

COMMUNITY CONSCIENCE

SUPPORTING HUMAN SERVICES UNDER ONE ROOF

Annual Non-Profit Report 2022



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Mission

The mission of Community Conscience is to provide a single location where human service programs are available and accessible at no cost to recipients and to maximize coordination among agencies.

Message from the Executive Director

In 2022 all interior and exterior lighting was upgraded to energy efficient LEDs with a grant from the City of Thousand Oaks. This is saving our non-profit and estimated \$12,000 in energy costs annually!

Our non-profit tenants complete a survey each year and have reported that without the arrangement of rent-free space they would have to close their doors or substantially cut programs and staff. They depend on Community Conscience to maintain the Human Services Center.



As the need for access to human services has grown in our community, so too have the programs providing these services within the walls of the Human Services Center. The successes below are just some of those realized during this past year:

- 13 non-profit agencies diverted almost \$300,000 in saved rent to their programs.
- 8,000 meals were served to individuals experiencing homelessness.
- 70 people received mental health and trauma treatment for domestic violence, abuse or neglect.
- 185 disabled persons received life skills training for independence.
- 460 people in severe poverty received assistance with clothing, showers, and day to day needs.
- 2,000 vulnerable children, adults and seniors received regular exercise programs from licensed trainers.
- 6,500 seniors and family care givers received meals and support services.
- 3,800 people received grief support and hospice services.
- 1,051 people learned to prevent bullying through kindness and inclusion workshops both live and virtually.
- 2,200 people received free legal, dental and medical assistance.

Your support will make a difference to the clients who depend on our 13 amazing tenants who provide help in one location.

Robin Britt

Executive Director

What is Community Conscience?

Community Conscience owns a 22,000 square foot building, the Human Services Center, where we provide rent-free space to 13 human service non-profit organizations. This allows charities to focus on their programs instead of raising funds to pay rent. It enables charities with main offices in other areas of California to have a branch office in Thousand Oaks, thereby extending their programs to the Conejo Valley. Along with free rent, the charities also have the benefit of landscaping, maintenance of public areas, janitorial services, security patrol, and the use of a conference room for meetings.



Each non-profit tenant is a 501(c) (3) organization and has its own governing board. They each have their own funding, missions, and programs. The programs and services delivered by the charities vary and provide them with the opportunity to refer clients to each other. The partnerships of the organizations are tremendously successful. Working as allies, the organizations share resources and space in an effort to help as many people as possible.

The ability to receive services from multiple organizations at the same location is also of great benefit to clients of the charities. Many of the clients rely on public transportation, rides from others, or must walk to obtain services. Traveling to multiple locations for help can be difficult or even impossible.

Another element that contributes to the success of the Human Services Center is the addition of Ventura County Human Services Agency as a tenant. This works in two ways. A co-operative fair market lease agreement with the County of Ventura provides funds to Community Conscience. This agency makes available valuable services to many clients of the charities. Having the resources of these government programs such as Calfresh (food stamps), Medi-Cal, Cal/WIN, Cal/Works, Employment Services, and a job resource center is key to helping low-income individuals and families find assistance. The County of Ventura Human Services Agency also refers its clients to the charities in our building for additional assistance.

Community Conscience provides a telephone referral service that helps individuals and other charities locate needed services. The most requested services are help with paying rent, utility bills, and homeless services. In addition, two or three people come to our office per day seeking assistance referrals. We provide a brochure rack with information about agencies housed in our building as well as other relevant local assistance programs, classes, or events in the community.

Program Impacts

According to responses to a survey done by Community Conscience in August 2022, about 79,000 people were served by programs from the agencies at the Human Services Center. The non-profits in our building collectively save almost \$300,000.00 each year in rent. This savings can be passed on directly to their clients in the form of services.

All non-profit organizations housed in the Human Services Center reported in the survey that without rent-free office space they would have to drastically reduce or eliminate their programs and staff in the Conejo Valley. Losing an arrangement of rent-free space would severely affect delivery of their services.

The ongoing goal of Community Conscience is to maximize the available space in the building to serve the community and make the biggest impact possible.

