

THE



GOOD NEWS

September 2023

Message from Simon

Greetings Neighbors,

Thank you to everyone who supported Good Sam during the Big Give!

We loved playing barrio lotería, a special version that included some neighborhood favorites as the tiles! We had the following 17 businesses participate:

- Aztec Fence and Ornamental Iron
- Cinderella Bakery
- File's Burgers
- Ghost Town Survivors
- Guadalupe Lumber
- La Monita Tortilleria
- Lucky Food Mart #2
- Mertz Sausages
- Ray's Drive Inn
- Rusty Bucket Jawsmacking BBQ
- San Antonio Barrio Girls
- St. Timothy's Catholic Church
- T & R Consulting Services
- Tacos Machin
- The Arizona Cafe
- Westside Sol Newspaper
- Zarzamora Liquor

Thank you to all businesses that participated in this year's card.

Our Artistas de Hoy art exhibit gave **ALL** of our clients the opportunity to get creative! Our students and older adults had a blast painting, drawing, and making clay figurines, and we were so impressed! Together, we raised over **\$9,700.00** during the Big Give.

Once more, thank you for your support. It ignites Good Sam's mission of empowering communities to thrive.

Simon

Brownsville Campus Spotlight

Brownsville campus staff represented Good Sam at the Consulado de Mexico on September 1st, along with other community partners. The event was focused on labor rights and help in the community for families who work. Noticias de Mexico y el Mundo interviewed staff.

ABC instructors started services at Stell Middle School with 6-8th grade, 4th and 5th grade at Skinner Elementary, and VEX at Martin Elementary for grades 2nd through 5th. We

now meet with parents every Tuesday since they have shown great interest in our program!



We had our first Youth Action Committee (YAC) meeting on September 6th, with 20 students happy to be back and registered once again. English as a Second Language classes are now offered for parents coming to drop off their children for YAC.

YAC students are excited about this new fiscal year as they have voiced their need for more homework/study sessions together. The first homework help/study session took place, and families had the first 30 minutes to eat snacks and catch up with each other.



Family Development Services

The Good Samaritan Food Pantry re-opened in the fall of 2022 and is located in the Senior Center. The Senior Center team, staff and interns work with an Immediate Assistance Specialist to ensure a well-organized program is in place to serve anyone in need. We provide access to healthy food distribution in high-need areas (food deserts and /or programs servicing children, older adults, people with disabilities and other vulnerable populations). Services include emergency food assistance, crisis recognition and referrals, and access to basic hygiene and/or newborn child supplies.

Since we have only reopened the food pantry a year ago, we are still working on outreach efforts to let the community know we are available to assist. Challenges will be staffing and the ability to serve scheduled and walk-in clients. We depend heavily on social work interns each semester, as they have the ability to provide service hours and assist with food pantry registrations, food distributions, and immediate assistance for referrals. Working to stock and organize the food pantry and distributing monthly Project Hope and Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) boxes is a task requiring physical labor. In addition, being knowledgeable of local community partners, resources/social services, and food pantries to assist client is a necessity.



Indicators of success:

During the first year of the Food Pantry, we served 810 unduplicated clients with food needs. The food pantry/immediate assistance is funded through United Way of SA Safety Net.

The Senior Center served 220 older adult clients through the Senior Nutrition Program which provides a hot lunch from Meals on Wheels, Adult Case Management, and/or Project Hope and CSFP food distributions monthly from the SA Food Bank.

The Child Development Center-La Escuelita Early Childhood Program served 53 children with food assistance from the SA Food Bank with two hot meals (breakfast and lunch) and one snack daily.

The Youth Development Services program served 181 OST students and 175 Camp Good Sam (summer program) students with hot meals and a snack from the SA Food Bank.

Our Family Services Team is happy to recognize September as Hunger Action Awareness Month.

Upcoming Events



Annual
FRIGHT NIGHT
OCT. 27TH 6-9 PM

1600 Saltillo St.
San Antonio, Texas 78207



Join us for a **FREE** event with costume contests, candy, haunted houses, carnival games, and so much more!

Items needed:

- Bags of candy
- Decorations
- Outdoor lights
- Water
- Concession items

Contact

Lisa Eversole
210.434.5531 ext. 2005
lisa.eversole@goodsamtx.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - 8:30 am to 9:00 pm

Decorations, set up of activities, concessions, games, clean up, etc.

Fright Night

WHO: FREE and open to the community!

WHERE: Good Samaritan Community Services

WHEN: October 27th, 2023 | 6-9 p.m.

CONTACT: info.youth@goodsamtx.org

HOLIDAY BAG DRIVE



**DROP OFF BY
NOV. 1ST**

Please place all items in a reusable
grocery bag and drop it off at

**1600 Saltillo St.
San Antonio, Texas 78207
between
8:30 AM - 5:30 PM**



ITEMS REQUESTED:

- 2 Cans of corn
- 2 Cans of green beans
- 1 Can of sweet potatoes
- 1 Box of mashed potatoes
- 1 Box of stuffing
- 1 Jar/Package of gravy
- 1 Can of cranberries
- 1 Package of plates
- 1 Package of napkins
- 1 Boxed dessert mix
- 1 Small family gift (board game, book, etc.)



Thank you for helping us feed more than 400 families!



Save the Date

for the 15th Annual

Mums & Mimosas

February 1, 2024

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

San Antonio Country Club

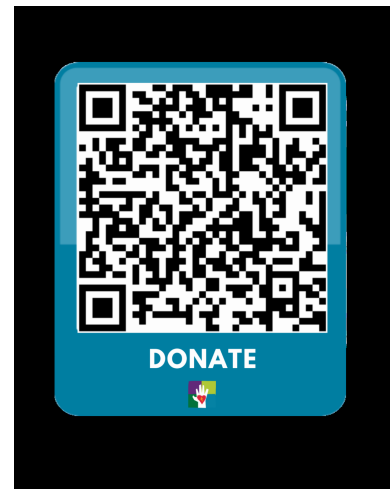
Mums & Mimosas 2024

WHO: Everyone is welcome!

WHERE: San Antonio Country Club

WHEN: February 1st, 2024 | 11:30-1 p.m.

CONTACT: lisa.eversole@goodsamtx.org



Empowering Communities To Thrive

Visit our
Website



Good Samaritan Community Services | 1600 Saltillo St., San Antonio, TX 78207

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