The death of Teresa’s grandmother nearly toppled the fragile lives that Teresa and Robert were rebuilding.

Robert, a former inmate of 20 years, worked as a handyman, and Teresa, drug-free since conceiving her son Jake, cleaned houses. But when Teresa’s grandmother died and the house changed hands, the family no longer had a home. The family resorted to sleeping in tight quarters in Robert’s niece’s house or in the unsafe environment of their car, until a referral to Family Supportive Housing gave them an optimistic chance to begin again. “It’s like life started all over again,” says Teresa.

Once situated in their comfortable and private room, the family’s dedicated Case Manager, Carmela, met with Teresa and Robert to develop a personalized plan that empowered them to move forward.

The couple attended nightly Adult Educational Workshops where they met with a credit counselor and learned how to build a savings account and manage their finances. Eleven year-old Jake remained academically engaged in school, thanks to his Homework Enrichment Program teacher and the many volunteers.

With the help of their personally committed Case Manager, both parents found higher paying jobs. Teresa is now an at-home caretaker for the elderly and Robert works for a commercial moving company.

The family’s increased income and assistance from the Shelter’s Housing Search Specialist helped them secure affordable housing in the GlennArms program, where no more than 30% of their income went towards rent. Additionally, they continued to meet with their Case Manager and received services for two more years.

The couple has exceeded their savings goal and continue to budget and save for their future. In January 2015, the family signed their first lease! Jake, who struggled in school during many difficult years, is now excelling with his studies!

The family is incredibly grateful for the services they received. “If [Family Supportive Housing] hadn’t been willing to help, we wouldn’t be here,” says Teresa.

Watch the family’s heartwarming video at familiesupportivehousing.org, and donate today to help families like Teresa and Robert receive the help they need to lead self-sufficient lives.

The 5th Annual Toast 2 Success cocktail benefit, hosted by NFL Wide Receiver and former resident James Jones and his wife Tamika, was held on Saturday, May 30th. When the Jones’ moved from Green Bay back to the Bay Area in 2014, they decided to add Family Supportive Housing as a beneficiary.

The benefit was held at the beautiful Fairmont Hotel in San Jose where almost 150 people gathered together to celebrate the success of James and many others who have achieved self-sufficiency. The event raised $10,000 to support families in our programs!

We are incredibly grateful for the Jones’ support and dedication to improving the lives of families who are experiencing homelessness. They provide an immense amount of hope and inspiration to families living at our San Jose Family Shelter.

James is a shining example of how hard work and determination lead to successfully achieving one’s goals.
For families experiencing homelessness, every day is a struggle to secure affordable and safe housing, better paying jobs, and a more promising future. These struggles make the holiday season more stressful for the families that we serve. During the holidays, we team together with hundreds of volunteers who donate thousands of hours and in-kind items to help make the holiday’s cheery and bright for families in our programs.

Dimitri, age 8, struggled to memorize his spelling words. No matter how much he studied in the San Jose Family Shelter’s nightly Homework Enrichment Program (HEP), he could not memorize all the words, and consistently scored about 45% on his spelling tests.

Then the iPads and tablets arrived. Donated by Sanmina Corporation and HEP volunteer, Brian Casey, they came loaded with educational software supplied at reduced cost by Mr. Nussbaum.

Christina, the HEP teacher, knew that Dimitri needed a different educational approach to memorize his spelling words, so after completing his homework, Dimitri worked closely with a dedicated volunteer every evening. Dimitri tackled the spelling modules on the new tablet, and the innovative approach made memorization easier and fun. He now consistently receives 100% on his spelling tests! “It’s wonderful to see the transformation in Dimitri’s spelling memorization,” says Christina.

In addition to improving his spelling, Dimitri has increased his overall technological literacy, and can navigate the iPad and tablet with ease - skills that will prepare him for life beyond the shelter in Silicon Valley.

To donate iPads and tablets to HEP, please contact Christi at (408) 926-8885 or volunteer@familysupportivehousing.org. It will make a difference in the academic lives of children at the shelter!

How YOU can get involved:

**Christmas Shoppe:** Every year, we magically transform our parking garage into a holiday store where parents can pick-out their children’s presents and children can pick-out their parent’s presents— at no cost to the families. We need gifts and volunteers to set-up the shop and assist families with searching for the perfect gift. To become a volunteer or donate a gift, please contact our Community Resource Manager, Christi, at (408)926-8885 or volunteer@familysupportivehousing.org.

**Adopt-a-Family:** Families in our GlennArt Arms and Bridges AfterCare programs are matched with generous donors who purchase items from the families’ wish lists. This a great team building opportunity for companies, groups or families. To Adopt-A-Family, please contact our Intake Coordinator, Irma, at (408)926-8885 or data@familysupportivehousing.org.

Volunteer, Brian Casey, introduces children in HEP to electronic devises

Volunteer to Help Spread Holiday Cheer
Please join Family Supportive Housing for its:

29th Annual Soup Kitchen Dinner

Thursday, November 5, 2015

Cocktails: 6:00-7:00pm | Dinner: 7:00-9:00pm
Dress: Business Casual
$150/person | $1500/Table of ten | $75/person (under 30 yrs)

Bellarmine College Preparatory, Liccardo Center
960 W. Hedding Street, San Jose

**Buy Tickets** online at familysupportivehousing.org,
or send check or credit card number to:

Family Supportive Housing
Attn: Soup Kitchen Dinner
692 N. King Road
San Jose, CA 95133

All proceeds benefit Family Supportive Housing’s programs, which offers warm and safe shelter, specialized goal-oriented services, and nutritional meals to families experiencing homelessness in Santa Clara County as they achieve self-sufficient living.

**Event Sponsors**

- SJW Water Company
- Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
- Heritage Bank of Commerce
- Star One Credit Union

*Confirmed at the time of printing

**Emcee**

Stephen Stock
NBC Bay Area
Investigative Unit

We look forward to seeing you on November 5th!!
Double Your Impact When You Donate

Thanks to a generous Challenge Grant by the Sobrato Family Foundation, your donation to Family Supportive Housing will be matched, dollar-for-dollar, through June 2016!

**How to Double Your Impact:**

1. **New**: First-time donors (100% matched).
2. **Lapsed**: Donors who have not made a donation in more than a year (100% matched).
3. **Increased**: If you have already made a donation in the past year, and increase the amount of your donation, your gift will be matched by the increased amount. (For Example, if you donated $50 in May, $50 in July, and $250 in October, your donation will be matched by the increased $150).

For questions on making a financial gift, please contact Bianca Vallorz, Communications & Development Manager, at Bianca@familysupportivehousing.org or (408) 926-8885.

Double your donation!

Mission: To provide shelter and supportive services to homeless families in Santa Clara County, to empower them to move from homelessness to self-sufficiency in our community.