The organizations operating at the Human Services Center in 2022

Autism Society Ventura County

Community Conscience

Conejo Free Clinic

Conejo Youth Employment Service

County of Ventura - Human Services Agency

Fit 4 The Cause

Holy Family Services

Hospice of the Conejo

Interface Children and Family Services

Lutheran Social Services of Southern California

Ohana Health

PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center

Senior Concerns Bargain Boutique

Villa Esperanza Services

2022 Mardi Gras Ball King and Queen

Each year Community Conscience honors two individuals for their exemplary community service.



Tony Kourounis has a long history of volunteerism in our community. He is known to many for his heartfelt service and has given generously of his time and talents – he is quite a musician with a great sense of humor. The list of organizations that have benefited from Tony’s service spans the full range of local non-profits. Each have appreciated Tony’s contributions which have enhanced their ability to serve their clientele.

Tony has been a member of the Thousand Oaks Rotary Club since 1986 and served as its President in 1995-96. He has also participated in many of the Club’s service projects and fund-raisers that directly benefit our local community as well as the global good works of Rotary International.

Organizations in which Tony has been a contributing member include Many Mansions, Conejo/Las Virgenes Future Foundation, YMCA, Conejo Valley Days, Simi Valley Samaritan Center, Simi Valley Education Foundation, American Heart Association, Mary Health of the Sick, Conejo Valley Senior Concerns Meals on Wheels program, Harbor House and CLU Community Leaders Club.

Tony is retired from a long career in the banking industry. After working for many years with large banks, Tony was selected to manage the headquarters office of the new local Bank of the Oaks. When that Bank was sold, Tony became the driving force behind the formation of another local bank, California Oaks State Bank.



Mary Sepe is the President-Elect of the Thousand Oaks Kiwanis Club, of which she has been a member since 2015. She has already served the Club in many roles, including Vice President and Program Chair, Community Service Committee Chair and Assistant Secretary. She is renowned within the Club for identifying community needs, developing a plan of action to address those needs and recruiting members and others to help.

One recent example illustrating Mary’s “can-do-it” spirit, and desire to serve others, is the Club’s signature “Bikes for Youth” project. After hearing a presentation at a Club meeting regarding the need for basic transportation that many disadvantaged young people face, Mary devised a Club project to purchase bikes (along with helmets and locks) and accept donations of used

bikes to be given to underprivileged youth as a means of transportation to school and work. Mary worked with Safe Passage Youth Foundation, Westminster Free Clinic and Adelante Comunidad to identify deserving youth. Since its inception in April 2021, the program has provided nearly 250 bicycles and is still going strong.

Mary volunteers twice a week at the Senior Nutrition Lunch Program at the Goebel Center, which provides nutritious meals for seniors and a safe place to socialize. She’s known as a reliable, friendly person who enjoys working with and helping the seniors.

Mary’s long service to the community includes working on Conejo Valley Days Grand Marshal campaigns, benefiting Hospice of the Conejo, Soroptimist International, and most notably when she managed the “Animal Crackers” campaign for her daughter and friends to raise funds for the local Animal Shelter.

Mary is retired from the City of Thousand Oaks, where she served as Office Manager in the Community Development Department.

2022 Mardi Gras Ball Major Sponsors

Diamond Sponsor



Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsors

Barbara Ashcraft - In Loving Memory of Mel Ashcraft

Cecilia & Frank Bellinghiere

Fran Brough & Chuck Cunningham

California American Water

George & Jeannette Hutchison

Manchester Financial

Ventura County Credit Union

Silver Sponsors

Barbaras Development, Inc.

