



Voices of Hope

APRIL 2018 VOLUME 14, ISSUE 53 SERVING PEOPLE OF ALL CULTURES AND BELIEFS

Google Supports Catholic Charities' STEM Learning Opportunities for Underserved Kids in San Jose



L-R: John Sze, Catholic Charities donor; Aldo Estrada, CORAL STEM Coordinator; Sara Reyes, Senior Division Director of Children, Youth, and Family Development; Ronald Hammond, Anne Darling Principal; Adrian Shurr, Google.org; Javier Gonzalez, Google.org; Bernice P., CORAL student; Gregory R. Kepferle, CEO of Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County; Michael A., CORAL student; San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo; Raul Peralez, District 3 Councilman; Dominic Bejaramo, Assistant Superintendent, San Jose Unified School District; America Aguire, CORAL Program Director; Margarita Ojeda, CORAL Site Manager.

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County and Google.org, the philanthropic team within Google, Inc., announced a \$325,000 grant to expand STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) learning opportunities in San Jose.

The grant—the largest single cash gift from a corporation that Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County has received to date—will be used to expand the STEM curriculum and install a mobile computer lab at one of 22 after-school programs managed by Catholic Charities. The lab computers will come preloaded with software that guide students through fun and interactive activities to enhance STEM interest and understanding.

Catholic Charities' after-school program, CORAL (Communities Organizing Resources to Advance Learning), is a K-8 extended learning program embedded in schools across San Jose Unified and the Franklin-McKinley School Districts.

"CORAL has proven to be of great value for students and the community. We serve nearly 3,000 children per day at our school sites. Kids get help with their homework, literacy support, and even a nutritious snack," said Gregory R. Kepferle, CEO of Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County. "With Google's support, we will have the tools to incubate new STEM curriculum at one site and then expand it to the remaining 21 sites."

The pilot was launched at Anne Darling Elementary School in the San Jose Unified School District, where over 100 kids attend the CORAL after-school program each day. The school serves 441 children, 86% of which come from socioeconomically disadvantaged households. Google's support will run the pilot through 2021.

"Many households include parents that both work, often more than one job. CORAL keeps these kids out of empty homes or negative influences like gangs after the regular school day is over. We offer the kids a place to continue learning and now with Google's help, their interest in STEM will grow, and they will aspire to STEM careers," said Kepferle.

The grant was announced on March 2, 2018 at Anne Darling Elementary School at a special event hosted by Principal Ronald Hammond, Assistant Superintendent Dominic Bejaramo, and Catholic Charities. Adrian Schurr and Javier Gonzalez of Google.org were also present. "Catholic Charities' CORAL program, with its STEM focus, aligns with our priorities of educating kids and creating opportunities in STEM careers," said Schurr. San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo and District 3 Councilman Raul Peralez also joined in the celebration.

"Google's gift is a big vote of confidence on the quality of our work and staff," said Kepferle. "We thank them for their support of our mission."

If your business is interested in partnering with Catholic Charities, contact David Russo at (408) 325-5248 or drusso@catholiccharitiesscc.org.



Bernice P., CORAL student, thanks Google for the grant that will help her get more involved in STEM activities.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CATHOLIC CHARITIES ANNUAL APPEAL

Food, Housing, Healing, and Hope
May 19 and 20 – Look for Us at Your Parish!



Challenging economic times impact us all, but—more importantly—the poor and marginalized among us are most vulnerable. Even some working families struggle with adequate food and housing in our community.

Your support provides hope and healing to those in need—and real solutions get them out of poverty. We work with people of all cultures and beliefs in every parish of our diocese. Please welcome our Appeal Speakers on May 19 and 20 and give generously.

With a special challenge match from the Joseph Harold LaScola Family Foundation, your gift makes an even greater impact this year. *Read more on page 6.*

For information, contact Linda Pippin at (408) 325-5125 or lpippin@catholiccharitiesscc.org.

The 34th Annual Catholic Charities Golf Tournament and Auction

Monday, June 25, 2018

Almaden Golf & Country Club, San Jose

Win an opportunity of a lifetime! Enter the drawing to play in the Lexus Champions for Charity Golf Tournament at Pebble Beach!

