



Brother Benno's Newsletter

“Uplifting The Dignity of Those We Serve”

Volunteers Making a Difference

December 2022



Special Delivery

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.



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A Shiny New Serving Line

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.



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Thanksgiving and Christmas Meals

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."

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Information & Online donations:
brotherbenno.org

Follow Brother Benno's online:

[Facebook.com/BrotherBenno](https://www.facebook.com/BrotherBenno)

[Twitter.com/brotherbennos](https://twitter.com/brotherbennos)

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

**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.

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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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>

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.

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Interested in volunteering?

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

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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 _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip Code _____

Donation \$ _____
Number of copies _____

Memorials

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

Needs

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

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December				1 Oceanside Pacific Kiwanis	2 San Luis Rey Mission	3 St. Thomas More
2022						
Monthly	5 St. Elizabeth Seton #1	6 St. John The Evangelist	7 Juanita's Team	8 Servers R Us	9 St. Patrick's	10 La Costa Valley Volunteers
Serving	12 North Coast Methodist	13 Riverview Church	14 Open	15 Ernest Packaging	16 St. Elizabeth Seton #2	17 Girlfriend's Care
Team	19 Sunrise Kiwanis of Vista	20 Christ The King Church	21 Friends of Brother Benno	22 Open	23 Open	24 Christmas Dinner
Schedule	26 Open	27 Rotary Club of Vista	28 San Luis Rey Methodist	29 Brother Benno Thrift Shop	30 King of Kings	31 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 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:

	October 2022	Our 39th Year		October 2022	Our 39th Year
Meals	11,467	4,774,034	Loads of laundry	0	28,628
Nights of lodging	1,092	344,881	Food packs	880	375,283
Articles of clothing	3,012	1,494,748	Blankets	86	51,313
Showers	880	280,148	Tarps	78	7,295
Haircuts	0	23,357	ID Vouchers	38	10,602
Bus passes	0	88,655	HUGS	0	1,011,244
