



How it Began, and Why

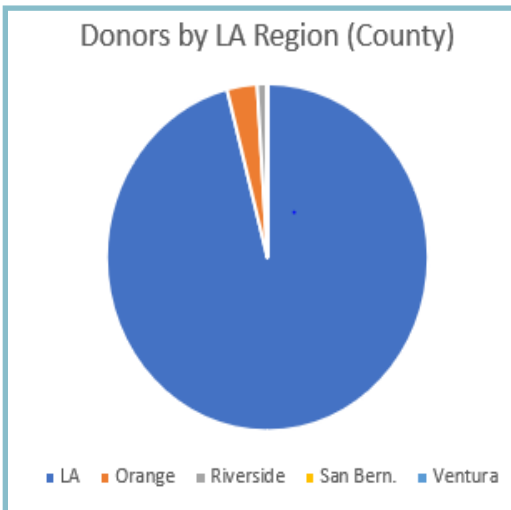
Harbor Interfaith Services (HIS) recently expanded its staff, programs, and locations with help from an influx of tax dollars from two recent ballot measures aimed to help the homeless. The changes—60% more staff, leased office space, new programs—it’s time to reflect on our past before we forget.

HIS was the result of a 1987 merger between FISH, The Emergency Food Pantry and Advocacy Center (1975); and Harbor Interfaith Shelter (1983). The unification integrated the delivery of the most fundamental human services—nutrition and shelter—and enabled clients to be treated holistically. Here are the stories of the early years of both groups.

Thank you to **Betsy Barnhart**, **Jean Kothe**, and **Ruth Lohrer**

—From San Pedro to Taiwan — 4,596 Donors

Harbor Interfaith Services (HIS) has been around for 43 years. When we think of our supporters, we assume they come exclusively from the South Bay. But actually come from all over California, 38 other states, and from as far away as Taiwan.



Who, like you, gives cash? The data below are from 1995 through today. The year 1995 was the birth of donor management software across the country, enabling nonprofits to better-crunch the numbers.

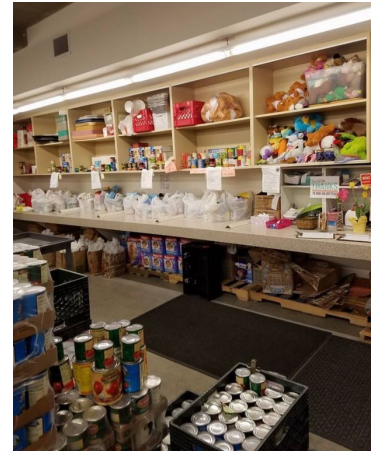
HIS had donors from the beginning, and some of those continue giving through today. But before 1995, much was done by hand or via a typewriter.

We’ve had cash contributors from across the five county Metro area as represented in the chart above : 95% LA, 3% Orange, and less than 1% from the others. *Continued on page two.*

for helping with this article.

FISH, 1975: Betsy Barnhart was one of the co-founders of FISH. Today, she lives in Cardiff, California.

“In 1974, Father Art Bartlett of the Seamen’s Institute and I were elected co-chairs of the Applied Christianity Committee of the Greater Peninsula and San Pedro Council of Churches,” Betsy said. “Seventeen people gathered to discuss what the community needed and how we could fill the need. We agreed upon the need for temporary and emergency assistance and liked what we heard about FISH programs in Pasadena, Torrance, and Long Beach.



The Food Pantry, today.

“Vivian and Wally Wannlund, of St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, put together a proposal for the Council of Churches...we received \$300 to get started. Food, furniture, and clothing were collected and stored in a small pantry provided by the Neighborhood Adult Participation Project in San Pedro, managed by Eloida Villanueva. Often, volunteers took food from their own cupboards or bought groceries for those requesting food. In 1977, Elodia told Tom Coulter of the *San Pedro News Pilot* of our need for a warehouse. Tom arranged through Councilman Gibson for the use of a building at Fort MacArthur. Our services grew from there. Volunteers came from many and diverse congregations.

“By 1983, FISH received FEMA [Federal Emergency Management] funds and moved the pantry to a space provided by the Harbor Crisis Center. By 1986, we had 100 volunteers and served staple foods to 15,896 people.”

