



Brother Benno's Newsletter

“Uplifting The Dignity of Those We Serve”

Volunteers Making a Difference

October 2021



OUR OUTREACH TEAM MAKES A HUGE DIFFERENCE, NEEDS A DONATED VEHICLE TO BETTER SERVE

by Joe McDevitt

The men and women served by our outreach program, particularly those affected by mental health issues, substance abuse, and extended homeless conditions, require close personal support from our Outreach workers in order to receive appropriate medical care and financial and housing assistance. This support requires Outreach workers to transport and accompany our Guests to government offices, often on multiple trips, to help them in receiving needed assistance. Our services, for example, include transportation of homeless persons to: 1) enter emergency shelters; 2) meet with government officials at social security offices to apply for financial assistance or with Department of Motor Vehicle officials to obtain identification cards or licenses; 3) attend medical appointments and mental health evaluations; and 4) pick up needed prescriptions.

Brother Benno's Community Outreach team is in need of a donated vehicle to carry out their outreach mission across the north coastal San Diego County region. Our team of four workers, most of them working as volunteers at Brother Benno's, currently use their own vehicles to provide transportation to homeless persons. The use of a dedicated vehicle for the team's use will relieve them from using their own vehicles and will expand our means to better provide medical care, financial aid, and housing assistance to meet the needs of an increasing number of persons suffering from homelessness.

The following is a report from **Dennis Pinnick**, Brother Benno's leader of our Community Outreach team, that illustrates the important and sometimes urgent use of a vehicle to help

those in need:

“The Brother Benno Foundation saved my life and gave me purpose, so I have a lot of skin in the game. I have been with the organization for over eleven years. My team consists of three Outreach workers. We spend time with Guests, getting to know them and building trust so that they will allow us to take them to services such as doctor appointments, mental health evaluations, temporary housing, support services, Motor Vehicle offices, etc. Many of our Guests have been so isolated from society that it takes a period of days, weeks, or even months for them to open up and let us help. It is challenging and extremely rewarding. We are a community, and we care about one another.



Doug Milovicz and Kelley Jhung

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VOLUNTEER DRIVERS KEEP DONATED FOOD ROLLING INTO BROTHER BENNO'S SIX DAYS A WEEK

by Joe McDevitt

How can you physically measure love and commitment to those in need? Well, one way is to weigh all the donated food and other items picked up and delivered to Brother Benno's by our volunteer drivers. Over the past year, these drivers handled well over a million pounds of food donated by North County grocery stores and restaurants that was used to give out over 120,000 meals and food packs to homeless persons and low-income families. That certainly is a lot of love and compassion for men, women, and children in need. But there is more to measure, and that includes the dedicated volunteer service of the drivers and helpers who are counted on six days a week to bring a constant flow of food into Brother Benno's Kitchen.

John Caterino has been a volunteer driver for ten years. He arrives at the Center each weekday at 5:45 a.m., then drives to a number of grocery stores and restaurants along with a volunteer helper, finishing his tasks by 1 p.m. John said that after he retired, he was interested in volunteering his time and quickly became acquainted with Brother Benno's. John is thankful for the help Brother Benno's provides to the homeless and low-income families. He is rewarded each day by doing his part to touch the lives of those in need.



John Caterino

On Saturdays, there is a tag team of three drivers who volunteer their time to ensure that pickup and delivery of food items continues into the weekend. **Richard Heimlich, Ron Lukasiewicz, and Philip Remington**, all three from St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church in Carlsbad,

dedicate their Saturday mornings as drivers. Eighteen years ago, Richard and his wife, **Aileen**, read a notice in a local newspaper from Brother Benno's asking for volunteer drivers. They responded and started their volunteer efforts each Saturday, picking up donated food as far south as Del Mar and north to Oceanside. A year later Ron and Philip joined Richard as Saturday drivers, replacing Aileen; and each month the three volunteers rotate their Saturday driver tasks. All three are supported by volunteer helpers from St. Elizabeth Seton (most are members of the Knights of Columbus) and St. Mark Catholic Church in San Marcos, who assist with the loading and unloading of food deliveries.



Richard, Ron and Philip

Both Richard and Ron commented on how they are impressed with the breadth of services Brother Benno's provides to others. As an educator in high school, Philip recognizes that the act of caring for those most in need serves to uplift young adults and provides an increased awareness of the need to help others.

