The dictionary defines “community” as people living, sharing and working together in a common society. That’s just a fancier way of saying “Neighbor Helping Neighbor” in my book.

By whatever definition you choose, I see it every day in our work. It’s a combination of the people who serve and those whom we serve...we’ve all in this together.

I see it in our team of volunteer medical professionals, translators and clinic volunteers pitching in to heal our hard-working patients. They create a community. We call it a “patient-centered medical home”, and it is indeed a home for healthy living.

When I see the cars of volunteers coming in to our Food Services Kitchen with spare food and then going out all over town with cooked food for homebound seniors, I see a community nourishing itself - spiritually and literally.

I also see community at work when I see the more settled residents of Safe Harbor Shelter helping the newcomers. I see that the good we create is the good we receive.

At Samaritan House, we are The Great Heart of a Great Community.

Thank you for being a part of our sharing and working together.

William S. Freeman
Samaritan House Board of Directors, President 2016-2017

As I look back at this past year, I am moved by the compassion and care with which Samaritan House fills the needs of our community. A community of everyday people: donors, volunteers, caregivers, and clients - all brought together by our shared mission to help our neighbors, preserve dignity and promote self-sufficiency.

As Board President, it has been my great privilege to participate in that mission. Every time I have volunteered, whether at a food distribution, a Thanksgiving dinner, or our Holiday Program, I have experienced first-hand both the genuine care of our staff members and volunteers and the sincere appreciation felt by each person there. Coming together as a community brings out the best in us. It is heart-warming to see and an honor to witness.

Through your generous donations and volunteer efforts, you have helped make Samaritan House an invaluable resource to so many of our neighbors. Thank you for being a vital part of the Samaritan House community.

With gratitude,

Bart Charlow
Samaritan House CEO

“com·mu·ni·ty:                          noun - a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals.”
“I’m a single mom with 5 kids. My rent was just increased to $2500. The food I receive here at The Pantry makes it possible for me to feed my family. Since I don’t have a car, I bring the food home by bus across town.”
— Erica, Client (pictured with Ruby Kaho, Food Services Manager and Joe Valencia, Food Services Staff)

“The reason why I became involved with Samaritan House and the League of New Samaritans is due to one word - Impact. Samaritan House offers a vast amount of services that have a lasting impact in San Mateo County.”
— Michael Jackson, Chair of The League of New Samaritans Action Team

“The community is fortunate that there are organizations like Samaritan House that have a passion to do this work in the community. Sutter Health/Mills-Peninsula Medical Center shares this passion and is proud of our partnership. Samaritan House is a gem in this community.”
— Janet Wagner, CEO of Sutter Health/Mills-Peninsula Medical Center

“One of our core values is that we are a chain of neighborhood grocery stores. Like Samaritan House, we believe in neighbor helping neighbor. It’s very important to us to do outreach specifically in San Mateo and Trader Joe’s has been making daily food donations for decades.”
— Tim Dufficy, Donation Coordinator and Noelle De La Rosa, Manager

“My time at Safe Harbor Shelter taught me that I have value and that I’m stronger than I ever thought. Thanks to the entire staff at Safe Harbor, especially my case manager, Kat Barrientos, I know I can handle anything. I am no longer at the shelter and have my own place now – but I still feel a connection to Safe Harbor. I know I’ll always be part of the family. It’s a huge comfort.”
— Gary Campanile, San Mateo Medical Center (SMMC) Health Care for Homeless Board Member and former Safe Harbor resident

“We appreciate Samaritan House for being here for us. Even though I have a steady job, we are struggling to make ends meet. Receiving clothing from Kids Closet allows us to save for other important expenses.”
— Sergio, Client (pictured with wife Estela and son, Ian)

“The work of Samaritan House is challenging and complex, requiring a multitude of individuals and groups—staff, volunteers, donors, committees, community partners, and a board of directors. Samaritan House delivers on its commitment to the community with kindness and effectiveness.”
— Philip L. Gregory, Attorney at Cotchett Pitre & McCarthy LLP and Samaritan House Board Member

“We have a history of being involved with, and supporting our local community. Samaritan House makes a difference for families in the community by giving them the tools for self-sufficiency through services that allow them to get back on their feet.”
— Ilya Frangos, San Mateo County Trial Lawyers’ Association President

#WeAreSamHouse

This is just a small representation of our many valued supporters and community partners. Our deep thanks to all of you who make up the heart of the Samaritan House family.

