



OVERVIEW

- Founded in 2005 and expanded mission as STEP in 2012
- 100% funded by generous contributions from individuals, organizations, corporations and foundations to support our mission
- Tax Identification Number: 20-3051279

CONTACT US

info@stepsocal.org

SAN DIEGO

9915 Businesspark Ave., Suite A,
San Diego, CA 92131
(866) 424-5210

ORANGE COUNTY

1631 Sunflower Ave., Suite C34,
Santa Ana, CA 92704
(714) 444-0075

SEATTLE

(253) 442-2366

www.stepsocal.org

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Updated September 16, 2020



SUPPORT THE ENLISTED PROJECT

Who We Are:

A 501(c)3 nonprofit building financial self-sufficiency among military and Veteran service members and their families facing financial crisis through counseling, education, and grants.

Who We Serve:

- **Enlisted** service members in pay-grades E1 to E6 when unexpected financial hardship or crisis strikes and crucial living expenses cannot be met
- **Veterans** within the first 18 months following an honorable discharge
- **All branches** of the Armed Services, Coast Guard, as well as federally activated National Guard and activated Reserves

How We Serve:

In-depth financial counseling, coupled with grants* to stop the loss of a critical basic need:

- **Emergency Food**
- **Rent & Mortgage**
- **Utilities**
- **Critical Baby Items**
- **Emergency Travel**
- **Auto Repair**
- **Auto Payments & Insurance**
- **Other Emergencies**

** Financial support provided as grants, not loans, and paid directly to service providers or in the form of commissary or retail gift cards*

Why We Serve:

- **High Cost of Living** in Southern California

30% higher with housing rates almost double the national average

- Enlisted Military = **Smaller Compensation Packages**

100% of service members falling with the E1-E4 pay grades (with allowances) are considered low income according to HUD guidelines

- Relatively Young Families with **Different Challenges and Varying Financial Skills**
- Deployments, family moves, spouse employment, childcare*

These factors combine to put families on the brink of financial crisis. Our social workers provide financial counseling, education, budgeting, goal setting, and other financial tools to put these families on a path to permanent financial self-sufficiency.



A+





ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY

- Charity Navigator - 4 Star Rated
- GuideStar Platinum Exchange
- Independently Audited
- Respect of donor privacy - lists are not sold or traded
- \$0.84 of each dollar raised goes directly to support client services
- All annual and financial reports made available on the STEP website

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info@stepsocal.org

PO BOX 26747
San Diego, CA 92196

Phone: (866) 424-5210
Fax: (858) 695-6845

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Who We Are:

A 501(c)3 nonprofit building financial self-sufficiency among military and Veteran families facing financial crisis through counseling, education and grants.

Lifetime Accomplishments (2012 - June 2019)

Responded to **4,919** applications for counseling services in the face of a financial crisis and granted **\$1,785,850** to conduct the following:



903

Two weeks of
emergency food
provided



393

Vehicle
repossessions halted

100%

successful at halting
the loss of a basic need
for qualified families



427

Utilities restored or
disconnections
prevented



160

Critical repairs for
primary family vehicles

94%

of clients *DO NOT* return
for additional assistance



457

Home evictions and
foreclosures prevented



460

additional needs met:
insurance, baby supplies, etc.

83%

of clients report an improved
Financial Well-Being

How Community Partners Can Help

- **Refer clients:** www.stepsocal.org/services
- **Donate:** www.stepsocal.org/donate
- **Volunteer:** www.stepsocal.org/volunteer
- **Partner** with co-branding or cause marketing
- **Host** a fundraiser, drive, or awareness campaign
- **Share the message** of how STEP helps our military families
- **Combined Federal Campaign:** #71984
- **Give** through Amazon Smile, PayPal Giving, Facebook, & eBay Charity

STEP's In-Kind Donated Goods Program

Community-donated goods help young military and veteran families offset critical living expenses, at no cost. We focus on distributing essential baby items, hygiene products, and small household goods.

Donations and gift cards are accepted