



Brother Benno's Newsletter

“Uplifting The Dignity of Those We Serve”

Volunteers Making a Difference

September 2018



Brother Benno's Auxiliary Annual Luncheon Fundraiser

WINTER WONDERLAND

**Saturday, December 1, 12 Noon
(Doors Open at 11 AM)
Sheraton Carlsbad Resort & Spa
5480 Grand Pacific Drive, Carlsbad
Valet Parking Included**

Tickets are now on sale for the Auxiliary's Annual Luncheon, our biggest fundraiser of the year! Auxiliary members are busy preparing opportunity baskets, silent auction items and other ways that you can win big at this event. Holiday singers will be there to entertain you. We invite you to join us! All proceeds from this event support the work of Brother Benno's.

Tickets are \$75 per person, \$600 for a table of 8. Table location choices are on a first-come, first-serve, so talk to all your friends and reserve now. Download ticket order forms here: <https://tinyurl.com/yam6r72y> or call **Susan Westlund** (206-349-1371) if you need an order form mailed to you.

September Auxiliary Meeting You're invited to join us at our next Auxiliary meeting on Wednesday, September 26th, in the Center dining Room. Social time and snacks start at 1 p.m.; followed by the meeting at 1:30. We will be announcing the slate of candidates for the 2019 Auxiliary Board Officers. Why don't you check us out? We welcome all to join us and give input. Can't attend a meeting but want to become a member? Download our Membership Application here: <http://bit.ly/2oGkaB9> (Copy and paste, or just type the link in your computer browser and it will take you directly to our Membership Application on our Google Drive account. You can download the application from there.)

Ω

FAMOUS PEOPLE SPEAK

“The humblest praise most, while cranks and malcontents praise least. Praise almost seems to be inner health made audible.”

~ C.S. Lewis

“Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart.”

~ Eleanor Roosevelt

Ω

SUPPORTERS RESPOND QUICKLY TO URGENT NEEDS

It's not surprising that our major heat wave this summer led to urgent calls for bottled water. The Brother Benno Facebook page has been the main location for requests, and supporters rushed to respond to the need. The first post was shared 57 times by our Facebook fans; the second post, 18 times.

Our Thank You was posted on July 30: "WHEN WE WERE OUT OF WATER, IT RAINED BOTTLES! So many of you responded to our "urgent need" that we were able to make it through the hot spell. Thank you! We are truly humbled by your generosity and grateful in knowing that when we have a need, our community rises to the challenge and helps us keep doing what we do best. We could not do what we do without you. xoxo"

Our Facebook page lists "Urgent Needs," "Amazon Wishlist," and "Wishlist Wednesday." If you don't "do Facebook," you can access the "Amazon Wishlist" directly at <http://amzn.to/2Ey-MGj6>. There you'll find a list of our current needs, how many of each item we need, and how many have already been purchased. Amazon will send the order directly to the Brother Benno Center; and for Amazon Prime members, delivery is free.

No matter how you choose to donate money or goods to Brother Benno's to help the poor and homeless, please know that your generosity is very much appreciated by the staff and volunteers, and even more so by those who benefit directly. Working together, we do make a difference.

Ω

KIDS LEARN IMPORTANT LESSON ABOUT SERVICE

by Madison Fredette

This summer, St. Thomas More Church in Oceanside held its annual Vacation Bible School (VBS). We decided to take a different route with our Social Ministry Project this year. Instead of our usual Operation Kid-to-Kid,* we made the decision to show kids that helping people in need starts right here in our own neighborhoods. Each day of VBS, we asked our participants to provide water, snacks, and backpacks for the Guests at Brother Benno's. How inspiring it was to see the kids and their par-

ents come through our doors with bags of bottled water, snack items, and brand-new backpacks for our brothers and sisters in need!

The theme of this year's VBS was *Shipwrecked*, where we focused on the idea that Jesus rescues us from our failures, fears, and struggles. Through being able to collect the necessary items for Brother Benno's, we were able to see that, not only does Jesus rescue us, but He can also rescue others through our kindness to them. We were blessed to be given the opportunity to act in love for others and to teach the kids the importance of supporting and helping people in our own communities who are not as fortunate as we are.