All the drivers and helpers are to be commended for their dedicated and tireless efforts over these many years. Their service continues to

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Dennis Pinnick and Virginia Gilbert



Doug Milovicz and Shannon Mann

“Here is one story that illustrates the importance of transportation to aid our Guests. We have a Guest, suffering from homelessness, who has been using our services for several years. About two months ago her mother called from a Northwest state to let us know that her daughter, our Guest, had contacted her. She asked if we could help her daughter get back home. Her daughter had not recently been at the Center; however, she remained in the area, and while driving around, we were able to reach out to her.

“She met with us at the Center several times and finally agreed to let us put her on a bus to return home. Brother Benno’s paid for a bus ticket and motel room, and I drove her to the motel the night

preceding her departure. The only bus out of Oceanside for her home state leaves at 6:30 a.m., and I was confident she would not make it to the bus stop at that early time. Instead, I met her at the motel well before bus departure, drove her to the bus station, and waited there until she got on the bus. Her mom called the next day to thankful-ly report her daughter made it home.

“Using our own vehicles, we currently transport up to ten guests per week as part of our case work, and we deliver food to low income and senior families that are unable to get to the Center. We make other visits to our Guests, such as checking on them at their camp if they have not visited the Center for a while.”

For those readers who may have a vehicle they are considering selling or trading in, please consider donating the vehicle to Brother Benno’s for the Community Outreach team’s use. Since our maintenance and repair funds are limited, a donated vehicle in good running condition is needed. Please contact Ben Meyer, Operations Manager (530-414-0636 or email winterwulf1196@cloud.com) for more information. Brother Benno’s gratefully appreciates readers’ consideration of this request.

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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

Or, donate online at <http://brotherbenno.org>

AUXILIARY NEWS

by Joyce Cerimele

Upcoming is our election of a new Auxiliary Board for 2022. In September the slate is announced. In October, we vote for our favorite candidate for each position. Then in November, the winners are sworn in. The positions we are looking to fill are:

- President or Co-Presidents
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Financial Assistant
- Parliamentarian
- Advisor

If you are interested in becoming a member and serving in one of these capacities, or know someone who would be, please contact our Nominating Committee Chair, **Nita**, at Rodriguez. bbauxiliary@gmail.com.

Last up is our Christmas in July, which, this year, if it is approved, will be Christmas in November. Please watch this column for more news next month.

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NEEDED: PART-TIME VOLUNTEER IN ACCOUNTING.

Ten to fifteen hours a week to help in our Accounting Office. We are looking for someone with experience in Accounts Payable, Cash Receipts, QuickBooks Desktop, and MS Excel. If you are interested in joining our Accounting team, please contact **DinaMarie Ahee** at 760-231-1672 or brother.bennos123@gmail.com.

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support the commitment of Brother Benno's to see that no one in our area goes hungry, no one goes without someone to care for him or her.


For those readers who may be interested in volunteering their services, Brother Benno's currently has several open part-time volunteer driver positions to support our Center Operations and our Thrift Store. These positions offer flexible hours. Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator **Renee Stepp** at 510-860-0483 or by email: volunteer-satbb@gmail.com.

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The Power of Encouragement

- Flatter me, and I may not believe you.
- Criticize me, and I may not like you.
- Encourage me, and I will never forget you.

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.

Information & Online donations:
brotherbenno.org
Follow Brother Bennos online:
 **[Facebook.com/BrotherBennos](https://www.facebook.com/BrotherBennos)**

