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September 2014 Newsletter



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Pay for Success Update - Abode Services Selected as Lead Agency for Chronic Homelessness

Step Up Silicon Valley is excited to share that Santa Clara County recently completed the Request for Proposal process for Pay for Success (PFS). [Abode Services](#), one of the Bay Area's largest providers of housing services for low-income individuals and families, has been identified to be the Lead Agency for Chronic Homelessness. The County is now preparing to enter the "Deal Construction" phase of the project, which will involve constructing multiple contingent agreements between the lead agency and with outside investors. This project is the County's first PFS initiative.

According to the press release, [County of Santa Clara to Engage Abode Services for Groundbreaking Pay for Success Project](#), "As the lead service provider, Abode Services will receive funding from philanthropic and/or commercial lenders to pay for the up-front cost of service delivery. When Abode delivers the successful outcomes set forth in its agreement with the County, the investors will recover their capital with moderate interest, or can reinvest it in the program. If Abode Services does not deliver those outcomes, the investors, rather than taxpayers, will bear the costs."

For the Pay for Success Acute Mental Health initiative, the County, along with [Third Sector Capital Partners](#), has continued to make progress in specifying the parameters of the County's Acute Mental Health PFS project. The project seeks to improve the coordination of care for acute mental health patients by ensuring patients stay in acute in-patient settings for the minimum time necessary and are instead provided with more effective services in a less restrictive environment. The County hopes to issue a procurement to enlist a service provider for this PFS project in November 2014 and initiate service delivery for PFS by Fall 2015.

To learn more about the County's Pay Success initiative on Chronic Homelessness with Abode Services, please [click here](#).

For questions about Pay for Success, please contact Caleb Jonas, Associate, Advisory Services, Third Sector Capital Partners, Inc. at cjonas@thirdsectorcap.org.

Community Announcements

1,000 Out of Poverty Team Meeting

September 12, 8:30-10:30 AM

The 1,000 OOP network meets monthly to discuss new ideas and share successes, challenges, and opportunities.

Contact [Adelene Ramos](#) to learn more about our initiative.

Run Your Non-Profit Like A Successful Business

September 17, 7:30-9:30 AM

Heritage Bank of Commerce, Kiosk
150 Almaden Blvd., San Jose

Tackling Financial Issues That Impact Non-Profits. Experts from different industries will bring insight on managing your company as the economy rebounds. Event is free, but space is limited. For questions or to RSVP please contact [Paul Wallin](#).

Step Up Silicon Valley Core Team Meeting

September 25, 8:30-10:30 AM

The SUSV core team meets on a monthly basis in order to build and

Did you know that in Silicon Valley; one of

the richest regions in the world, 159,000 families live in poverty?



Raising awareness about local poverty is one of the three strategic areas of Step Up Silicon Valley; the movement to cut poverty in Santa Clara County. We do this using the Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS) tools facilitated by Liz Lilly. “The simulation creates a story where every participant has a part to play,” explains Elizabeth “Liz” Lilly.

According to Liz, the key to understanding the power of the simulation is the transformation made possible by role-playing, reflecting, and acting in a new way. She says, “The first thing people do is tell the story of the experience in the first person, they so closely begin to identify with their role.” Once someone says, ‘I could not buy food for my family,’ or ‘I could not work because I was ill,’ even in a role-play, awareness of the situation and its consequences becomes personal.”

Liz gathers together a team of 15 to 20 co-facilitators and resource volunteers, many of whom are from social service agencies and the low-income community. Key partners include Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, Sacred Heart Community Service, Downtown Streets Team, the Presbytery of San Jose, and the Jewish Community Relations Council. Liz states, “Over the years we have learned so much from one another and are inspired by the real life stories of resilience, hope, and courage.”

“Liz’s commitment to the Step Up movement using the poverty simulations as a tool has made an impact in the lives of nearly everyone who has participated,” said Almaz Negash, Managing Director of Step Up Silicon Valley. “Liz is very effective in making the simulation experience personal, while also educating people on the bigger issues of poverty in the County, the State, and our nation.”

If you would like to host a Community Action Poverty Simulation at your organization or if you would like to attend an upcoming simulation, please contact Adelene Ramos at aramos@stepupsv.org.

Join Us September 25 for Step Up Silicon Valley’s Monthly Meeting Featuring Year Up

When: Thursday, September 25, 8:30 to 10:30 AM

Where: West Valley Community Services, 10104 Vista Dr, Cupertino, CA 95014

RSVP: Email Adelene Ramos at aramos@stepupsv.org

strengthen relationships, identify community needs and strives to work with diverse leaders and the community-at-large to cut poverty and build the capacity to bring about needed systemic change.

Contact [Adelene Ramos](#) to learn more.