Thank you, Brother Benno's, for giving us the opportunity to learn this life-changing lesson! God Bless You All!

** (Operation Kid-to-Kid is one of the largest service mission projects for children that gives the kids the opportunity to help other children around the world by giving gifts like school supplies, Bibles, hygiene kits, Christmas gifts, coloring books, socks, and shoes. VBS children have also funded extensive malaria prevention and clean water initiatives in Africa and India.)*

Ω

A FRIEND'S CONCERN, A HOPEFUL BEGINNING

by Rico

"I woke up this morning, and I prayed to thank God I was still alive. I woke up so early I decided to go to Brother Benno's because I needed some food and didn't have any at home.

"I got my ticket* for breakfast, and I bumped into Eric, who used to work with me at the recycling center. He saw how yellow my eyes were and suggested I go to the emergency room. He said I should go immediately

continued on page 4....

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 Suzy Martinek, 760-439-1244, ext. 116 or smartinek@miracosta.edu

MORE THAN JUST A SOUP KITCHEN

Part Two

by Elana Bagley

Last month I focused on how the Brother Benno Foundation serves the community through its Recovery Program for men and women. This month I'd like to shine a spotlight on the other ways in which we are making a positive impact on homelessness by partnering with other community service providers.

Homelessness is a complex issue. Brother Benno's is just one spoke in the wheel of a community effort to provide needed services to the homeless, working poor, and underemployed. Although our main focus is to feed, clothe, and shower our Guests, we also provide other services that are crucial to many who are trying to become self-sufficient—those with mental and physical disabilities, educational and language barriers, or employment issues. We have staff members and volunteers who are willing to go beyond the easy fix in order to help them.

Our Outreach and Guest Services team, consisting of **Dennis Pinnick**, **Douglas Milovicz**, and **Brother Kevin**, work tirelessly with Guests who have multiple roadblocks that keep them from moving forward. They help them obtain birth certificates, Social Security cards, and other documentation needed to access service with other agencies. Dennis said, "The difference between Brother Benno's and most other agencies is that we develop relationships with our Guests and can act as a compassionate bridge between them and the agencies they have to deal with."

When navigating the maze of red tape, there is often a need for document notarization. **Carol Muehe**, who's been with Brother Benno's for six years and is in charge of our Clothing Room, saw the need for a notary, so she became certified in order to provide that service to our Guests.

We provide one-time emergency rent and utility assistance to those in danger of losing their housing or having utilities turned off. We also help with prescription medications in rare cases. Because our funds are limited and we want to be responsible stewards of what is generously donated to us, allocation of the above funds is decided on a case-by-case

basis.

There are currently several community outreach groups who assist in meeting the needs of our Guests.

Carlos Monsanto and **Regina Saldana** of the McAlister Institute are available to our Guests every Wednesday and Friday morning from 6:30 to 8:30. They provide a wealth of services including ID vouchers, transportation to appointments, assistance with applications for social services (Medi-Cal, General Relief, and Food Stamps), as well as short-term case management. Their main goal is to do whatever is required to get the homeless off the streets and on the road to a new life. They screen and assess people for one of several housing programs, including Rapid Rehousing, which pays the deposit and first month's rent for those who qualify. While speaking with Carlos recently, he told me he had spoken with 15 people in the 2.5 hours he spent at Brother Benno's.

Latoya Patterson, a Homeless Outreach worker from Mental Health Services (MHS), is another resource person who spends time at Brother Benno's helping our Guests. She can usually be found on-site on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30 to 10. Her goal is to get severely mentally ill people into treatment.

continued on page 4...

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) _____

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

....continued from page 3

She also provides short-term case management to meet as many of the person's needs as possible.

Both Latoya and Carlos stated that they follow the "Housing First" model, an assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to homeless people, thus ending their homelessness and serving as a platform from which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life.

