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ABOUT US

IMPACT
The impact of Downtown Streets Team is tangible both for team members and for the communities they serve. Team members regain their self-confidence while community members enjoy a cleaner and safer community.

OUR VISION
Downtown Streets Team envisions a world where every man and woman has the opportunity to live a purposeful, dignified, and self-sufficient life.

AWARDS THIS YEAR

2012: San Jose District 3 Community Honoree (Council Member Sam Liccardo)

In February of 2012, Downtown Streets Team was honored by San Jose Council Member Sam Liccardo (District 3) as his community honoree. The presentation -- which took place prior to the Mayor’s State of the City Address -- recognized the work we’re doing to combat the issues surrounding homelessness in San Jose.

2011: Junior League of San Jose Silver Bowl Recipient

Director of Client Services, Chad Bojorquez, received this award for his outstanding volunteerism in his community. He was selected among all Crystal Bowl winners to receive the “Volunteer At Its Best” award (Silver Bowl).

VALUES
• We want dignity for every human being.
• We promote teamwork.
• We demonstrate integrity.
• We believe in constant evaluation and improvement.
• We advocate for those without voices.
Dear friends and supporters,

What an amazing year 2011 was for our team. Not only did we further strengthen our ties with the community in Palo Alto, California where our model was born, but we also established ourselves in a new and much larger community in San Jose. Partnerships with the residents and local officials in the communities we work in continue to prove invaluable as we work toward our goals of ending homelessness and restoring the dignity of those experiencing it. It truly does take a village to confront major social and economic issues, such as homelessness, and our supporters and partners have shown over and over again that they’re more than up for that challenge.

We’re confident that the momentum we’ve built in 2011 will carry us into the new year and allow us to expand our model even further.

Thank you for your continued support of Downtown Streets Team!

Eileen Richardson, executive director
Through our program, team members have the opportunity to take on leadership roles in which they are given more responsibility on the team. Leadership skills and experience gained on the team are directly transferable to jobs team members take on after graduating from the program.
Governmental Grants - $398,700
Other Contracts - $243,952
Grants - $148,000
Foundations - $124,619
Holiday Letter - $69,749
Individuals - $31,109
Other - $6,799
In-Kind Donations - $5,500
Corporate Matching - $3,330
Interest Income - $30

TOTAL: $1,031,788

REVENUE: FY 2012
EXPENSES: FY 2012

TOTAL: $894,071

Program Services, Palo Alto Team - $398,995
Program Services, San Jose Team - $348,201
Management & General - $99,223
Fundraising - $43,326
Program Services - $4,972
TEAM MEMBER BAILEY PREPARES FOR HER FIRST SHIFT AS A CROSSING GUARD.
OUR MISSION AND MODEL

MISSION STATEMENT
Downtown Streets Team strives to end homelessness by restoring the dignity and rebuilding the lives of unhoused men and women. Serving the community prepares members for permanent employment and housing.

MODEL
Our “Work-First” model gives team members the opportunity to rebuild their lives through our volunteer work-readiness program. Rather than panhandling, they perform meaningful work in their communities.

GET OFF THE STREETS IN 3 STEPS:

1) Join the Team – The first step to joining the team is going to weekly meetings. Participants must attend regularly to be eligible for a position. This allows them to demonstrate their commitment, while simultaneously giving them the chance to learn about the program and network with current team members.

2) Get off the Streets – Every participant begins by working on one of our contracts. This can entail cleaning and sweeping commercial areas or helping to revitalize polluted waterways. After demonstrating their commitment, individual participants can pursue other DST-facilitated opportunities suited to their skill set.

3) Become Self Reliant – Participants develop job search skills and gain employment experience, moving towards permanent housing and a full-time job.
SUCCESS STORY: EUGENE

Eugene had been living on the streets of Palo Alto for almost ten years when he joined the Downtown Streets Team. Through our peer-to-peer outreach, team members were able to convince him to stop sleeping in the downtown Palo Alto parking garages, join the team, and get connected with services. As he rebuilt his confidence and showed us that he was a natural leader, we promoted him to a green shirt – or one of our team leads. We were able to help him get permanent housing, and with this new stability, he was able to graduate from the team in February of 2012, as he found a permanent job in the community.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DOWNTOWN STREETS TEAM BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Norm Robinson, Board Chair • Dean of Student Affairs Emeritus, Stanford University
Esther Shih, Owner, Far East Living
Sally Cadigan, Board Treasurer • former nonprofit Executive Director
Dennis Burns • Chief of Police, City of Palo Alto
Jeanne Murphy, Board Secretary • former nonprofit Executive Director
Annette Hancock • Nonprofit board member
Owen Byrd • Chief Evangelist & General Counsel, Lex Machina
Carol Hubenthal • former Art Director for the Palo Alto Weekly
Eileen Richardson • Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer, Downtown Streets, Inc.
We launched our San Jose Team to help beautify San Jose’s Coyote Creek, actually the city’s largest river, and its 18.7 miles of trails that stretches from San Jose to Morgan Hill. The river itself runs 63.6 miles, meeting up with San Francisco Bay. The river is home to many fish, turtles and other wildlife that are now becoming entrapped in garbage and waste that sits at the edge and collects in the river. Our San Jose Team was created as a solution to remove debris in encampments located near Coyote Creek and help the people living there, in collaboration with San Jose City Council, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), San Jose Environmental Services Department, Destination: Home, eBay Foundation, and Santa Clara Valley Water District.
Downtown Streets Team Members distributed over 60 care packages, jackets, blankets, and clothes to San Jose’s homeless today. They applied the same work ethic and spirit that they do everyday on the job, and brought smiles to a lot of faces. The Downtown Streets Team engenders in its Team Members not only a positive attitude and desire to build themselves up out of homelessness but also a sense of community, generosity, and genuine desire to help others.
GET INVOLVED

VOLUNTEER

Help our Team Members apply for jobs at our Apply-A-Thons. All you need is a computer and the passion to help our Team Members find employment. You will be paired up with an individual Team Member.

Contact Andrew Hening at andrew@streetsteam.org

DONATE

Donations from individuals or from foundations or employee matchs, help us reach our mission of ending homelessness in our lifetime.

Just $20 provides basic needs, such as clothing, food and shelter, for one Team Member for one day.

Make a great impact and donate today!

HYGIENE KITS

Whether our Team Members are sheltered, living on the streets or have recently moved in to housing, hygiene kits make a world of difference. It’s the simple things like shampoo, sunscreen and shaving cream that lifts our Team Members’ self-esteem. During the winter months, think about doing a coat drive, or donating scarves, gloves and hats.
Dedicated to ending homelessness.

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