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	Bob Gleason	Jane Pfau	Fred Williamson
Dixie & Lou Bales	Chance Hales	Ruth Hazel Pierson	John, Helen, Matt Hagan
Frank Barnet	Tom & Louise Hayward	Alan Port	Pasquale Fusillo
Brother Benno	Elizabeth Holms	Mary Pullman	Elizabeth Parrish
Edith Blaiser	John Jarvie	Catherine L. Quinlan	Pat Schmidt
Andrea Boersma	Dorothy and Walter Jellig	Dora Ramirez	Pearl Velasquez
Roland Bond	Alice Jordan	Dick & Terry Riley	Terry Dooley
Bill Boster	Ben Kouns	Margaret Rossini	Maria Hire
Agnus & Joan Boyd	Richard Kurtz	Ann Sauer	Bernie Weiler
Bill Buckner	Carole Kutler	Nick Sauer	Ruth Johnson
Deacon Art & Mary Carr	Harold & Kay Kutler	Mary Shankle	Marie Atkinson
Anna Correia	Bill & Louise Lakoff	Naomi Shelton	Barbara LaMothe
Don & Dorothea Daybell	Ben E. Lewis	Bernice, Samuel & Milton Silver	Polly Haasser
Phyllis H. Dierlam	Helen Lucas	Will Skinner	
Frank S. Dolley	Bill & Joan Maloney	Ann Grier Smith	Happy Birthday
Anita H. Donahue	Helene McGill	Alva & Frances Snider	Richard Shlemmer
Dorothy M. Donahue	Monty, Natalie, & Michael Nares	Squirrell Family	
Fr. Luke Dougherty	Zeferino & Dancy Nares	Mike Stendahl	
Roseanne Dreibelbis	Mary Nordstrom	Margaret Stephan	
Fr. Abbot Claude Ehringer, OSB	Nysewander Family	Virginia Sylwestrzak	
Myron Eichen	Bud & Blanche Ogle	Harold Thompson	
Richard Farhquar	Ben Osgrove	Carol & Herb Thornberg	
William & Vennita Flanagan	Kathryn D. Pent	Rosemary Tucker	
Louise Foussat	Mary Peterson	Walter Ulloa	
Joe & Ida Friend		June Williams	
Mary Gerrity			

Needs

Gently used furniture

Blankets

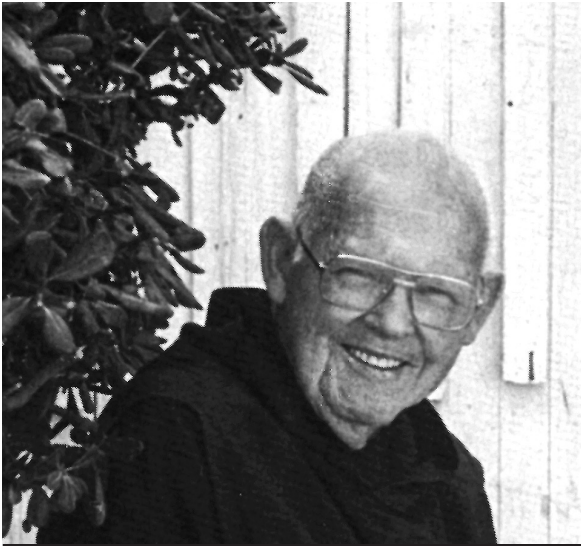
Adult Unisex Diapers

Baseball caps

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, 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: Tuesday-Saturday 10-5; Donation Hours Tuesday-Friday 10-4, Saturdays 10-2

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

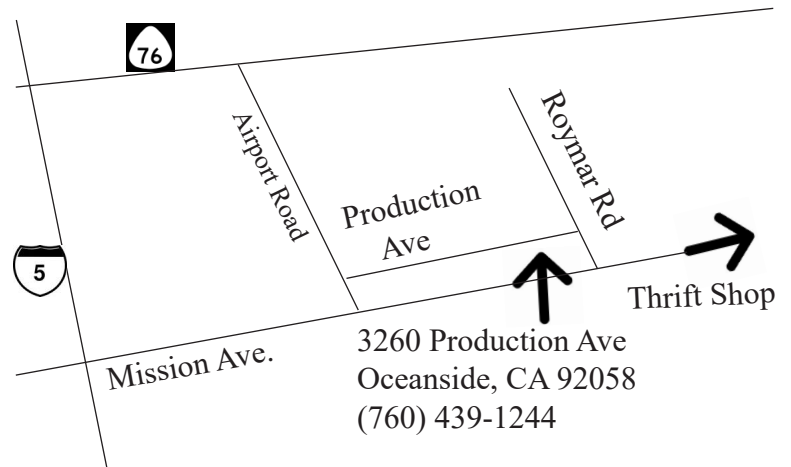
Stop by to check out our Daily Specials!!

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 Donations. This will allow you to make a secure donation using PayPal or a Credit Card.

Your donation is used each month at our main center and eight operational 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. 100% of your contribution goes directly to assist those we serve. Our modest administration costs are paid for by our Thrift Store revenues.

www.brotherbenno.org



Brother Benno's Services:

	August 2021	Our 37th Year		August 2021	Our 37th Year
Meals	6,998	4,644,862	Loads of laundry	0	28,628
Nights of lodging	728	330,954	Food packs	644	362,009
Articles of clothing	2,769	1,452,445	Blankets	73	49,812
Showers	262	271,298	Tarps	26	6,483
Haircuts	51	22,936	ID Vouchers	21	10,224
Bus passes	60	86,616	HUGS	0	1,011,244