

S.L. Gimbel Foundation Fund Grant Evaluation Form

Serving the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino

Grant Period:
November 15, 2012 through November 30, 2013

Evaluation Due Date: December 15, 2013

Organization:	Abode Services	ARAUJIUNA J	
Contact Name:		Title:	
Phone Number:		Grant Period:	Nov. 15, 2012 - Nov. 30, 2013
Award Amount:	\$25,000	Grant Number:	2012843
			,

- Describe the project's key outcomes and results based on your goals and objectives. Provide the number of clients served and other relevant statistics.
- What were the challenges and obstacles you encountered (if any) in attaining your goals & objectives? How did you overcome and/or address the challenges and obstacles? What were the lessons learned?
- · Describe any unintended positive outcomes as a result of the efforts supported by this grant.
- Describe the overall effect this grant has had on your organization.
- Tell us a few success stories that made an impact on your organization and/or community as a result
 of this grant.
- Provide a financial report on the use of your grant funds (expenditures).
- Additional condition: Please report on the following:
- Please send copies of publicity and other promotional materials.
- ❖ All variances or time extensions must be approved by The Community Foundation's Grant Committee. Please contact us at 951-684-4194, ext. 111 immediately if a variance or extension becomes necessary.

Please return the completed form to: Penny Beaulieu, Manager, Grant Programs The Community Foundation 3700 Sixth St., Suite 200, Riverside, CA 92501 or fax to 951-684-1911 Or email to: pbeaulieu@thecommunityfoundation.net

Grant Evaluation Form Abode Services Sunrise Village Emergency Shelter

"If not for the help that Sunrise Village has given to my son and I, we would still be fearful of where we would be spending each night and have no hope of a stable life. Now I am thankful every day for the chance I have been given because of this program." Yvonne

Sunrise Village Emergency Shelter is the only 24-hour homeless shelter in southern Alameda County. It is open 365 days each year, and has separate living areas for single adults and families with children, allowing all participants to live and receive services in an appropriate and dignified environment.

Project Goal

To assist homeless individuals and families in regaining their stability enough to secure and maintain stable housing.

Objectives

Objective I: Homeless adults and children are off the streets and living in a safe, supportive environment with meals and services.

The S.L. Gimbel Foundation's grant has brought stability and hope to homeless individuals and families living at Sunrise Village Shelter. During the past 12 months, 307 homeless men, women and children received shelter, meals and services there. Of those residents, 54% were women, and 46% were men; 57% of the families with children were headed by single mothers; and 48% of adults were homeless for the first time. We served 35 single veterans and 5 adults and 8 children in veteran families (see paragraph below for more information on these veteran households). As with previous years, the shelter was full to capacity, with an average of 60 families on the waitlist at any given time.

This year, a new partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs enabled us to provide shelter services to homeless veterans and their families. Through this collaboration, Sunrise Village reserves 7 beds for single veterans and 3 family units for veteran families. The VA can approve up to 6 months of shelter and services for veterans, giving them time to connect with services, find housing, and regain stability. Because of the longer stay time afforded these households (normally, households can stay at the shelter for up to 90 days), we did not serve as many people as we originally projected.

The VA continues to be an excellent partner in serving homeless veterans in the community and has renewed its contract with Abode Services to provide shelter and services to veterans.

During the grant period, each resident household met regularly with a Service Coordinator who helped them connect to services, including employment and housing search support, parent skills training and child care, health services, addiction recovery, and more. These services helped residents stabilize and prepare for a return to self-sufficiency.

The Sunrise Village Emergency Shelter program is leveraged by the support of more than 700 community volunteers, who prepare and serve 100% of the meals there.

Objective II: Residents secure stable housing.

During the grant period, Service Coordinators worked with residents to assess their housing needs and develop an Individual Services Plan that became their roadmap for securing stable housing. Each Plan included weekly goals for housing searches, resources for finding stable housing, and benchmarks for measuring success. If needed, Service Coordinators assisted residents to repair their credit and address any other barriers that may interfere with their ability to access housing. Service Coordinators met weekly with residents to discuss their progress, offer additional resources, and provide emotional support. All residents were expected to save up to 80% of their income for housing when they leave the shelter.

Of the 207 people who exited Sunrise Village during the past 12 months, 39% moved into permanent housing, and 25% moved into interim housing.

Objective III: Residents maintain or increase their household income.

