



March 28, 2012

Dear Friends,

Each year at this time, it is our privilege to provide an **Annual Report** to you, Sunday Friends' most significant stakeholders. We want you to have the information you need so you can trust that you are investing in a well-run organization that is fulfilling its mission.

Although much has changed since Sunday Friends began in 1997, our fundamental approach to breaking the cycle of poverty has not. We continue to provide opportunities for families to work together to earn basic necessities as they give back to their community.

### **Key Program Accomplishments of 2011:**

- We worked with 753 unique children, 400 unique parents and 1,262 unique volunteers in 2011, averaging about 300 participants per program.
- The Sociology Department of San Jose State University conducted the fourth biennial evaluation of the Sunday Friends program, collecting data that demonstrates strong effectiveness in building self-sufficiency in families, school readiness in children and community mindedness in volunteers.
- Thanks to our collaboration with the Good People Fund, our Rent Relief Project grew in popularity in 2011. In its third year, 75 families redeemed their tickets for \$15,000 in rent relief, paid directly to their landlords.
- Thanks to our collaboration with the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition Bicycle Exchange Program, children were able to earn 231 bikes through our program.
- Thanks to our collaborations with Coherent Inc., The Family Giving Tree, Beau-coup Favors and others, over 200 children were able to earn all of the backpacks and school supplies they needed for success in school.
- We strengthened our classroom education through collaborations with community resources to teach tax preparation, credit improvement, promoting children's success in school, positive discipline, healthy eating, gang and crime awareness, managing depression and anger, starting your own business, job application skills and much more.

## Key Organizational Accomplishments of 2011:

- We built the most active Board of Directors in the history of Sunday Friends. Please visit [www.SundayFriends.org](http://www.SundayFriends.org) to read the credentials.
- Our Board developed a comprehensive strategic plan for 2012, including a blueprint for expansion to additional program sites during the year.
- We raised \$94,000 towards our expansion goal of \$217,000. We also brought in our first grant that was specifically restricted to the Expansion.
- Our donors contributed \$391,000. Our expenses were \$297,000. The difference has given us the head start we need for the expansion.
- Overhead expenses were just 15% of overall expenses.
- Focused donation drives by 65 community organizations enabled us to provide over \$66,000 worth of the merchandise our families work to earn.
- We received the 49er Quarterback Award along with \$10,000 in honor of our founder.

## A Look Ahead:

2012 is off to an excellent start, with a new Executive Director, who has significant experience in business and scaling of organizations. We also have added board members and we have a new website and a plan to expand our programming to two additional sites in low-income San Jose neighborhoods in the fall of 2012: Bridges Academy Middle School and Anne Darling Elementary. Our programs at Lowell Elementary will continue to flourish.

We look forward to sharing the details of the expansion with you over the next few months.

Sincerely,

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P.S. We realize that most annual reports are full-color, glossy affairs with more pages and lots of photos. We feel that your contributions are better spent on directly improving the lives of the children and parents who participate in our programs. We hope you agree. If you would like any further information regarding Sunday Friends, please contact us. We will be happy to provide it.