



HOW YOU 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 & eBay Charity

CONTACT US

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PO BOX 26747
San Diego, CA 92196

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

www.stepsocal.org



Building financial self-sufficiency with our young military and veteran families through financial counseling, emergency grants and other support programs.

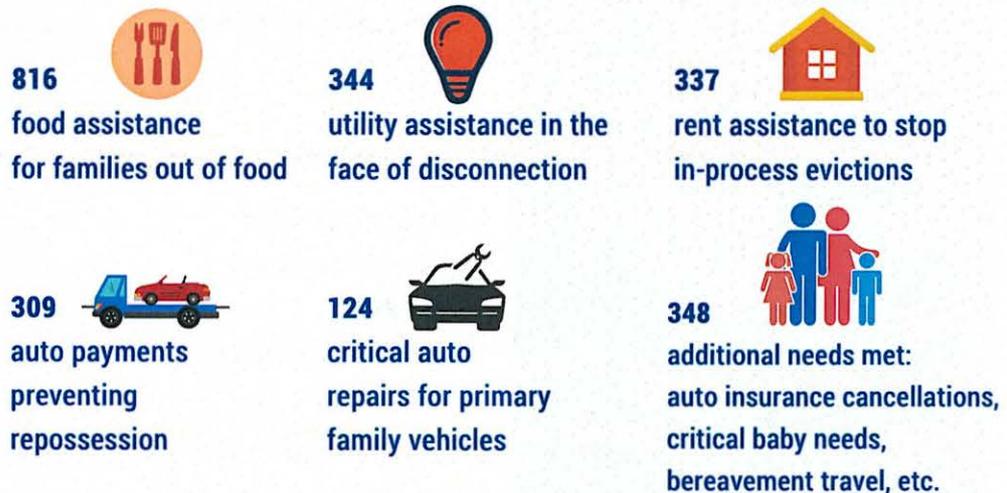
Why STEP Exists:

- **High Cost of Living in Southern California**
30% higher with housing rates almost double the national average
- **Enlisted Military = Smaller Compensation Packages**
100% E1-E4 pay grades (with allowances) are considered low income according to HUD
- **Relatively Young Families with Different Challenges and Varying Financial Skills**
Deployments, family moves, spouse employment, childcare

These factors can combine to put families on the brink of financial crisis. STEP Social Workers provide life counseling, financial education, budgeting, goal setting, and other financial tools to get these families on a path to permanent financial self-sufficiency.

Lifetime Accomplishments (Oct 2012 - June 2017)

Responded to **5,135** applications for counseling services in the face of a financial crisis and granted **\$1,365,000** to stop the loss of the following basic needs:



STEP's In-Kind Donated Goods Program

Goods donated by community members are given to our young military and veteran families, at no cost, to help offset critical living expenses. We focus on distributing baby items and small household goods i.e. new car seats, new cribs, diapers, gently used children's clothes, toys, and much more.

Donations and gift cards are graciously accepted



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OVERVIEW

- 501(c)3 non-profit organization
- Tax Identification Number: **20-3051279**
- Founded in 2005 and expanded mission as STEP in 2012
- STEP's areas of responsibility includes the **seven southernmost counties in California**: San Diego, Orange, Los Angeles, Ventura, San Bernardino, Riverside, and Imperial
- Rely **100%** on the generous contributions of Southern California's individuals, corporations and foundations to support our mission

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About STEP

- **Serving** enlisted families in pay-grades E1 to E6 when unexpected temporary financial hardship or crisis strikes and crucial living expenses cannot be met
- **Applicants** may be on active duty or within the first 18 months after honorable discharge as they reintegrate back into civilian life
- **Assist** families stationed at, or recently discharged, from any of 16 military installations and 2 medical centers in Southern California
- **Applications** accepted online from the privacy of the applicant's home
- **Support** all branches of the Armed Services, Coast Guard, as well as federally activated National Guard and activated Reserves
- **All services** provided in the form of a grant, *not a loan*, and are paid directly to service providers or in the form of commissary or retail gift cards

100%

successful in stopping the loss of basic needs in jeopardy of qualified families

93%

of families served *DO NOT* return for additional assistance

88%

report an improved financial situation 6-36 months post intervention

Financial Grants Provided For Basic Needs

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

Accountability & Transparency

- Charity Navigator - 4 Star Rated
- GuideStar Platinum Exchange
- Independently Audited
- Donor privacy respected, lists not sold or traded
- \$0.82 of each dollar raised directly supports client services
- Annual report posted on website
- Financial records posted on website