Having enough income to return to stable housing is a primary goal for shelter residents. In weekly meetings, Service Coordinators work intensively with residents to help them increase their income by providing services and tools for finding or increasing employment and/or acquiring public benefits. These supports include, for example: helping residents develop a household budget and savings plan, create a résumé, and prepare for a job interview; providing referrals for job training, childcare, and other community resources; and completing a comprehensive review of the resident's eligibility for public benefits. Service Coordinators assist residents in connecting to the services they need and advocate on their behalf with outside service agencies.

During the grant period, 72% of the adults at the shelter maintained or increased their household income through employment and/or by acquiring public benefits.

What challenges and obstacles did you encounter in attaining your goals & objectives?
 How did you overcome and/or address the challenges and obstacles? What were the lessons learned?

While we met our goals and objectives of this grant, we continued to face challenges in housing homeless families and individuals living at Sunrise Village because of the lack of affordable housing in the San Francisco Bay Area. As recently reported in the Los Angeles Times and other news outlets, California has the highest number of people in poverty (23.8%) of any state in the country. The most significant contributor to this shocking statistic is the high cost of housing.

Abode Services' housing expertise enables us to form strategic partnerships with government agencies and other nonprofits that work to increase the supply of supportive housing in the region. Most recently, we have expanded our housing programs into Santa Clara County,

and continue to increase housing for people with special needs, such as veterans and their families, the chronically homeless, and individuals transitioning from the prison system.

- Describe any unintended positive outcomes as a result of the efforts supported by this grant?
 N/A
- Describe the overall effect this grant has had on your organization?

The Foundation's grant to Sunrise Village Emergency Shelter helps to advance our mission to end homelessness. As a "front door" emergency service, the shelter enables homeless families and individuals to stabilize enough to begin the process of moving permanently out of homelessness. The program is leveraged by post-shelter services operated by Abode Services, such as permanent and transitional housing programs that help to provide a continuum of support for many former residents.

• Tell us a few success stories that made an impact on your organization and/or community as a result of this grant.

Jeffrey, 42, came into Sunrise Village homeless and severely depressed. He had just lost his wife and son in a car accident near their home in Hawaii a few weeks earlier. After the accident, he moved in with his father in Fremont, but things didn't work out. Unable to work because of his depression, Jeffrey ended up on the streets.

Fortunately, Sunrise Village was there to provide the safety and stability that Jeffrey needed to turn his life around. With support from his Service Coordinator, he was able to receive treatment for his depression and, after a month, found a full-time job. After ten weeks of working, he saved enough money to move into his own apartment in Union City, and is continuing the slow process of grieving the loss of his family.

Trish came to Sunrise Village from a residential drug and alcohol treatment program, where she was successfully reunited with her two children, a five year-old daughter with ADHD and a one year-old son. Trish was highly motivated to move forward with her life. She met regularly with her Service Coordinator, attended all her counseling appointments, cleared her traffic fines through a referral to Alameda County Homeless Court, and took steps to finalize her divorce. Both of her children thrived while living at the shelter, benefiting from Abode Services' on-site children's enrichment activities.

Trish's main goal was to find permanent housing for her family. Her Service Coordinator helped her secure transitional supportive housing through the Alameda County's Homeless Families Program (ACHFP). Now that her family is safely housed, she is completing her GED and looking for full-time employment. At that point, she will be eligible for permanent housing through the program.

David and Yolanda and their two children became homeless when they were laid off their jobs and couldn't afford the rent on their modest apartment. The family had never been homeless before. At Sunrise Village, their Service Coordinator worked with them to create a

household budget and repair their credit. She connected them to employment services and other community-based programs. After two months at the shelter, David found a full-time job, and Yolanda began training as a nurse's aide. Soon after, the family moved into Abode Services' transitional housing program for families in school or in job training. The children are back in school and doing well.

Provide a financial report on the use of the grant funds.

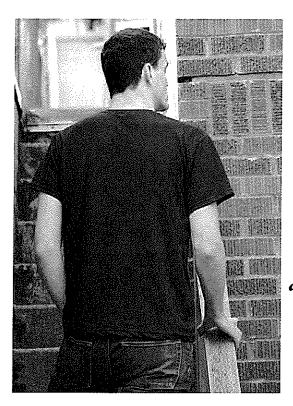
The \$25,000 grant was used to cover costs associated with operating the shelter, including a portion of the salary and benefits for the Shelter Services Manager. This position oversees all aspects of the shelter program, including staff supervision and training, service delivery and coordination, and data tracking and evaluation.

