Mommy, I’m hungry!
What’s for breakfast?

Imagine having no answer to this question from a hungry child. Fortunately for Rachel and her mom, SOVA is here to help. For 25 years, we’ve served the needy of this city – in a way that preserves our clients’ dignity and touches on all facets of their lives. We offer food, legal, vocational and nutritional counseling, and Resource Centers that provide access to a full range of programs and services.

The number of people turning to SOVA grows larger each day. Our clients are of all ethnicities; they are male and female, young and old; they wear worn out clothes and – increasingly – business suits. What they share is being in the heartbreaking position of not having enough money to feed their families.

Our professional staff is passionate and hardworking, but small. To help families like Rachel and her mother, we depend on the talent, dedication, and selflessness of our volunteers and community partners who provide leadership, financial support, and donations of time, services and products. As the need around us grows, so does our need for your continued support.
We all have something to give – no matter how much it might be. Each time we give, we are overtaken with a deep sense of purpose. The ability to help someone in need is very empowering, and the appreciation that shines back in response to that act of kindness is overpowering. Every day we need to do what we can to make a difference – in small and large ways.

SOVA is one of those programs that serves people who are truly in need. At SOVA, we all work to get our clients back on their feet. We want their situations to be temporary, and we want them to become self-sufficient. They are always so thankful of the support they receive during a particularly difficult time in their lives. How wonderful it is to be part of a program like SOVA, where we provide a bridge to a better time by offering resources and solutions and encouragement.

Rick Powell and Barbara Weiser
Co-Chairs, SOVA Advisory Committee and SOVA Resource Development Committee

Renowned Executive Chef Suzanne Tracht Cooks for SOVA’s 6,000

On Sunday, November 16th, Suzanne Tracht of Jar and the soon to open Suzpree Restaurant held a premiere benefit to support SOVA and the 6,000 men, women and children who visit the food pantries each month. Tracht has fulfilled her professional vision to create a sense of community and neighborhood and was troubled by the growing lines at SOVA’s Metro food pantry, just down the street from her restaurants. She called upon her faithful patrons who gathered for a special evening to help end hunger in the local community. On behalf of those who will benefit from her generosity, SOVA thanks Suzanne and her entire staff for hosting a successful evening!

Meet Director Joan Mithers

Although I became SOVA’s Director in June 2008, I’m not new to SOVA. As the Director of Food, Hunger, and Community Support Programs at Jewish Family Service, I’ve worked with SOVA – albeit behind the scenes – since January of 2002. I’m thrilled to have the opportunity to assume a more direct role. In many ways, SOVA is a perfect fit for me. Service to the community has been the central focus of my working life.

I received my Masters in Gerontology from USC and have spent over 25 years managing social service programs that focus on food and aid to disadvantaged populations.

Our nation’s economic crisis presents a formidable challenge to SOVA. The rate of increase we’re seeing at our pantries each month is frightening. At the same time, we know that our unique hunger relief program gives us the power to respond in a meaningful way. We can help parents feed their children; we can help families get back on their feet; we can ensure that older adults have sufficient food and still live with dignity. I look forward to working with all of you as we use our collective power to make a difference.

We all have something to give –

Food isn’t the whole story . . .

Each SOVA pantry has a Resource Center where clients can access:

- Social Service Referrals
- Legal Advice
- Job Search Preparation and Coaching
- Nutrition Counseling
- Food Stamp & MediCal Enrollment

Call 818-988-7682, ext. 108 for further information.

Thank You SOVA!

“I have some friends who recently came to your pantry. They got compassionate treatment and healthy food. They received information on utility assistance and other food shelters. And best, they learned that they aren’t alone, that what has happened to them could happen to anyone, and that your organization cares about them even when it seems like no one else does. Thank you.” — Susan, a friend of the family
With Gratitude to Our Major Donors

**Gifts of $25,000 and Over**
- Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles
- Robert Margolis & Barbara Weiser
- S. Mark Taper Foundation
- Harold Edelstein Foundation
- The Emergency Food and Shelter Program
- City of West Hollywood
- Michael & Irene Ross Charitable Fund
- Lawrence & Adele Braun
- Rick & Debbie Powell
- The Rosenthal Charitable Trust
- Carolyn Spiegel
- Jamie & Priscilla Halper
- Suzanne Tracht of JAR, Tracht’s, & Suzpree
- Anonymous (1)