Another community service provider that regularly visits our Center is the **Vista Community Clinic**, which has provided HIV and Hepatitis-C testing, as well as Hepatitis-A vaccinations. These are services that the homeless population would not normally access on their own if they were not convenient.

During the deadly Hepatitis-A outbreak last year, all of our Program members, Staff, Volunteers, and Guests were able to receive the vaccinations. The vaccine requires an initial shot and a booster shot six months later. If they happen to receive the first dose, the chances of them making it to a clinic for the follow-up shot was less likely. Because they come to Brother Benno's every day for breakfast, providing that service here was the best possible way to get them fully vaccinated.

These are just some of the ways Brother Benno's goes out of its way to be of service to our Guests. When we work together with others in the community, we can stretch our limited resources by helping them access other programs that they wouldn't be able to navigate on their own. And as each individual person is helped, the community as a whole benefits.

{Every year in January, communities across the country conduct what is called a "point-in-time" count of the home-

less, required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for funding purposes. The following statistics are from 2018 as published by the Regional Task Force on the Homeless (RTFH). San Diego County now has the fourth largest population of homeless. Over 63 percent of San Diego's homeless are considered unsheltered (living in a car, tent, or on the street) compared with only 35 percent nationwide. California has the highest number of unsheltered homeless of any state at nearly 69 percent. New York, by comparison, has almost 95 percent of its homeless living in shelters.}



....continued from page 2

because I looked bad, and he cares about me.

"So I went to Tri-City immediately, and they gave me some tests. The results were severe liver disease. They hooked me up to an IV to hydrate my body, gave me some medication, and told me I have to stop drinking.

"I know it's up to me to change. God works in mysterious ways. One of the ways was he worked through my friend Eric, who is in the Brother Benno Recovery Program."

**(Regular Guests are registered so that we can keep track of the various services we provide.)*



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 _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip Code _____

Donation \$ _____
 Number of copies _____

Memorials

Ron Alexander	Bob Gleason	Catherine L. Quinlan	Harold Spewer
Dixie & Lou Bales	Chance Hales	Dora Ramirez	Margaret & Gordon Geer
Frank Barnet	Tom Hayward	Dick & Terry Riley	Joan Jones
Brother Benno	Elizabeth Holms	Margaret Rossini	Bob Strawbridge
Edith Blaiser	Alice Jordan	Ann Sauer	Ruth Pontarelli
Andrea Boersma	Ben Kouns	Mary Shankle	Bernadette Butler
Roland Bond	Richard Kurtz	Naomi Shelton	Toni Keane
Bill Boster	Carole Kutler	Bernice, Samuel & Milton Silver	Eric Boehle
Agnus & Joan Boyd	Harold & Kay Kutler	Will Skinner	Bill Severy
Bill Buckner	Bill & Louise Lakoff	Ann Grier Smith	Ruth Ann Wallace
Deacon Art & Mary Carr	Ben E. Lewis	Squirrell Family	James Johnson
Anna Correia	Helen Lucas	Mike Stendahl	Rose Horner
Don & Dorothea Daybell	Bill & Joan Maloney	Margaret Stephan	Agnes Remington
Phyllis H. Dierlam	Helene McGill	Virginia Sylwestrzak	William Pry
Frank S. Dolley	Michael & Monty Nares	Harold Thompson	William Daley
Anita H. Donahue	Zeferino & Dancy Nares	Carol & Herb Thornberg	Jane & Andrew Yandura
Dorothy M. Donahue	Mary Nordstrom	Rosemary Tucker	Robert & Harold
Fr. Luke Dougherty	Nysewander Family	Walter Ulloa	
Roseanne Dreibelbis	Bud & Blanche Ogle	June Williams	Happy Birthday
Fr. Abbot Claude Ehringer, OSB	Ben Osgrove	Fred Williamson	Peg Reilly
Myron Eichen	Kathryn D. Pent	Eileen Fayle	
Richard Farhquar	Mary Peterson	Juan Badillo	
William & Vennita Flanagan	Jane Pfau	Marvel Weekly	
Louise Foussat	Ruth Hazel Pierson	Robert Buchach	
Joe & Ida Friend	Alan Port	Bill Faran	
Mary Gerrity	Mary Pullman	Barbara LaMothe	