Over time, FISH also offered student aid.

Harbor Interfaith Shelter, 1983: Jean Kothe, a shelter co-founder, offered her memories. She lives in Hurricane, Utah.

“I arrived at St. Luke’s [Presbyterian] in 1980 and received a call from the Rev. V. K. Vose, Chair of the Peninsula Harbor Ecumenical Cluster. He asked if the church could host the next meeting. At the meeting, Betsy Barnhart raised her hand and said that our area had no shelters for homeless families. She asked if anyone would be interested in forming an exploratory committee. No one responded. *Continued page three.*

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A Message from the Executive Director

Throughout the year, Harbor Interfaith provides ongoing support with food, shelter, childcare, permanent housing search and placement, and support services to empower the homeless and working poor. Harbor Interfaith is a “one stop,” addressing the needs of the entire household.

Fall is near and the agency is gearing up for the holidays. We encourage you to visit HIS’ website at harborinterfaith.org to learn more about the agency’s holiday plans and needs. Please consider donating holiday food, new toys, consider adopting a family and volunteering your time. We welcome your support.

Key Dates:

- Thanksgiving Distribution: Tuesday, November 20th , 1pm to 4 pm
- Holiday Block Party: Saturday, December 15th 11 am to 2 pm
- Christmas Distribution: Wednesday, December 19th, 1pm to 4pm

We endeavor to bring joy year ‘round. This past July, several of our children enjoyed a fishing trip sponsored by the Rod and Reel Club of Southern California..



And this past August, children from our housing programs participated in Sandpipers Back to School Shopping Day!

Thank you to our generous donors throughout the year. We look forward to your continued support this Fall.

Tahia Hayslet

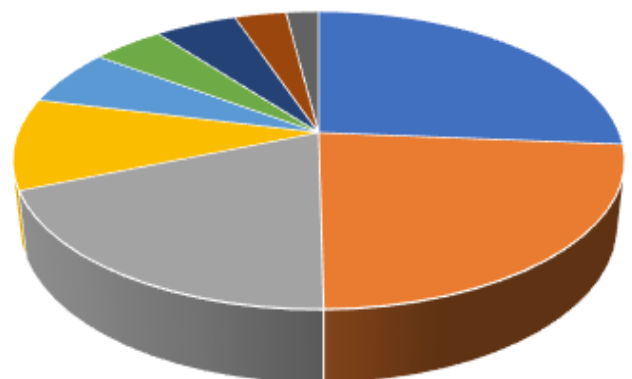
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Excluding government support, 95% of all cash gifts come from South Bay residents—individuals, businesses, faith groups, and community organizations. Residents of every municipality—from Inglewood to Signal Hill—are represented. **We have appreciated all gifts to the agency, regardless of where they came from.**

San Pedro leads the group in the number of people who have given, but 52% of all gifts come from the PV Peninsula and Beach communities.

In terms of the number of individuals giving per capita, Palos Verdes Estates leads, followed by Rancho Palos Verdes and San Pedro.

By South Bay Community (Abbreviated)



■ SP ■ RPV ■ Other ■ PVE ■ RB ■ RHE ■ PVP ■ LB ■ MB

Steadfast and Sworn: Giving Since 1995

The following individuals, government agencies, community organizations, and corporations have donated to the agency since 1995. These generous individuals and groups have seen us through every transition following the merger of FISH and Harbor Interfaith Shelter into Harbor Interfaith Services in 2002. **We bracketed the supporters by total cash giving since 1995.** The list does not include the generous individuals and groups who have donated things such as food, clothing, hygiene items, etc. That list was too large for the publication. **Please note that an "*" next means that we have a record of giving since 1978.**

We can't thank these individuals and groups enough.