“I have volunteered at several of the Samaritan House Holiday programs. It can be such a stressful time of year for families in need. I once met a woman who was moved to tears accepting a simple Christmas tree in a box. Gratifying moments like these are why I volunteer.”
— Mary Burns, Volunteer

“Safe Harbor Shelter taught me that I have value and that I’m stronger than I ever thought. Thanks to the entire staff at Safe Harbor, especially my case manager, Kat Barrientos, I know I can handle anything. I am no longer at the shelter and have my own place now – but I still feel a connection to Safe Harbor. I know I’ll always be part of the family. It’s a huge comfort.”
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TEACHING EMPATHY | ONE HEART AT A TIME

Sarah Kersig and her students

Samaritan House has always meant a lot to Sarah Kersig and her family. Her mother opened Mrs. K’s preschool in Foster City over 20 years ago and it has been part of the Samaritan House Wee Care program ever since. The original Mrs. K is now enjoying retirement but Sarah continues the tradition of teaching empathy and care to their preschoolers.

"Through the Wee Care program, we teach kids that we take care of ourselves, our family and the community."

Even at their young age, children model empathy in simple ways. "You see it when children cry when their friends get hurt. You see it when they offer up their toy to a friend who’s crying."

Local schools from preschool to middle school participate in the Wee Care program and receive grade-appropriate curricula designed to build empathy towards those in need. Activities include canned food drives, coat drives and other holiday programs which benefit Samaritan House families.

"What I appreciate about Samaritan House is that it is helping people in our community. Even though we live in the bountiful Silicon Valley, we don’t have to look far to see families struggling. The children learn that we are all part of the same community. They also learn the value of helping others."

THE LEAGUE OF NEW SAMARITANS

"Joining the League of New Samaritans has widened my social and professional network. I’ve been able to connect with other young professionals who care about helping those in need in San Mateo County." — Jovanni Casaus, member of the League of New Samaritans

Are you a 21 to 40-something professional looking to have an impact on issues like hunger, homelessness and poverty while also having fun with other altruistically-minded people? Join the League of New Samaritans now and get access to networking/fundraising events that support Samaritan House’s services on behalf of our neighbors in need.

To learn more about the League, our membership and events, please visit www.samaritanhousesanmateo.org

ANNOUNCING THE JOHN KELLY LEGACY CIRCLE

"The most important thing you can do is help another human being." — John Kelly

What do you want your legacy to be?

John Kelly, former Executive Director and widely recognized as the “Father of Samaritan House,” has dedicated his life to helping our neighbors in need. John’s legacy is a lifetime of selfless dedication to improve the lives of those who are struggling to survive. In honor of John, the Samaritan House Legacy Society has a new name, The John Kelly Legacy Circle.

Join people like Robert (Bob) Grassilli, Jr., Samaritan House Advisory Council member, former board member, long-time donor and volunteer, who want to build a brighter future filled with hope for thousands of low-income and homeless San Mateo County families and individuals.

“...I am supporting Samaritan House with a Legacy Gift, because the help that Samaritan House gives touches many lives. Food, Medical Care, Clothing -- basic necessities of life that everyone needs. A gift to Samaritan House is a gift for human kindness.” — Robert Grassilli, Jr.

Designate a gift to Samaritan House through a will, trust, or other planned gift and have a lasting impact for generations to come. To join the John Kelly Legacy Circle, all you need to do is tell us that your gift is in place. Contact Mary Dunbar at 650-523-0828 or send an email to mary@samaritanhousesanmateo.org. We respect your right to privacy and will keep your intention confidential if you wish.

ELIDA’S STORY

Elida has a new lease on life thanks to the community of medical professionals at the Samaritan House Free Clinic and Food Pharmacy program in Redwood City. Elida visits the Redwood City Food Pharmacy on a weekly basis. During her visits, she receives her weekly prescription of fresh vegetables, beans, eggs, milk and lean proteins. She also receives nutritional counseling. "I go to all the nutrition classes and have learned a better way of eating. I now prefer to eat salads and I try to balance my diet."

Because of the Food Pharmacy program, she has seen a dramatic decrease in her A1C levels (a measure of diabetes control), and her thyroid is finally now under control. For many years, Elida had struggled with Type 2 diabetes and thyroid problems. What excites Elida the most is that she has more energy than ever. "I now do Zumba and enjoy running on the weekends. Before the Food Pharmacy, I lacked the energy and motivation to exercise."