Marta & Bruce Rothwell

Larry Marquart

Pat & Ron Grant

Bronze Sponsors

Conejo Hearing Center

Premier America Credit Union

Grocery Outlet Bargain Market

Margaret Fieweger

David & Carol Freeman

Sherrill Hyink

Villa Esperanza Services

Insperty

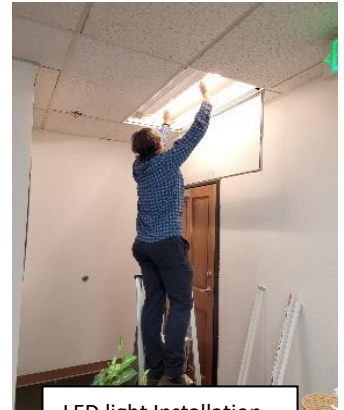
Athens Services

June Glassmeier

John & Maria Prescott

Lighting Upgrades

In April we began an interior LED lighting upgrade resulting in the entire facility having superior energy efficient lighting. Exterior lights were replaced in November with energy efficient LEDs. They are brighter than the old lights. This was paid for by a Social Services Grant from the City of Thousand Oaks. See the pictures of the East side parking lot (by the gas station) below. With the interior and exterior light upgrades we are saving an estimated \$12,000.00 per year in energy costs.



LED light Installation



Landscape Improvements

On April 24th we completed a City of Thousand Oaks Community Enhancement Grant landscape project. We put in rodent proof water conserving irrigation, new drought resistant plants to replace dead ones, and buck board to hold in an area of landscaping that washes into the parking lot with each rain.



New buck board and water conserving plants.

Maximizing Coordination of Services

Community Conscience had gatherings, training, and meetings to connect the tenants in the Human Services Center with the community in 2022.

The annual Spring Lunch for Directors and Officers was held on May 19th at Senior Concerns main office on the patio. It was a nice event where people got to know each other better or meet for the first time. Nine agencies gave presentations, President Dee Crawford, and the Mayor, Bob Engler. Also present were two representatives from Jacqui Irwin's office, Trustees, and the Advisory Council.

We had active shooter preparedness training from the Sheriff's department on September 1st in the Community Room at the Sheriff's station. Trustees, staff, and volunteers from most of the agencies housed in the Human Services Center were in attendance. The training was excellent and very well attended. All reported feeling much more prepared if a dangerous situation occurs.

The tenants were interested in having another informational class about homelessness.

This training was Thursday, September 22nd. Both Ventura County Sheriff's Sr. Deputy Lopez and Lutheran Social Services gave a presentation. They explained what rights the homeless have, what is considered a crime, and organizations the sheriffs refer to people for help. Lutheran Social Services did a good job with dispelling myths about homelessness.

On November 17th the Giving Thanks Lunch was a big success after a two-year hiatus from Government shutdowns during the pandemic. Smokin' Steve's BBQ did an excellent job with the food. There were volunteers from Lutheran Social Services and Villa Esperanza Services to set up and take down the tables and chairs. We expected about 60 people and had more than 75. The non-profits got to know each other better and stronger connections were made. Community Conscience Trustees and Advisory Council members wore big smiles and thanked the staff and volunteers for the hard work they do serving the community.

Community Conscience's bi-monthly Tenant Networking & Communications Meetings continued virtually. The tenants report finding these meetings very helpful in learning about each other, and the services offered. There were a lot of new staff and volunteers in attendance. A liaison from the Ventura County Council on Aging who previously regularly attended was present.



Mayor Bob Engler addressing the attendees of the Spring Luncheon May 19th.



Attendees enjoying the presentations at the Spring Luncheon

Organizational Governance

Community Conscience has a Board of Trustees that dedicates their time on a completely volunteer basis. The Executive Committee and Board of Trustees meet bi-monthly. All members are very active in the organization and participate by networking, updating our website and social media, fundraising, and projects. The following is a list of 2022 members.

Executive Committee

Dee Crawford, President
Woodrow Brokenburr, 1st Vice President
Sal Sandoval, Treasurer
Diane Milavetz, Asst. Treasurer
Pat Grant, Secretary
Fran Brough, Asst. Secretary
Margaret Fieweger, Past President



Board of Trustees

Susan Ahan	Larry Marquart
Barbara Ashcraft	Don Philipson
Dave Crawford	Gabrielle Pittle
Sherrill Hyink	Ed Sahakian
Aaron Kitzman	Jean Saunders
Cheryl Klepper	Jacque Turner
Mina Layba	

2022 Advisory Council

Community Conscience has an Advisory Council which is comprised of community leaders. The purpose of the Advisory Council is to provide guidance and direction appropriate to the mission and operations of the organization. Advisory Council members are invited to participate in the organization's activities and events including Board of Trustee meetings where non-voting status is granted. Members serve a one-year term and may be reappointed annually with no term limits imposed.

