreach Services
- 14) Humanity Showers

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Co-Volunteers of the Month: Mae Signori and Linda Sweeney

The Brother Benno Foundation appreciates all the people who work hard supporting our Thrift Shop. We are grateful for every employee and customer, but we are particularly thankful for our volunteers! This April, we celebrate two volunteers of the month: **Mae Signori** and **Linda Sweeney**.

Mae Signori was originally a part of the Brother Benno Auxiliary. She began volunteering at The Thrift Shop for at least 15 years. An energetic 96-year-old, Mae works in furniture sales every Thursday. She also helps on the last Saturday of the month. According to Thrift Shop Manager Michelle Hoppe, Mae "is amazing and very popular with the customers!"



Mae Signori

Linda Sweeney also belonged to the Brother Benno Auxiliary with her mother, **Shirlie Laiho**. Shirlie volunteered at the Thrift Shop until she passed away in 2011. Following in her beloved mother's footsteps, Linda became a regular volunteer at the Thrift Shop. She processes and prices all the jewelry donations. Linda also shows off her creative side by making beautiful displays during all the various holidays over the year. Merchandise flies off the Thrift Shop shelves in part due to Linda's

attention to detail and the beautiful displays she creates. When asked what she gets out of volunteering, Linda said: "I like being creative and seeing how it helps the Thrift Shop, and mostly I just love the people there."



Shirlie Laiho and Linda Sweeney

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Your donation enables us to do all the wonderful things we do

My enclosed tax-deductible gift is: \$ _____
(make payable to: Brother Benno Foundation)

In memory of: _____
Please send a card to:

(name) _____
(address) _____

For a special occasion (birthday, anniversary, etc.): _____

Send a card to: (name) _____
(address) _____

The Brother Benno Foundation
PO Box 308
Oceanside CA 92049

Printable version: <https://bit.ly/3PvfNET>
Or, donate online at <http://brotherbenno.org>

Giving Heart

A gentleman approached Board Member **Helen Parsons** after a speaking engagement and handed her a sum of money. He asked her to provide a needy child with some joy!

A grandmother was shopping with her granddaughter at the Thrift Shop and trying to budget. Her granddaughter, a sweet child, had fallen in love with a pair of sparkling shoes and the toy she was holding. Thanks to our donor we were able to give her both. It made the child and the grandmother so happy.

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The Brother Benno Foundation
5th ANNUAL
CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT
September 1, 2023
SAVE *the* DATE!
MORE INFO - brotherbenno.org/golf-2023

Information & Online donations:
brotherbenno.org

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[Instagram.com/brotherbenno](https://www.instagram.com/brotherbenno)

brotherbenno.org
Uplifting the Dignity of those we serve.
Celebrating Our
Volunteers
The Brother Benno Foundation
April Is National Volunteer Month
Are you interested in volunteering?
Please contact us at
Volunteers@brotherbenno.org

Please consider contributing to the Brother Benno Foundation by way of your Will, Living Trust, Designated Beneficiary Account, Stocks, Life Insurance, Mutual Funds, or Real Estate. For more information, contact Jim Napier, (760) 802-6884 or jim.napier@cox.net.

Brother Benno Foundation
Recovery Program for Men and Women
760 439 1244 ext. 101
Changing people's lives through the 12 Steps
of Alcoholics Anonymous.

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If you would like to subscribe to the online version of the newsletter, please go to our website: www.brotherbenno.org