————— *The following have given to the agency since 1995* —————

\$500,000+	James and Sheila O'Connor	June Burlingame-Smith
Emergency Food and Shelter Program	Rotary Club of San Pedro	Roger Cosgrove
	Sandpipers	James and Mary Ann Donahue
\$100,000 to \$499,999		Martha Foster
Crail-Johnson Foundation	\$5,000 to 24,999	Richard and Rosland Hadley
Henry L. Guenther Foundation	Bank of America	Kaaren Ingebretsen Hoffman
Kurt Oetiker	Joyce Coutoumanos	Dr. and Mrs. Joel Holtz
St. Peter's by the Sea Presby. Church	Las Vecinas Women's Club	Jim and Marina Kennedy
	Frank and Marilyn Miles	Richard and Ruth Lohrer*
\$50,000 to \$99,999	Pacific Unitarian Church	St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
Anonymous	Temple Beth El	John and Hannelore H. Stolpestad
Pat and Mary Gimenez Caulder	Bob and Janet Wolfenden	Edith Tucker
First Presbyterian Church of San Pedro	Wesley Daniel Woodruff	Peter and Melanie Jones Warren
National Charity League, Peninsula		John and Roberta Weaver
Neighborhood Church	Under 5,000	
New Neighbors of PV Peninsula	John W. Alden	
	Barton J. Blankenfeld	
\$25,000 to \$49,999	Yvonne Bogdanovich	
Bob Coffey	Ralph C. Brown	

Please donate food, toys, or adopt a family for the holidays.
Go to HarborInterfaith.org, Support Us, Holiday Needs

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"In a matter of days, Betsy invited me to a lunch meeting with United Way because the featured speaker was to chair a special committee in Long Beach attempting to establish a homeless shelter. Betsy, once again, raised her hand, volunteered to serve on the committee, but then nominated me as the Chair. I wasn't a member of United Way, those who were voted their approval.

"I exclaimed to those gathered that our future family shelter would open its doors within a year, which turned out to be true, but not because of me. The

committee members were real pros. One person in particular comes to mind: Jim Fairchild, from Neighborhood UCC church. Another was a man named Bill from the Unitarian Universalist Church. Bill was our intake person when we rented our first several apartments in San Pedro, mostly with seed money from Neighborhood Church."

In 1985, the new organization, Harbor Interfaith Shelter, bought an old Army barracks at 663 W. 10th Street, renovated it, and opened it as its family shelter, the same building in use today. The Shelter houses up to twenty families for 90 days.

Leave a Legacy

Over the next few years, Harbor Interfaith (HIS) and our partners will reduce homelessness and poverty in the South Bay. These things are here to stay, forever, at some level. They've been with us for thousands of years. To have an impact, we invite you to leave a legacy gift to ensure that these people receive help for years to come.

Those who remember HIS in a planned gift are invited to join the Legacy Society. Too often, these gifts go unrecognized because they come at the end of the donor's life. The Legacy Society provides a way to recognize and thank you during their lifetime by suggesting that you leave a legacy of hope by including Harbor Interfaith Services in your estate planning. Here are some examples of gifts: bequests (wills), charitable remainder trusts, life insurance and retirement assets, and real estate.

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Our Mission

Harbor Interfaith Services empowers the homeless and working poor to achieve self-sufficiency by providing support services including shelter, transitional housing, food, job placement, advocacy, childcare, education, and life-skills training.

A Reassembled Puzzle Brooke and Harmony Hunter

Until eighteen months ago, Brooke Hunter, age 34, had been working full time and doing well. He and his spouse had separated a while back, but they shared custody of their 7-year-old daughter, Harmony, and everything seemed to be working.

It all fell apart at once. Brooke lost his job and became homeless, choosing to leave his apartment on the last day of paid rent rather than being evicted. Care for Harmony went solely to his wife for the short term. He was homeless, jobless, and digging his way out.

But then it got worse.

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) removed Harmony from her mother's care because the mother struggled to provide the child's needs. DCFS placed Harmony with a family

member while Brooke worked to get his life together. He wanted Harmony back and living with him.

To help, DCFS referred Brooke to Harbor Interfaith. In the meantime, Brooke found a friend's couch to sleep on. Within a few months, he'd found a job, and Harbor Interfaith found him an apartment.

Today, Brooke works full time as a security guard and is doing well. Harmony made the honor roll in school and is happy to be with her father. He is saving money to buy a car. He also wants to buy a house.

A puzzle piece family put back together.