Our vital care has changed Elida’s life in other profound ways, too. Elida long suffered from acutely droopy eyelids which impeded her vision in both eyes. Because of the network of care provided at the Samaritan House Redwood City Free Clinic, our volunteer physicians were able to diagnose and refer Elida for life-changing surgery which repaired her lids. She can now see clearly and is enjoying life. "If it wasn’t for the doctors and volunteers at Samaritan House, I know my health would continue to deteriorate. I couldn’t see because of my bad eyelids and my diabetes and thyroid was out of control." Samaritan House is also providing the knowledge to break the cycle of poor health for Elida and her entire family.

"Thanks to the nutritional counseling I received at the Food Pharmacy, I am able to maintain a lifetime of healthy eating – not only for myself but for my whole family."

In January 2016, Samaritan House, in partnership with Sequoia Healthcare District and Second Harvest Food Bank, opened the Bay Area’s first Food Pharmacy. Our pioneering efforts paired with our community of doctors, nurses, and volunteers are breaking the cycle of poor nutrition and health which often afflict our neighbors living in poverty.

"If it wasn’t for Samaritan House, I know my health would continue to deteriorate. My diabetes and thyroid were out of control and my vision was bad."
WE ARE 47% DEPENDENT ON SUPPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY.

VOLUNTEERS - THE CORE OF OUR COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Our dedicated professional and non-professional volunteers have provided $6,181 hours of service valued at $1,462,494.

SEASON OF SHARING FUND

Samaritan House is the fiscal agent for the San Francisco Chronicle Season of Sharing Fund. This fund provides financial assistance to families and underserved individuals in San Mateo County. More than 300 families were provided a total of $740,519 emergency assistance county wide.

SUSTAINABILITY

Samaritan House fiscal policies and practices are focused on liquidity, adaptability, and durability to ensure that we are fiscally strong to serve the future needs of the community.

DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Samaritan House serves as the lead agency to distribute homelessness prevention assistance county wide for 8 social service providers representing unduplicated regions of San Mateo County.

561 families (1,514 individuals) = $868,825

Charity Navigator has awarded Samaritan House its top 4 STAR rating for 8 years in a row which places Samaritan House in the top tier of rated charities nationwide based on a series of financial and transparency indicators.

BALANCE SHEET

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Assets</td>
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<td>13,541,580</td>
<td>13,380,406</td>
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ALFONSO’S STORY

Meet Alfonso. He had been working a steady job for several years at a major department store and was living in San Mateo County for over 20 years when his eyesight started to fail him. Over time, he became legally blind and was no longer able to work. That’s when the community of caregivers at Samaritan House came to his aid.

“I had been legally blind for four years before coming to the Free Clinic. Because of the expert care and diagnosis I received, I was able to qualify for a cornea transplant at Stanford. Because of my improved vision, I have more independence. I can move around my home more easily. If my vision continues to improve, my goal is to be employed once again.”

The cornea transplant has improved his vision enough that he is able to move more freely on his own. Alfonso still requires the help of a caregiver who drives him to the Samaritan House Pantry for groceries. It is there that he receives regular fresh produce and bread.

Samaritan House is helping pave the path towards independence for Alfonso. “I used to work a steady job until my eyesight went bad. I miss working and plan to return to work one day. The cornea transplant and my improved vision brings me closer to that goal. Thank you for everything, Samaritan House.”

Alfonso visiting the Samaritan House Pantry

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Carole Middleton
Patricia Hsiu and William Stein
Janice and Donald Elliott
Atkinson Foundation
Sheila and Mark Wolfson
Kaiser Permanente
Genentech Inc.
Yahoo Employee Foundation
Stanford Health Care

Quality Of Life Center

visit our website at www.samaritanhousesanmateo.org.

Gifts from the community constitute a vital resource for our programs, and we are grateful for each and every one. The following donations were received between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017. However, we are unable to list them all due to space constraints. For a comprehensive list of all of our generous donors, please visit our website at www.samaritanhousesanmateo.org.
Donors

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June and Jim Tilton
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St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church
Lori Silverstein
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Michael and Carolyn Weidermann
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Debra Maye
Shire Salamin
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Sue Dietcher
In honor of Snigdha Sen
In honor of Dr. William Schwartz
In honor of Douglas Richter
In honor of Mary Griffin Ramseur
In honor of Bernadette and
In honor of Trude Plack
In honor of Charles and Renata Perry
In honor of Faye Star
In honor of Florence Snyder
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Donors
Our Vision: Leading San Mateo County Neighbors in Need out of Poverty to Hope and Opportunity

Our Mission: We mobilize the resources of our community to help those among us who are in need. Our dedicated professional staff and volunteers work together to provide food, access to shelter, healthcare, and a broad range of supportive services. We preserve dignity, promote self-sufficiency, and provide hope.