**Gifts of $10,000 to $24.999**
- The Ahmanson Foundation
- Bill & Patti Bloomfield
- California Foundation for Stronger Communities
- Dermalogica Foundation
- Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation
- Rosalyn & Julius Griffin Endowment Fund
- Tom & Barbara Leanse
- The Jay & Rose Phillips Family Foundation
- The Ralphs Fund
- Harvey & Donna Rosen
- Joseph Sherwood
- Southwestern Bag Company
- Mitch & Sherry Stein
- Wells Fargo Foundation
- The Ruth/Allen Ziegler Foundation
- Anonymous (2)

**Gifts of $5,000 to $9,999**
- Judy & Bernard Briskin
- Cannon Family Foundation
- Robert & Suzanne Davidow
- The EGK Foundation
- Eric D. Eisner
- Mark Frauenfelder
- Leslie & Mark Friedman
- Gary & Linda Goldfein
- Anita Hirsh
- Tami Kagan-Abrams & Michael Abrams
- Peachy & Mark Levy
- MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
- Jerry & Carol Muchin
- Don & Shana Passman
- Ralphs - Community Contributions Program
- Alan & Angel Schneider
- Gloria & Joseph Simons Fund
- Samuel and Helene Soref Foundation
- Spiegel Family Fund
- Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
- Venable Foundation
- Jeff & Rita Weiss
- Martin F. Witkin Charitable Trust
- Anonymous (1)

Many Ways to Give:
- Financial donations
- Corporate sponsorships
- Planned giving
- Food donations
- Use “Baskets of Hope” centerpieces
- Volunteer at a SOVA pantry
- Purchase our limited edition art prints

How to Donate:
- Online: www.jfsla.org/sova
- By phone or mail with credit card
- By check made out to SOVA

**THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO GIVE**

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<tr>
<th>Donate:</th>
<th>What Your $ Buys</th>
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<tr>
<td>$50</td>
<td>and a family of 5 will leave SOVA today with enough groceries to last the rest of the week.</td>
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<td>$100</td>
<td>and SOVA will provide monthly grocery packages to a disabled senior for a full year.</td>
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<td>$500</td>
<td>and enable SOVA to buy over a ton of nutritionally balanced foods from the regional foodbank.</td>
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<td>$1,000</td>
<td>and 100 children will receive the emergency nutrition they need from SOVA this week.</td>
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<tr>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>and you’ll allow SOVA to meet the entire grocery needs of one pantry on a busy day. (That’s almost 125 families!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>and thanks to you, each of SOVA’s 6,200 monthly clients will enjoy Friday night dinner in their home!</td>
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**Baskets of Hope**

Centerpieces that Make a Difference

Enhance family celebrations and community events while helping to alleviate hunger and poverty in our community.

Baskets are customized to match your party décor and feature a card explaining the significance of the centerpiece. Your donation for the use of these baskets is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Drop-off and pick-up services are available.

Contact Maxine Meyer at
(818) 988-7682, ext. 116
or MMeyer@jfsla.org

SOVA Community Food and Resource Program  (818) 988-7682  www.jfsla.org/sova
How did SOVA gain 77,000 pounds during the High Holidays?

—with tons of support from businesses who donated their staff and vehicles to ensure efficient pickups from the over 60 congregations and schools who participated in SOVA’s High Holiday food drive.

It takes a fleet to transport the hundreds of pallets of groceries and toiletries donated by local organizations during SOVA’s High Holiday food drive. Again this year, we appreciate the support of:

Don Palmer, CEO, Palmer Transportation
Dave Thompson, CEO, Delivery Solutions
Damien Davis, Starving Students Movers

Thanks also to Joey Weiss, CEO of Northern Produce, and Craig Polisky of Select Produce, who donated apples for our pantries’ holiday food distribution; to Steve Ullman for helping us acquire the apples; to Les Hawkins for helping coordinate the trucking and overall logistics and to Maxine Meyer, SOVA’s Resource Development Specialist, who once again managed this annual project.