



# Harbor Interfaith CONNECTED

Empowering the homeless and working poor in the South Bay for over 44 years.

Vol. 20 No. 4, Winter 2019

—2,000+ Benefitted, Record Number of Volunteers—

## Holidays Made Brighter

The holiday season is a busy time for everyone, including Harbor Interfaith. Each year, we produce three events to help make the seasons bright for clients: a Thanksgiving Food Distribution, Holiday Block Party, and Christmas Toy and Food Distribution. Every year, you help.



This year, over 600 community members donated cash, gift cards, toys, food, time, and other things to make the events happen. The list is too long to

print, but we are grateful to everyone.

The photos are from the Block Party which took place Saturday, December 15. At the event, community donors had adopted families and presented gifts to them. They also shared a meal, stories, played games, and took pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

If you are reading this article, you probably participated in some way, and we thought you'd like to know the results.

### Thanksgiving Food Distribution:

The Tuesday before Thanksgiving, 743 clients lined up in front of our administrative headquarters to receive turkeys and trimmings to prepare a traditional Thanksgiving meal. Those served included 345 children, 111 seniors, and 287 adults between the ages of 18 to 54.

Eighty-one (81) volunteers guided clients through the distribution line and helped carry the food to their cars. It was the most volunteers we'd ever had for the event.

### The Holiday Block Party:

Members of the community adopted 62 families, buying gifts based on a family wish list. Donors also brought a dessert to share. The agency provided the hot meal for everyone during which the gifts were opened to oos, ahhs, and squeals.

The event was made possible with help from 44 volunteers, 10% more than last year.

*Continued p3, bottom*



Harbor Interfaith's **Heart the Homeless 5k Walk/Run**, a fundraiser for the

agency, enters its second year on Saturday, April 27. The race, sponsored by Torrance Memorial Medical Center, is organized by Start to Finish Event Services, a company that planned the Revlon 5k and events at the Coliseum.

## The Race is on! April 27, 2019

Heart the Homeless includes a 5k walk/run, costume contest with a spring theme, health fair, and food drive. Winning runners and costume contest participants receive cash prizes.

The event takes place at 6:30 a.m. in Ernie Howlett Park, Rolling Hills Estates, where there is plenty of parking. We anticipate 300+ participants from across Greater Los Angeles.

You can help raise funds for the event among your friends, coworkers and family by engaging a Peer-to-Peer Fundraising Network. Top fundraisers get prizes, too. To engage a network, go to HarborInterfaith.org, Heart the Homeless 5k, and click the Peer-to-Peer link. Everything is explained and set up for you at the link. You will also see a link to the event's website.

## From the Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters:

Happy New Year! As you can see by the front-page article, we had a busy holiday season. My heart warmed watching the smiles on the faces of those we served this holiday season. They were all very appreciative of your generosity. Thank you for making it all possible.



Recently, 700+ volunteers participated in the homeless count of the South Bay. We are happy to report 100% of the South Bay census tracts were counted. We look forward to sharing the results. The homeless count gives us a true and accurate picture of the homeless in the South Bay area of Los Angeles County.

On February 7<sup>th</sup>, Los Angeles County held its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Homeless Initiative Conference. Measure H allowed for expansion of homeless resources. Those additional services focused on diversion, homeless prevention and most recently legal services, helping the homeless overcome barriers to housing. Highlights from the conference include the impact of expanded services countywide and discussion on future resources.

This spring, we invite you to participate in two wonderful events. On April 27<sup>th</sup>, we have our second annual **Heart the Homeless 5k Run/Walk** at Ernie Howlett Park in Rolling Hills Estates sponsored by Torrance Memorial Medical Center. The race is a fundraiser for the agency and includes a costume contest and food drive.

On May 8<sup>th</sup>, the South Bay Auxiliary of Harbor Interfaith Services will present its **Fifth Annual "Evening of Laughter and Fun(d)raising"** at the Comedy & Magic Club in Hermosa Beach. To purchase tickets or to donate, go to HarborInterfaith.org, Support Us, Comedy & Magic Night.

And please follow us on YouTube. We want to build the channel into a significant public announcement service, but YouTube requires us to have at least 100 Subscribers. Please read the article on how to subscribe.

Again, thank you for your support of Harbor Interfaith Services.

*Tahia Hayslet, Executive Director*

## CONNECTED

**Harbor Interfaith Services**  
Vol. 20, No. 4, Winter 2019

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670 W. 9th St.  
San Pedro, CA 90731  
310-831-0603  
HarborInterfaith.org

*Evening of Laughter  
& Fundraising*

May 8, 2019

*Where*—The Comedy & Magic Club, Hermosa Beach

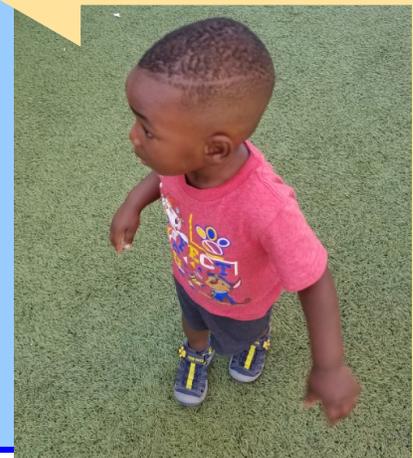
*When*—5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

*Do*—Dinner, Raffle, Auction, Comedy & Magic Show

*By*—South Bay Auxiliary, Harbor Interfaith Services

— Tickets, \$125 per —

Benefits our Children's Center



## 69 Groups Join the Cause

Listed below are the new or renewed institutional donors for 2018. “The renewed” are those groups who resumed giving after a five+ year lapse. We welcome them back. These groups include corporations, foundations, faith

groups, scout troops, social groups, and other types of groups that donated cash or things such as food or time.

