



To seek out and advocate
for the poor and needy,
especially families,
for the Kingdom of God.

Holy Family Sisters

MAY 2018

Sisters Assist TCV Mobile Pantry You Can Help Too!

Because Housing Insecurity and Hunger Issues Go Hand in Hand



Who needs a Mobile Pantry?

In spite of our recovering economy, Alameda County residents, including those in Fremont and surrounding cities, face “one of the most profound poverty issues of our

generation” according to the recently published Hunger Study Report by Alameda County Community Food Bank.

Unfortunately, due to the high cost of living too many people in our community are not getting enough nutritious food to eat. Seniors living on SSI face real poverty and housing insecurity – where rent can be more than their monthly allowance and they are faced with choosing between medicine, food and rent. Meanwhile, families and individuals today, more than ever, rely on several jobs just to make ends meet.

We know the Tri-City Volunteers [TCV] Mobile Pantry is successfully



We believe everyone should have access to the nutritious foods they need to live a healthy, productive life!

Will you join us?

We are committed to the Tri-City Volunteers [TCV] Mobile Pantry, which seeks out people who need food the most. We are enthusiastic about this because it is a direct reflection of our own mission “to seek out and advocate for the poor and needy, especially families.”

TCV needs another van to meet the growing needs of the Mobile Pantry and its recipients. The Sisters have committed \$20,000 toward the cost of \$50,000 – but that is just the beginning.

We invite you to join us to complete the difference toward this critical need. You can make it possible for TCV Mobile Pantry to offer food to the hungry in our community sooner.

Every contribution you make to the Sisters increases our contribution and will make our impact that much more significant.

We want to thank our friends who have already answered our call toward this effort.

Please send your donation today to the Sisters of the Holy Family, PO Box 3248, Fremont, CA 94539. Mark your donation to the TCV Mobile Pantry Van.

You can also make your contribution by calling 510-624-4581, or securely online at <https://bit.do/SHFDonate>.

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Mobile Pantry, *continued from page 1*

serving the housed and homeless, and individuals and families of all ages who are hungry in our area. Mobile food pantries are like farmers' markets on wheels, delivering a variety of fresh fruits, vegetables, dairy products, and baked goods to people in need.

Where does the TCV Mobile Pantry go?

The TCV Mobile Pantry brings food outside of regular hours of operation to partner site locations where there are people in need of food. These sites might be schools, churches, senior and community centers, or homeless encampments.

Because it is a *Mobile* Pantry it can travel and enter underserved areas to assist people who are unable to travel to find food. It will bring access to TCV services, while offering opportunities to select the food they need for themselves and their families.



How does a Mobile Pantry work?

Each distribution is held in a Farmers Market style allowing people to walk through and pick the foods that best fit their needs. Volunteers oversee distribution and assist people with questions or concerns.

“The TCV Mobile Pantry brings food to where it is needed. This echoes the Sisters’ mission “to seek out” that has been our calling and tradition since we were founded in San Francisco in 1872.”

- Sister Elaine Sanchez

Thanks to Taylor Johnson, Executive Director of Tri-City Volunteers Food Bank and Thrift Store, for contributing to this article.

prayer

Lord God of all,
we pray for our neighbors in need of safe and affordable housing, and for the many families in danger of home foreclosure or mourning the loss of their homes.

May we work to build communities that create space for all people to live, not just the wealthy.
Amen.

Source: *Sojourners*

TAKE ACTION

Create and distribute homeless “survival kits” that include items such as cups, pots, pans, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, and toothbrushes. Include clean, dry undergarments and socks and bus passes!

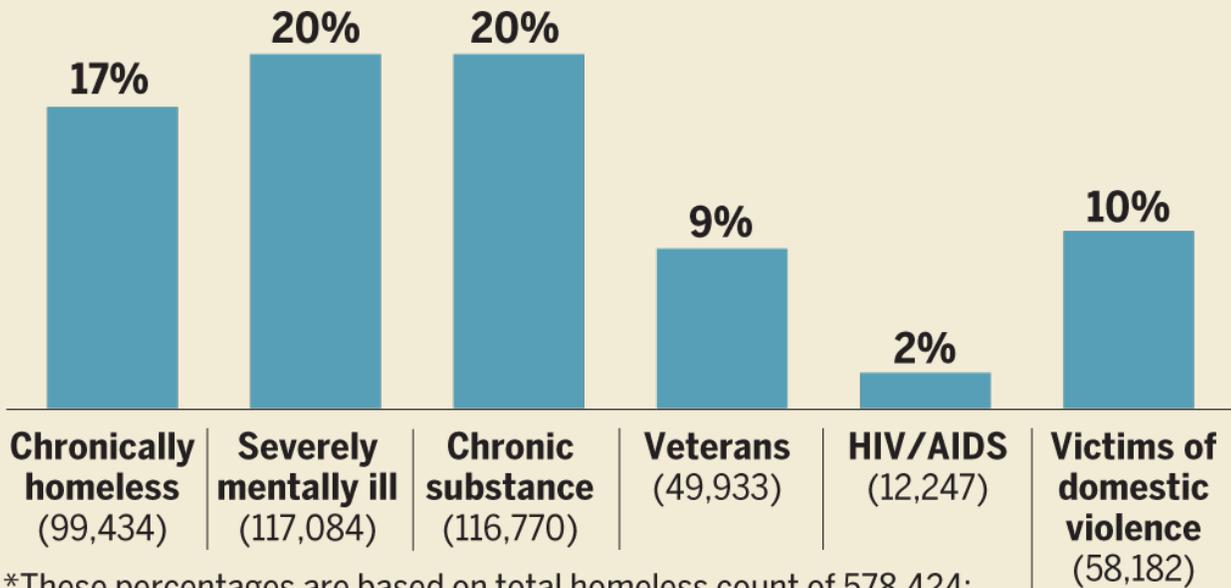
Try coordinating this through a group that gives out food and meals from a van, for example.