Memorials

Ron Alexander	Tom & Louise	Ruth Hazel Pierson	Yandura
Dixie & Lou Bales	Hayward	Alan Port	Dennis E. O'Connor
Frank Barnet	Elizabeth Holms	Mary Pullman	Molly Wilbur
Brother Benno	John Jarvie	Catherine L. Quinlan	Barbara La Mothe
Edith Blaiser	Dorothy and Walter	Dora Ramirez	Ricci & Eginton
Andrea Boersma	Jellig	Dick & Terry Riley	Families
Roland Bond	Alice Jordan	Margaret Rossini	David Watson
Bill Boster	Ben Kouns	Ann Sauer	H. Edward Smith
Agnus & Joan Boyd	Richard Kurtz	Nick Sauer	Family
Bill Buckner	Carole Kutler	Mary Shankle	Toni Keane
Deacon Art & Mary Carr	Harold & Kay Kutler	Naomi Shelton	James Sanseverino
Anna Correia	Bill & Louise Lakoff	Bernice, Samuel &	Bill Pry
Don & Dorothea Daybell	Ben & Ozelle Lewis	Milton Silver	Thomas Kennedy
Phyllis H. Dierlam	Helen Lucas	Will Skinner	Frank Beeson
Frank S. Dolley	Bill & Joan Maloney	Ann Grier Smith	Timothy Diem
Anita H. Donahue	Helene McGill	Alva & Frances	Lydia Zamora
Dorothy M. Donahue	Peggy & Beverly	Snider	Wayne Patterson
Fr. Luke Dougherty	Miville	Squirrel Family	Dr. Mike McCarthy
Roseanne Dreibelbis	Monty, Natalie, &	Mike Stendahl	John Haggerty
Fr. Abbot Claude	Michael Nares	Margaret Stephan	Joe Erno
Ehringer, OSB	Zeferino & Dancy	Virginia Sylwestrzak	Blair Frazee
Myron Eichen	Nares	Harold Thompson	Barbara Havens
Richard Farhquar	Mary Nordstrom	Carol & Herb	Ron Beckman
William & Vennita	Nysewander Family	Thornberg	Virginia Steffen-Moore
Flanagan	Bud & Blanche Ogle	Rosemary Tucker	Donna Brown
Louise Foussat	Ben Osgrove	Walter Ulloa	Hope Wrisley
Joe & Ida Friend	Kathryn D. Pent	June Williams	
Mary Gerrity	Mary Peterson	Fred Williamson	In Honor Of
Bob Gleason	Jane Pfau	Andrew & Jane	Richard Kahl
Chance Hales			

Needs

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Gently used furniture | Blankets | Baseball caps |
| Diapers size sizes 4, 5 & 6 | Adult Unisex Diapers | Women's underwear, sizes 4 & 5 |
| Men's 2x and 3x t-shirts | Baby wipes | Travel-size toothpaste & deodorant |
| Travel-size shampoo & body wash | Bottled waters, sodas, & juices | |

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April						1 St. Thomas More
2023						
Monthly	3 St. Elizabeth Seton #1	4 St. John The Evangelist	5 Juanita's Team	6 Oceanside Pacific Kiwanis	7 San Luis Rey Mission	8 Buffalo Soliders Motorcycle Club
Serving	10 North Coast Methodist	11 Riverview Church	12 Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary	13 Servers R Us	14 St. Patrick's	15 Girlfriend's Care
Team	17 Sunrise Kiwanis of Vista	18 Christ The King Church	19 Friends of Brother Benno	20 Ernest Packaging	21 St. Elizabeth Seton #2	22 NMRTC Camp Pendleton Orthopedics Dept
Schedule	24 Open	25 Rotary Club of Vista	26 San Luis Rey Methodist	27 Open	28 Open	29 Shiloh Church of God

Brother Benno Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 308, Oceanside, CA 92049

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Oceanside, California
PERMIT NO. 166



Brother Benno's Thrift Shop

(Helping the poor, one sale at a time)

Clothing, Household Goods, Furniture

Store Hours: Wednesday-Saturday 10-5; Donation Hours Tues or Thurs 10-2, Saturdays 10-Noon

We welcome your saleable furniture items. Please call 760-967-7507 for free pick up

Stop by to check out our Daily Specials!!

3955 Mission Ave. (East of Albertsons) 760-967-7505

Please use the enclosed envelope to make your tax-deductible donation to the Brother Benno Foundation. If you are viewing this online you can donate by going to brotherbenno.org and click on "Ways You Can Help". We've expanded your donation options to include bank transfers, Venmo, Apple Pay, and Google Pay in addition to PayPal. You can scan this QR code to make an online donation too.



Your donation is used each month at our main center and seven recovery and sober living houses to provide: meals, clothing, personal hygiene items, blankets, showers, laundry facilities, bus vouchers, nights of lodging, medical and mental health referrals, prescriptions, ID replacement, mail services, Social Security, and veterans' issues, food packs, men and women's drug and alcohol recovery program, rent and utility assistance when funds are available. We thank you for your continued support.

Please Note Our Mailing address:

The Brother Benno Foundation
Post Office Box 308
Oceanside, CA 92049-0308

If you wish to drop off donations or deliver donations in person, our physical address is:

3260 Production Avenue
Oceanside, CA 92058

www.brotherbenno.org

Brother Benno's Services:

	February 2023	Our 39th Year		February 2023	Our 39th Year
Meals	11,457	4,822,263	Loads of laundry	0	28,628
Nights of lodging	1,104	349,251	Food packs	1,113	379,844
Articles of clothing	3,120	1,507,508	Blankets	105	51,827
Showers	992	284,293	Tarps	67	7,613
Haircuts	0	23,357	ID Vouchers	20	10,682
Bus passes	60	88,826	HUGS	1,000	1,014,244
