Mario was born in El Salvador. After he married and had children, he decided to move his family to Los Angeles. Just four years ago, his wife passed away from a serious illness. Mario and his family were devastated. To deal with his pain, he tried to find things to keep himself active.One of the people he met during this timeintroduced him to St. Barnabas Senior Services. He quickly became comfortable at SBSS and felt like it was a second home*.* He started socializing with other seniors, participating in fun activities, such as bingo, bowling and movies and he attended educational workshops.Mario also feels very supported by the Social Service Department staff when he needs assistance with translation or explanation of important documents.

Mario now lives with his youngest son and maintains a close relationship with the rest of his family. His children are a very important part of his life and he wants to always be there to support them. He is looking forward to the upcoming holiday as many of his children.



Hak Soon has lived in Los Angeles for the last ten years. He lives in a senior apartment complex where he has found many friends. One of those friends told him about the services at St. Barnabas and Hak Soon decided to look into them. He became interested in the cyber café and quickly learned how to navigate the internet so that he could keep up with the Korean news. Although he did not know how to use a computer when he first arrived at SBSS, computers and the internet have become something of a hobby for him.

Around the holidays, Hak Soon appreciates the comfort and personal contact he experiences at SBSS. His wife past away several years ago and two of his sons live in their native Korea, so he does not see them often. His eldest son lives here in Los Angeles and Hak Soon works with him as he is able to, but there are still many days that he finds himself alone. Hak Soon has found that SBSS has become a place where he can connect with people that he knows and where he can stay in touch with his Korean culture.

                                                                                                                            

Jack was active in the U.S. Navy for several years.  Even after his active duty ended, he remained in the reserves.  As a result, he and his wife and their four children moved around quite a bit.  In the 70s, they decided to settle in Burbank where they purchased a home.  Both Jack and his wife, Mary, were native to Southern California and wanted to raise their family in the area.

As Jack grew older, he started to show signs of Alzheimer’s disease.  When he started to deteriorate, Mary began searching for a day program that could assist in his care.  A friend of hers had done charitable work for SBSS and highly recommended the adult day health care center.  Mary decided to check out the facility, and despite the distance, decided that it was the perfect place for Jack.

Mary felt that the environment of SBSS’ ADHC was perfect for Jack.  The atmosphere was so upbeat and the staff were very caring and kept him active.  Mary also came to appreciate all of the extra touches that were provided, such as daily updates about Jack, assistance with medication and transportation issues, and even haircuts when they were needed.  Mary also enjoyed attending the caregiver’s meetings whenever she could.  She feels that the overall experience has just been wonderful, for her and for Jack.