Needs

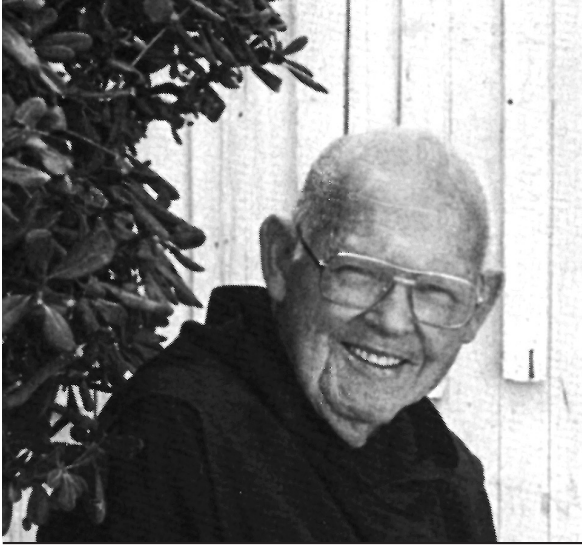
Gently used furniture

Reading glasses

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September 2018						1 St. Thomas More
Monthly	3 St. Elizabeth Seton #1	4 St. John The Evangelist	5 Brother Benno's Auxiliary	6 Oceanside Pacific Kiwanis	7 San Luis Rey Mission	8 Work Partners
Serving	10 North Coast Methodist	11 Riverview Church	12 Fairwinds	13 Oceanside Civitans	14 St. Patrick's	15 Girlfriend's Care
Team	17 Sunrise Kiwanis of Vista	18 Christ the King Lutheran	19 Brother Benno's Auxiliary	20 Rotary Club of Carlsbad	21 St. Elizabeth Seton #2	22 Catholic Daughters
Schedule	24 Looking for a team	25 Looking for a team	26 San Luis Rey Methodist	27 Pilgrim Creek	28 Sonrise Christian Fellowship	29 Shiloh Church of God in Christ

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

Shop open Tue-Fri 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sat 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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

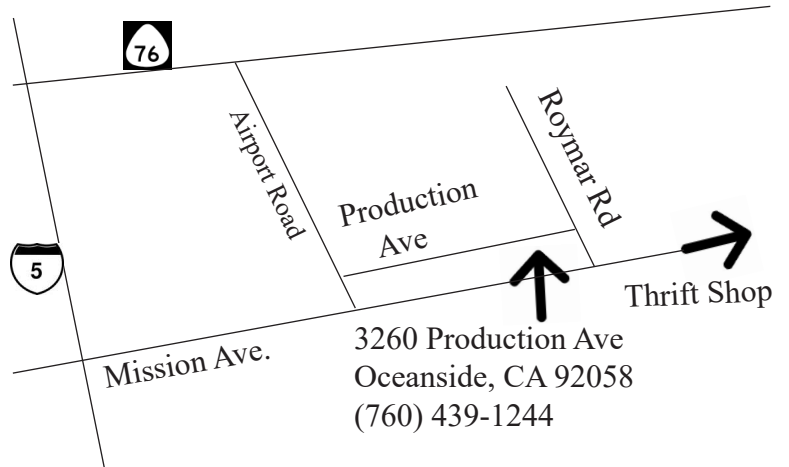
Stop by to check out our Daily Specials!!

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:

	July 2018	Our 34th Year		July 2018	Our 34th Year
Meals	12,683	4,239,672	Loads of laundry	23	28,089
Nights of lodging	954	298,566	Food packs	1,044	334,338
Articles of clothing	4,936	1,331,516	Blankets	139	45,131
Showers	1,255	250,542	Tarps	63	3,794
Haircuts	61	22,362	ID Vouchers	24	9,179
Bus passes	103	83,696	HUGS	1,800	972,094