Publicity and recognition

We greatly appreciate the S.L. Gimbel Foundation's generous support and were proud to list the Foundation in each of our monthly e-mail blasts and in a Fremont/Patch news article about Sunrise Village Emergency Shelter. These materials are attached, along with a copy of one of our quarterly newsletters that describes the impact of our programs and recent activities.

VOICE of the VILLAGE





Building His Own Future: Reggie's Story

"It's not every day I hear a story like this."

That's what a Service Coordinator at Abode Services thought when he first learned about Reggie, the former foster youth he'd be working with (names in this story have been changed to protect the participant's privacy and safety).

Looking for the sense of belonging he had never felt in his foster family, Reggie joined a gang — his "band of brothers" — soon after leaving foster care. While he found friends there, it was a dangerous life. He was in the middle of a territorial struggle, and a rival gang put kill orders on Reggie and several friends.

Last summer, Reggie was coming out of a building when a rival gang member approached and shot him several times. He was rushed to the hospital, where he fought to stay alive.

"It was really a miracle that he lived," his Service Coordinator says.

Months later, when he was able to walk again, Reggie started the process of turning his life around. He realized that being part of the gang wasn't going to keep him safe, or let him grow up to be the kind of

continued on page 6



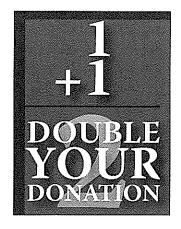
Our 2013 Journey Home Breakfast Fundraiser is coming up on March 7th!

This is our only annual fundraising event, so we rely on donations and pledges made there by our great supporters to help us provide services to thousands of people each year.

Come join us to hear success stories from families and individuals in our programs, and to support our mission to end homelessness. A complimentary breakfast will be served.

We thank Fremont Bank for continuing to serve as a Presenting Sponsor of the event, and all the sponsors whose generosity makes the breakfast possible.

To RSVP, contact Carol Arata at carata@abodeservices.org or call (510) 657-7409 ext. 203 by Thursday, February 21. The breakfast takes place from 7:30 to 8:30 at the Fremont Marriott.



You know you can donate to Abode Services to support our mission. But did you know that you could be doubling your donation — at no extra cost to you?

Many companies (like Apple, Wells Fargo, Google, Costco, and more) match employee donations, up to thousands of dollars a year. Check with your employer's HR department to see if they have such a program, and double your

impact on ending homelessness in our community!

For more information and ideas on ways to give, check out our website, www.abodeservices.org.

Helping Families Stay Together – and Stay Housed

A sk a parent what their greatest fear is, and you might hear that it's being separated from their children. For many homeless parents, who may find themselves without the resources, health, or stability to care for their children, this is a real and often wrenching possibility.

When Marshall's (name changed for participant's privacy) two children were young, he was homeless and unable to care for them, and they were placed into foster care. Marshall realized that, if he wanted to be a good father and reunite his family, he needed to stop his self-destructive behavior and start acting like a dad — including providing a safe home for his kids. He entered a sobriety program and started looking for a steady job and place to live. In the meantime, Marshall drove hours each week to visit his children and rebuild a relationship with them — looking forward to the day when he could bring them home for good.

Abode Services, in partnership with EveryOne Home and the Alameda County Social Services Agency (SSA), is working to help families like Marshall's reunite and regain stability through the Family Reunification Housing Pilot Program. Studies overwhelmingly show how important being with family is to children's development — but without stable housing, parents often have little hope of successful reunion with children in foster care.

The Family Reunification Pilot Program helps families maintain their housing by providing short-term rental assistance. Eventually, the households pay more of their own total housing costs, building up to self-sufficiency. The program also helps parents find employment and assists in repairing credit, building life and financial skills, and locating other sources of support.

After facing multiple rejections to his applications for housing, Marshall worked with Abode Services to find an apartment. A few months ago, he received the keys to his very own home — and welcomed his children back shortly afterward.

"Without Abode," Marshall says, "I would be sober, employed — but on the streets, with no hope of reuniting with my children.

Thank you for providing a home and helping bring my family together."



Toby: Not "Just a Volunteer"

Volunteer Toby Berscheminski is leaving Abode Services this month, after more than a year of full-time work here through the Brethren Volunteer Service (BVS). Toby answered a few questions about his time at Abode and his advice for other potential volunteers.

Where are you from?

I am from Schifferstadt, a town in southwestern Germany.

Why did you join BVS?

When I graduated from high school, I didn't want to do what everybody else did, going to college right away...I wanted to experience other things and look for new horizons.

How long have you been at Abode Services, and what kind of activities have you done here as part of your service?