Leonard Alexander	June Glasmeier	Peter Mogg
Frank Bellinghiere	Susan Holt	Maria Prescott
Danielle Borja	George Hutchison	Hugo Roche
Grant Brimhall	Dr. Chris Kimball	Tex Ward
Chuck Cohen	Ricki Mikkelsen	Joan Young
Frank Dawson M.D.		

Staff Members

Executive Director: Robin Britt
Administrative Assistant: Marlene MacAulay

City of Thousand Oaks Liaison

Sarah Mailes

Financial Information

The primary sources of income received in the past several years by Community Conscience were proceeds from the Mardi Gras Ball and the lease agreement with the County of Ventura. The Mardi Gras Ball was postponed to July in 2022 due to Covid-19 concerns. The attendance is much lower than pre-pandemic years. Continued generous contributions from the community and our supporters made it possible not to use our reserves.

The non-profit organizations each contributed \$0.35 per square foot to offset the utility costs. These contributions covered 84% of the utility costs. The other 16% was covered by Community Conscience.

Income

Interest & Dividends	-\$59,751.00	0%
Donations & Grants	\$63,378.00	17%
Ventura County Lease Agreement	\$122,952.00	33%
Utility Reimbursement Contributions	\$49,180.90	13%
Mardi Gras Ball 2022	\$130,812	35%
Other Fundraisers	\$9,095.00	2%

Expenses

Wages & Salaries	\$91,628.00	25%
Administrative Costs	\$50,673.00	14%
Building Insurance	\$8,321.00	2%
Utilities	\$56,690.00	16%
Building Maintenance	\$142,066.40	24%
Fundraising Expenses	\$277.00	0%
Mardi Gras Ball	\$69,664.00	19%

Ways You Can Help

There are many ways to support Community Conscience, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, TIN #95-3310410. Please check with your tax advisor.

In Memorial and Honor Gifts: Your charitable gift is given to honor the memory or perpetuate the memory of a loved one. Following this donation, a letter will be sent to the designated person or family notifying them of your caring contribution. The amount of the gift is always confidential.

Donations of Cash: Your gift of cash, check, or via credit card payment can put your money to work immediately to help people in our community who are in need. This help is through programs offered at the Community Conscience building. You will be provided with a letter for income tax purposes.

Matching Gifts: Double or triple your gift through company matching gift programs for employees and retirees. To find out if your employer has a matching gift program, speak to the Human Resources Department. You can maximize the value of your donation by following the company's procedures and identifying Community Conscience as the recipient.

Donations of Stock: Contribute stock that has appreciated in value and receive a tax deduction for the full market value. This will eliminate the capital gains taxes you would have incurred from a routine stock sale. The stocks must have been held for at least one year. If you own stocks or other investments that have decreased in value, you could sell them and donate the proceeds. You may be able to deduct the loss from other income for additional tax savings. Together the two deductions may be worth more than the current value of the investment. Please check with your tax advisor.

Real Estate Donations: Gift a second home or other real estate to Community Conscience either outright or by bequest. You can preserve your cash assets, receive significant tax and income advantages and make a charitable gift at the same time. The gift of a remainder trust of your property allows you to continue to live in the residence for the rest of your life.

Donations of Tax-Deferred Retirement Plans and Life Insurance Policies: Donating retirement assets is one of the best ways to avoid costly income and estate taxes for your heirs. Naming Community Conscience as a beneficiary (or contingent beneficiary after the death of your spouse) of all or a specified percentage of any retirement plan assets can save your estate both income and federal estate taxes. You may also designate Community Conscience as the sole, partial, or contingent beneficiary of a new life insurance policy or one you and your family no longer require.