FACTS

T A T S

Who are the homeless?

More than half of all the homeless people counted in the United States report suffering from a physical or psychological problem that makes it especially difficult to get indoors for good. A snapshot of who was living on the streets in the 2014 count*.



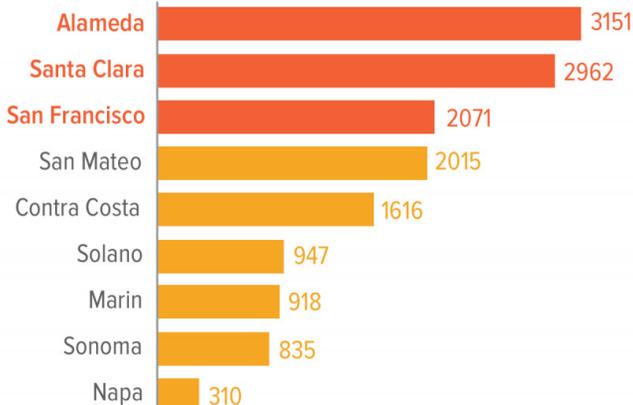
*These percentages are based on total homeless count of 578,424; people were allowed to check off more than one disabling condition.

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

DAN AGUAYO/STAFF

Homeless students in Bay Area Counties in Year 2016-2017

Total Number: **14,825**



Data source: California Department of Education data; EdSource analysis Graphic by Yuxuan Xie.

EdSource

2017 Sheltered/Unsheltered Population by City

OAKLAND Sheltered: 859 Unsheltered: 1,902	UNION CITY Sheltered: 0 Unsheltered: 40
BERKELEY Sheltered: 308 Unsheltered: 664	EMERYVILLE Sheltered: 0 Unsheltered: 29
HAYWARD Sheltered: 84 Unsheltered: 313	NEWARK Sheltered: 42 Unsheltered: 28
FREMONT Sheltered: 197 Unsheltered: 282	DUBLIN Sheltered: 0 Unsheltered: 21
LIVERMORE Sheltered: 102 Unsheltered: 141	PLEASANTON Sheltered: 0 Unsheltered: 18
ALAMEDA Sheltered: 94 Unsheltered: 110	PIEDMONT Sheltered: 0 Unsheltered: 0
ALBANY Sheltered: 0 Unsheltered: 66	UNINCORPORATED Sheltered: 206 Unsheltered: 194
SAN LEANDRO Sheltered: 54 Unsheltered: 55	TOTAL Sheltered: 1,766 Unsheltered: 3,863



Project Night-Night's mission is to make this childhood evening's ritual a reality for moms and their kids who are living in unstable situations, such as homeless or abused women's shelters.

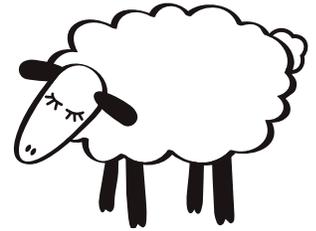
Along with the generosity of friends, family, Associates and Sisters, I was able to fill about 20 Project Night-Night totes with a new blanket, picture book, and stuffed animal.

When we donate either material things or money, we might often wonder what really happens with our donations. I accompanied my brother to the Georgia Travis House in San Jose, California to help him apply for Social Security Disability benefits. The Center helps families return to stable housing and self sufficiency. While waiting to see the case worker, in came a mom with a toddler in a stroller and on the stroller handle hung a filled Project Night-Night tote bag. My heart was filled with hope for that mom and toddler and gratitude for all the good that Project Night-Night provides.



Project Night-Night donates more than 25,000 packages each year to homeless children (12 and under) who need childhood essentials to have a concrete and predictable source of security and an increased exposure to literacy materials during their time of upheaval.

For more information regarding Project Night-Night, please visit their website: www.projectnightnight.org



“In my heart I believe that every child deserves the daily evening ritual of having a bedtime story read to them, a stuffed animal to snuggle, and a blanket to keep them warm.”

– Lauralie Haikin, SHF Associate

Follow-up to our recent letter

We continue to honor our beloved mothers, fathers and mentors. Please take a moment to send us their names and how they influenced you. Be sure to include your name too. These cards and letters will be placed in front of our altar, and your loved ones will be remembered in the prayers of our Sisters.

Also, the Raffle Ticket Drawing is June 18, 2018. If you have not yet sent in your tickets, you still have time. If you need additional tickets, please call 510-624-4580.

Sisters' Contributions

Housing has been an important priority to the Sisters for a long time. We are a member of the East Bay Housing Organization [EBHO]. Below is a sampling of the Sisters' contributions over the past few years to housing and housing security in our area and beyond:

- More than \$10,000 to Abode Services for a variety of programs including winter housing, rent subsidies and temporary housing for those in need. Also, our Sisters contributed to the Opportunity Fund.
- \$3,000 to Habitat for Humanity.
- \$10,000 to Poverello House in Fresno.
- \$1,000 to New Story Charity to build homes in El Salvador.

Your contribution this month to Sisters of the Holy Family Mission Fund will assist us in purchasing a Mobile Pantry Van for TCV. Visit: HolyFamilySisters.org or <https://bit.do/SHFDonate>