We list the new groups below because there were so many of them. Please note

that **we will list all 2018 cash donors in our April Annual Report**, so watch for the publication. We thank every group and every person for their support. We couldn't do this work without you.

American Honda Motor Company  
Argania Butter  
Bethany Christian Fellowship  
Beyond the Bell Boys and Girls Club  
Buddha's International Light Association  
Catholic Charities USA  
City of Long Beach  
City of Redondo Beach  
Coyne USA Inc  
Crivello Bros. Construction  
Cruise Industry Charitable Found.  
Daughters of Penelope  
Delta Kappa Gamma  
Delta Research & Educational Foundation  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
Dodson Middle School  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
First Church of Christ, Scientist, Redondo Bch  
First United Methodist Church, Redondo Bch  
Free Store  
Gannett Found., Inc.  
Girl Scout Troop #1195  
Girl Scout Troop #953

Girl Scout Troup #2343  
Grace Helen Spearman Charitable Fnd.  
Green Onion Restaurant  
Honeycombers Square Dance Club  
Image Solutions  
Journey of Faith  
KDC Construction  
Lighthouse Christian Center  
Little Company of Mary  
Los Amigos  
McAllister, CFP  
Miracle Life International Ministries  
Morgan Stanley  
Order of Eastern Star #174  
Pack 970  
Palos Verdes Amateur Radio Club  
Palos Verdes Golf Club  
Palos Verdes Peninsula Rotary Found.  
Personal Best Day Spa  
Pillar of Truth Christian Center  
Planet Hope  
Polahs Interact  
Roadrunner

Rolling Hills Little League  
Rolling Hills Preparatory School  
Saddleback Church  
Safe-T-Walk, Inc.  
San Pedro Fish Market  
Shumei America  
Silver Spur Elementary PTA  
SoftWorks Corporate Training, LLC.  
South Bay Church  
South Bay Mustang Owners  
Stanberry Laundry Co., LLC  
Starbucks #28906, San Pedro  
Strike Out  
Take Action Club  
Terranea Resort  
The Compassion Project  
The Rose Hills Foundation  
The Widowed Friendship Group, Torrance  
TisBest Philanthropy  
TJX Found.  
Torrance Logistics Company LLC  
Trani's Restaurant  
Wells Fargo Community Support Camp.

### Holidays Made Brighter *Continued from P1*

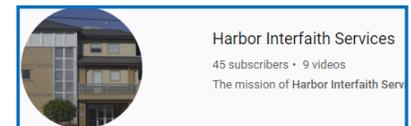
**Christmas Food and Toy Distribution:** On December 19, 869 clients received food and toys for Christmas. The food was a holiday meal to prepare that included ham, yams, mashed potatoes, pies, and other items rounding out a feast. The toys for the 345 children were donated by over 100 organizations and individuals. The toy distribution was organized by our South Bay Auxiliary of Harbor Interfaith Services, a group of volunteer women raising funds for the agency. **Please see the SAVE THE DATE advertisement to the left for their next event.**

### Join us on

We are in the process of developing a YouTube channel to present videos to the public of what we do. An online presence in social media is critical for getting the word out to current and potential supporters.

The channel needs a designated link to share the channel, but we cannot get a link until at least 100 people subscribe to the channel as it is, today.

To date, we have 45 subscribers—55 more to go.



To subscribe, go to YouTube.com, search “Harbor Interfaith Services,” click on the circle with our administrative building (pictured above), and click the **SUBSCRIBE** button (example below).

Thank you for your help in making this site a reality.

**SUBSCRIBE**



Harbor Interfaith Services  
670 West 9th Street  
San Pedro, CA 90731  
310-831-0603  
www.HarborInterfaith.org

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San Pedro, CA 90731

## 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.

# Robert Clary: 10 Years on the Streets Returns to a Worker's Life

Ten years ago, Robert Clary, 59, was a welder and a family man. He was also a vet, having served as a Combat Engineer in the Army in the '70s—an Explosives Expert. But then things fell apart. It started with a divorce, and then he had back problems that forced him out of work. Without a job, he became homeless, hopeless, and didn't have the money for alimony let alone rent. He ended up on the streets of Long Beach and turned to drinking to dull the pain and fear.

A couple of months ago, the Long Beach Police Department stumbled on him and referred him to Harbor Interfaith. Our case management team worked with Robert to put together a plan to get him back on his feet.

First, we helped him get Social Security Disability Income. We couldn't house him unless he had the money to pay for rent. Next, we got him medical therapy for his back so he could work. We also found a veterans' organization willing to pay the tuition for a welding certification program at Long Beach City College.

We also helped him secure an apartment that in Long Beach.

Now with his back okay, money in his pocket, a place to live, and education under his belt, the college helped him find a full-time job as a welder.

In just a few months, Robert went from being a homeless, disabled alcoholic to a rehabilitated welder. He has his own place, a steady income, and a renewed career. One of our case managers is providing financial counseling to help Robert catch up on his bills. Next, he wants to start his own welding business.

It is never too late to rebuild no matter how bad things get or how old you are.