I have been with Abode for a year and 3 months now. I have primarily been working with our Children's Program. My base is Sunrise Village Emergency Shelter, where I work closely with our ten families. We need to make sure that the kids are enrolled in school and get any support we can offer. We make sure the kids get free transportation and lunch for school.

We also have lots and lots of volunteers. We work with Jean [Morgan, Community Outreach Director] to recruit new volunteers, do an orientation with them, and then have them participate at our Kids' Club or tutoring.

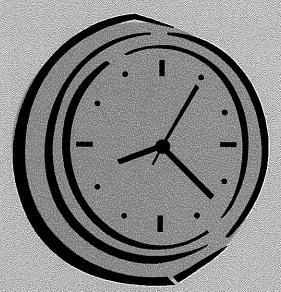
What memory from your time here stands out?

There are so many stories that it is hard to decide which one to pick. But there is one that I'd like to mention. We had this family once at our shelter, and they went through a really rough time. The mom was a veteran, and was just 19 when she went to Iraq. She was pregnant, and one night she didn't feel good and she had to go to the hospital, where she found out that she was going to lose her baby.

continued on page 6

Got an Hour?

Something we always
look forward to
here are our Journey
Home Tours of Sunrise
Village Emergency
Shelter, These tours give
us a great chance to talk
to people who care about



ending homelessness in our community (like you!).

Here are just a few highlights of a typical free, hour-long tour:

- Hearing a current resident talk about what brought them to the shelter, and how they're working to get back on their feet.
- Seeing the kitchen where volunteers produce three delicious meals for over 60 residents every day.
- Hopping on the HOPE Project Mobile Health Clinic and learning how many services are packed into its 37-foot-long frame.

Interested? You can find more information and a schedule of upcoming tours on www.abodeservices.org. See you soon!



REGGIE'S STORY (cont. from page 1)

person he wanted to be. He enrolled in Project Independence, Abode Services' program for former foster youth, and worked with his Service Coordinator to find safe housing, apply for jobs, and go back to school.

Even when Reggie was spotted by a member of the gang that had previously threatened him and feared for his life again, the Abode Services team helped him move to a new location and take other steps to ensure his safety.

Gradually, says his Service Coordinator, "[Reggie] developed an awareness of a life that was different from the gang life. He's motivated to achieve something greater than he thought was possible in the past" — a life, and a community, that aren't defined by violence.

Today, Reggie is working part-time, paying his rent promptly each month, and saving money. He is also attending college and pursuing his Associate Degree, in the hope of having the chance to contribute positively to his community. Like many former foster youth, Reggie is choosing not to let the obstacles of his past stop him from planning a safe, successful future — a future that the Abode Services team feels sure will be a bright one.

TOBY (cont. from page 4)

The dad was crushed...he was crying and asking "why us?" I was just 20 and didn't really knew what to say, but I told the dad that I didn't know what he felt like, but that I wanted to help him and try to support and understand his situation. He said: "You know what, Toby? You are the first one that actually tries to understand me. Everybody else says that they know what it feels like, even if they don't."

In that moment, I didn't really think I did anything special, but it just felt good that I could somehow support the dad during this hard time.

What would you say to a volunteer just starting at Abode?

Don't just think of yourself as "just a volunteer." Abode couldn't do all this great work without the community and their awesome volunteers! At Abode, you have a great chance to grow personally by helping others in the community, and your work is not going to go unnoticed.

A Legacy of Compassion



WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE ESTATE OF:

Harriet Despeaux

who so thoughtfully included a legacy gift to Abode Services in her will.

To learn more about how you can leave a legacy to help end homelessness in our community, contact legacy@ abodeservices.org or call (510) 657-7409.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Douglas Ford
President

Theresa Ballard Dias

1st Vice President

Hirendra Hindocha

2nd Vice President

John R. Smith

Secretary

Teresa Yin

Treasurer

Jerome Bellotti

David Bonaccorsi

Maribel Castaneda-Sargent

Ann Danner

Jeffrey Draeger

Richard Godfrey

Hattie Hughes

Irene Koehler

Ronald Krigbaum

Donald Leake

Teresa Powell

Al Richards

Raj Salwan

Brianne Steinhauser

John Thielmann

Bryant Welch

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Louis Chicoine Executive Director

Vivian Wan

Associate Director

Iose Sanchez

Chief Financial Officer

Carol Arata

Director of Development

Jon White

Director of Properties and Assets

Stacey Murphy

Director of Housing Programs

Sheryl Thomas

Director of Social Services

Kara Carnahan

Director of Health and Wellness

Jean Morgan

Community Outreach Director