Student ambassadors and teachers from St. Francis of Assisi Catholic school in Vista dropped off donations to the Brother Benno Center on November 15th. What made this donation extra special is that each grade from Kindergarten to 8th grade collected items for our Guests. Items included various food staples and blankets. Ryllie Mangsat, 8th grader, helped to coordinate this effort and reached out to Brother Benno’s in October. In her email, she wrote, “We are grateful to you for giving us the opportunity to help the homeless.”

Brother Benno’s gives thanks to these students, teachers and families that helped to support this student-driven effort. While every donation matters to the Brother Benno Foundation, contributions from young people fill our hearts with joy. We love to witness compassion in action from the youngest members of our community.

On Monday, November 14th, the dining room at the Brother Benno Center reopened with some upgrades. Fresh paint, new floors, a new scullery and a shiny new serving line greeted our Guests when they joined us for breakfast. For the past several months, meals were served outdoors while construction was underway. Thank you to our generous donors for this project including Wells Fargo, Alliance Health Care, Vista Woman’s Club, Hi-Noon Rotary in Carlsbad, a very special anonymous donor and each of you who support our mission.
Thanksgiving and Christmas are special days at the Brother Benno Center. A delicious holiday meal is prepared and served to our Guests at 10 a.m. There is an established group of volunteers who serve each year. One of these volunteers is Marie Jones-Kirk.

Marie began volunteering with the holiday meals in 2012 with her husband and other family members and friends. She brought along five volunteers that first year. From her first time volunteering, Marie was struck by the spiritual experience of the day. She describes the calm at the Center as the dining room and serving line are set up and prepared. Next there is a burst of “amazing” energy when our Guests arrive. At the end there is quiet again as the Guests depart and the cleanup takes place.

“Our volunteers,” Marie explained, “some of them have been with us for 10 to 15 years. I think that shows what they get out of the experience.”

Marie has taken over coordinating the volunteers for these two special meals. She was inspired to do so after working with Suzy Martinek, long time volunteer and former Board member.

“I think what’s so beautiful is that we all come together,” Marie shared. “It doesn’t matter if you are unhoused, an addict, you only have the clothes on your back – we love you as you are. There is something really wonderful about that.”

Help us Shine a Light on our Volunteers - Nominations Open

We would like to shine a spotlight on our incredible volunteers throughout the coming year. Each month we will share a profile of a “Volunteer of the Month” and we’d love your nomination. It can be someone who volunteers at The Brother Benno Thrift Shop, at The Center, or serves on one of our many committees. Have someone in mind? Please send the name of your nominee with a brief description about what makes them special and how they make a difference at Brother Benno’s to volunteers@brotherbenno.org.

Ω

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.

Ω

Food Pantry at the Thrift Shop

One of many ways the Thrift Shop supports the community is through its food pantry at the front of the store. Stocked with canned goods and non-perishable food items, the pantry is free to anyone in need. There are still many individuals and families that are food insecure. We know this because our pantry is always empty.

Unexpired, non-perishable food is always a welcome donation at the store. Please drop off these donations at the cash register or you can drive up to our donation site at the back of the building on Tuesdays or Thursdays 10:00-2:00 and Saturdays 10:00-12:00. We have staff to help you get the donations out of your car. Thank you so much for helping the Thrift Shop restock its pantry.

Ω

Information & Online donations:
brotherbenno.org

Follow Brother Benno’s online:
Facebook.com/BrotherBenno
Twitter.com/brotherbennos
Instagram.com/brotherbenno

Ω

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.
Aiding Needy Community College Students’ Progress With Their Education

Our community college scholarship program continues providing financial aid students disadvantaged by language barriers and/or social, economic, and educational circumstances attending MiraCosta College in Oceanside and Palomar College in San Marcos. We are fortunate to work closely with the Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOPS) staff at both MiraCosta and Palomar Colleges in making Brother Benno scholarship opportunities available. This Fall semester, twenty $500 scholarships were awarded to students attending MiraCosta College and twenty $500 scholarships were awarded to students attending Palomar College.

Scholarship recipients often send thank you letters or short emails expressing their gratitude to the committee. Below are a just few received this fall from Palomar EOPS students.

Thank you so very much! I am so grateful to be selected and this indeed will help me immensely. Thank you again! - M. Castenada Sanchez

Oh wow? Really?? Thank you so much! This means so much to me. I’m crying thank you hugs to you all. Thank you, 1,000 times! - K. Carlin

Good morning, Thank you so much for this, it means a lot to me and I will definitely try my hardest to earn my degree! Thank you again. – A. Horn

Our volunteer scholarship committee of Belinda Smith, Suzy Martinek, and Jim O’Connell are dedicated to aiding students who face financial obstacles, particularly those students who are impacted by homelessness, family difficulties, substance abuse, previous incarceration, or who have aged out of foster care.

With reports of 14% or more of community college students affected by homelessness and almost half of students facing housing insecurity, we are hopeful to be able to continue to expand our scholarship program and assist students who are on an educational path to improve their lives.

Make a Difference this season with a Holiday Gift!

This holiday, make an online gift in honor of a loved one, colleague, or friend and they will receive a holiday ecard from us so they know you made a donation in their name.