College Day Santa Clara County

October 10

The goal of College Day is to support a college-going culture in our community by providing lesson plans & resources to local schools, especially for under-resourced students. Please support this effort by visiting www.collegeday.org.

Save the Date for College Day Family and Community Conference at SJSU on November 1. For more info, please contact info@kidsincommon.org.

Neighborhood Development Training Conference (NDTC)

October 11, 11:00 AM-2:00 PM

San Jose State University Student Center

NDTC is a training opportunity for resident service coordinators, neighborhood leaders, & seasoned community development practitioners. Participants engage in thought-provoking workshops, listen to distinguished speakers, & learn about local & regional organizations at the resource fair. To learn more, email [Delilah Chavez](#).

Economic Development Finance Course

November 3-7

Sobrato Center for Nonprofits

Our guest speaker will be Rodney Tabares, Associate Director of Admissions and Outreach at [Year Up Bay Area, Silicon Valley](#). Rodney will provide an overview of Year Up and will discuss how the organization works with students to prepare them for professional careers and higher education.

If you know a young adult (18-24) who is looking to intern at a Fortune 500 Company, earn 24 college credits and a Technical Certificate, as well as an educational stipend, please let them know about this opportunity. **The deadline to apply for the next Year Up program is December 12, 2014.** [Click here](#) to access the application. There will also be Group Information Sessions every Tuesday and Thursday at 2 PM starting September 16 at 100 W San Fernando Street, Suite 103, San Jose CA 95113.

To learn more about Year Up, please [click here](#) or contact Rodney Tabares at rtabares@yearup.org. You may also [watch a video](#) featuring the organization on *60 Minutes* or a [video featuring Year Up Bay Area, Silicon Valley](#).

Social Impact Legislation SB 593 Passes Legislature, Needs Governor Brown to Sign

SB 593 would authorize a pilot program using Social Impact Partnerships or pay-for-success contracts in California. The bill recently passed the Legislature. Now Governor Brown needs to sign the legislation. Please help convince him by sending him a letter from your organization.

For more information or to request a copy of a template letter, please contact Sandra Sanchez at sandrasanchez@grace-inc.org. To learn more, please [click here](#).

New California Credit Building Legislation SB 896 Passes

SB 896 is a new California law that passed in August 2014. According to José Quiñonez in [SB 896 PASSES! CA BECOMES FIRST STATE TO RECOGNIZE CREDIT-BUILDING](#), the new legislation, "Would establish and regulate innovative credit-building approaches so that nonprofits in California could band together to change the financial marketplace for the better."

This is great news for California's non-profit sector and for our underserved population, who may not have access to responsible loans that can lead to financial security.

To learn more about SB 896, please [click here](#).

About Us

Step Up Silicon Valley is a social innovation network focused on reducing poverty in Santa Clara County through convening, advocating for policy changes, and incubating innovative solutions to help people move out of poverty. We

1400 Parkmoor Avenue, Suite
250, San Jose, CA 95126

You're invited to attend a National Development Council (NDC) training course on Finance sponsored by Citi. Tuition is FREE. For more info or to register, [click here](#). For questions, please contact [Rachael Claudio](#).

Silicon Valley Innovation Challenge (SVIC)

The SVIC encourages the generation of innovative, ground-breaking or novel ideas, products, services and technologies which could potentially become the seed of a new venture.

Project Submission Deadline:
November 1. To apply, [click here](#).

You are also invited to attend the SVIC Final Showcase at the New Student Union Ballroom on the SJSU campus on November 19. To register, [click here](#).

For more information, please visit www.campsite.org/svic or contact [William Nance](#).

Community Action Poverty Simulations

October 22 – Grace Baptist Church,
San Jose

November 4 – Mitty High School,
San Jose

November 11 – Locatelli Center,
Santa Clara University

November 20 – Bellarmine College
Preparatory, San Jose

December 10 – Presentation High
School, San Jose

If you would like to sponsor, host, or attend a poverty simulation, please contact [Adelene Ramos](#).

achieve this by working closely with representatives from various organizations and community members to coordinate breakthrough systems change that allow us to holistically create a thriving community in which none are too poor to give or too wealthy to be in need, and where everyone has access to affordable health care, sufficient nutritious food, decent affordable housing, meaningful educational and career opportunities, and reliable income that meets their basic financial needs. Learn more at www.stepupsv.org.

Our Vision and Mission

Our vision is to reduce poverty and increase economic opportunities in Santa Clara County. The mission of Step Up Silicon Valley is to achieve this vision by transforming community awareness and generating the political will to create systems change that will enable individuals and families to step up and out of poverty in Santa Clara County.

Learn about our steps forward:

Step Up Pay for Success - [Idea to Action Document](#)

2013 Annual Report - [Step Up Progress Through 2013](#)

Join our [mailing list](#), visit our [website](#), or find us on social media.



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