To dedicate your donation in honor of a loved one, colleague, or friend, click the checkbox next to “Dedicate my donation in honor or in memory of someone” located below the amount selection boxes in the online donation form. Just click “Donate” on our website to get to the form. You will also have the option to input contact information and a message to the recipient, which will be automatically sent upon completion of your transaction.
Making a difference: Mary Holguin

Volunteers are the heart and soul of Brother Benno’s. Without them, we would cease to exist. Honorary Board Member Mary Holguin is a shining example of a selfless individual uplifting the dignity of those we serve.

For twenty-one years Mary Holguin has volunteered to help the unsheltered. With kindness and compassion, she embodies the spirit of Brother Benno’s by carefully listening to all who seek aid. Mary’s dedication to providing rental assistance has helped countless families avoid homelessness.

“I am grateful for the opportunity to meet low-income families and homeless guests, understand their needs and find a means to offer aid,” Mary shared. “It is particularly heartwarming to remain in contact with families who have received aid and continue to progress as a family and to see those who were homeless but have found a way out of homelessness.”

Mary received this award at the 2022 North County Philanthropy Council’s Volunteer Award Luncheon on October 28, 2022. She joined many other outstanding volunteers around San Diego County. We are so grateful to Mary for her service.

Ω

Interested in volunteering?

We have openings! Send us an email volunteers@brotherbenno.org

Ω

Soup...Soap...Hugs...Hope:
The Story of Brother Benno’s Life-Changing Soup Kitchen

This book is offered as a gift to donors who contribute whatever their budget allows...The important thing... is that you have one...

Name___________________________________       Donation $__________
Address_________________________________           Number of copies__________
City, State, Zip Code________________________
Memorials

Ron Alexander
Dixie & Lou Bales
Frank Barnett
Brother Benno
Edith Blaiser
Andrea Boersma
Roland Bond
Bill Boster
Agnus & Joan Boyd
Bill Buckner
Deacon Art & Mary Carr
Anna Correia
Don & Dorothea Daybell
Phyllis H. Dierlam
Frank S. Dolley
Anita H. Donahue
Dorothy M. Donahue
Fr. Luke Dougherty
Roseanne Dreibelbis
Fr. Abbot Claude
Ehringer, OSB
Myron Eichen
Richard Farquhar
William & Vennita
Flanagan
Louise Foussat
Joe & Ida Friend
Mary Gerrity
Bob Gleason
Chance Hales
Tom & Louise
Hayward
Elizabeth Holms
John Jarvie
Dorothy and Walter
Jellig
Alice Jordan
Ben Kouns
Richard Kurtz
Carole Kutler
Harold & Kay Kutler
Bill & Louise Lakoff
Ben & Ozelle Lewis
Helena Lucas
Bill & Joan Maloney
Helene McGill
Monty, Natalie, &
Michael Nares
Zeferino & Dancy
Nares
Mary Nordstrom
Nysewander Family
Bud & Blanche Ogle
Ben Osgrove
Kathryn D. Pent
Mary Peterson
Jane Pfau
Ruth Hazel Pierson
Alan Port
Mary Pullman
Catherine L. Quinlan
Dora Ramirez
Dick & Terry Riley
Margaret Rossini
Ann Sauer
Nick Sauer
Mary Shankle
Naomi Shelton
Bermice, Samuel &
Milton Silver
Will Skinner
Ann Grier Smith
Alva & Frances
Snider
Squirrel Family
Mike Stendahl
Margaret Stephan
Virginia Sylwestrzak
Harold Thompson
Carol & Herb
Thornberg
Rosemary Tucker
Walter Ulloa
June Williams
Fred Williamson
Andrew & Jane
Bill Daley
Molly Wilbur
William L. Pry
Lael Dewhurst
Pat Kouns
Virginia Watchorn
Barbara LaMothe
Dave Smith & Steve
Carey
Bill Foran
Deacon Ed Moser
Ron Beckman
Frank Beeson
Jack Heiser
M.J. Eryno
Matt Hagan
Tala Paolo
Victor Chang
Jackson
Vicky Squires
Cameron Babcock
Amy Boone
Fred & Helen Briscoe
H. Edward Smith
Family
Ream & Erik
Braegger
Virginia & Ray Walz

Needs

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec 5</td>
<td>St. Elizabeth Seton #1</td>
<td>St. John The Evangelist</td>
<td>Oceanside Pacific Kiwanis</td>
<td>San Luis Rey Mission</td>
<td>St. Thomas More</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 12</td>
<td>North Coast Methodist</td>
<td>Riverview Church</td>
<td>Juanita’s Team</td>
<td>Servers R Us</td>
<td>La Costa Valley Volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 19</td>
<td>Sunrise Kiwanis of Vista</td>
<td>Christ The King Church</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Ernest Packaging</td>
<td>Girlfriend’s Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 26</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Rotary Club of Vista</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Christmas Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 28</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>San Luis Rey Methodist</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Brother Benno Thrift Shop</td>
<td>Shiloh Church of God</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Brother Benno Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 308, Oceanside, CA 92049

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 Donate. We’ve expanded your donation options to include bank transfers, Venmo, Apple Pay, and Google Pay in addition to PayPal.

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>October 2022</th>
<th>Our 39th Year</th>
<th>October 2022</th>
<th>Our 39th Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meals</td>
<td>11,467</td>
<td>4,774,034</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>28,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nights of lodging</td>
<td>1,092</td>
<td>344,881</td>
<td>880</td>
<td>375,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articles of clothing</td>
<td>3,012</td>
<td>1,494,748</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>51,313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Showers</td>
<td>880</td>
<td>280,148</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>7,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haircuts</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>23,357</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>10,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus passes</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>88,655</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,011,244</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>