See page 6 for more info.

2018 'Roll Against Poverty'™

BOCCE! tournament

Thursday, September 27, 2018
Campo di Bocce, Los Gatos



CHANGE LIVES FOR GOOD

Catholic Charities' Greg Kepferle dialogs with community change-makers fighting poverty in Silicon Valley.

CreaTV streaming: <http://bit.ly/ChangeLivesForGood>



Message From the CEO GREG KEPFERLE

Food, Housing, Healing, and Hope

Dear Friends,

You've heard the saying, "Give a person a fish and she eats for a day. Teach a person to fish and she eats for a lifetime." At Catholic Charities, we have learned that we need to do both—to feed and to teach. If a child is hungry, she can't learn. If she doesn't learn, then later she and her own children will always be hungry. This last year, Catholic Charities alone fed over 10,000 seniors, children, and families with 440,000 meals and distributed over 280 tons of food at 40 sites throughout the county. But hunger still persists here in one of the wealthiest communities in the entire world. How shall we respond?

You've seen the statistics and the headlines—median housing prices are insanely high, supply is frighteningly low, homelessness has increased, and many families are sharing homes and apartments often under the table. I can't remember a conversation where the crisis of affordable housing hasn't come up: "How about the Warriors on the road this year?" "Yeah, and speaking of on the road, did you hear about the software engineers living in RV's?" "Yeah, and there was another sweep of the homeless under the freeway." Last year, Catholic Charities and our housing development arm, Charities Housing, provided permanent affordable housing to 2,487 individuals. Through our Disaster Recovery Services, we provided emergency, temporary, and permanent housing to 703 individuals displaced by the flood. Yet we reach only a fraction of those in need. Homelessness and the affordable housing crisis persist. How shall we respond?

For many years, Catholic Charities has promoted a "hand up" out of poverty as we prevent the cycle of generational poverty through education and reduce situational poverty through employment. Yet, in this time of crisis we are being called by the pastors and the community to respond urgently with more emergency services. So we are developing a Safety Net Impact Fund to address emergency needs, such as homelessness and hunger, as well as mental health challenges and concerns of seniors. We are also developing a Hand Up Impact Fund to continue to invest in innovative solutions to prevent and reduce poverty. Third, we are launching a Good Samaritan Impact Fund to meet unmet needs that government grants don't fund due to restrictive criteria, and especially to respond to people in need referred by Parishes. Finally, the Good Samaritan took the victim of the robbers to an inn to recover, so we are creating an Innkeeper Fund to address the capital, facilities, and technology needed to serve people while they recover from the suffering caused by poverty.

During this year's annual Catholic Charities May Appeal, I invite you to invest in changing lives for good by donating to provide healing and hope for those who are hungry, those who struggle with homelessness, those who need affordable housing, and for our neighbors in poverty. Will you help our neighbors who need a safety net to catch them before they fall and help our neighbors who can use a hand up out of poverty? Please provide healing and hope. Thank you.

Many blessings,
Gregory R. Kepferle, CEO

CATHOLIC CHARITIES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIRMAN

Most Reverend Patrick J. McGrath

CEO

Gregory R. Kepferle

PRESIDENT

Khanh Duy Russo

VICE PRESIDENT

Veronica Duluk

SECRETARY

Brian Baer

Minda Cutcher

Ray Davilla

Michael Denzel

Nancy Erba

Fran Harvey

James C. Lyons

Judy Marcus

Mark J. Mikl

Michael Pope

Sandra Sepulveda

Michael Van Every

Agnieszka Winkler

EX OFFICIO

Most Reverend Patrick J. McGrath

Gregory R. Kepferle

Rev. Brendan McGuire

Brian Mooney

EMERITUS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mary Sue Albanese

Mary Quilici Aumack

Lucile Bianco

Mike Blach

Frank Boitano

Jim Cashman

Thomas Crotty

Jennifer DiNapoli

Mary Ellen Fox

Paul Gentzkow

Gene Gerwe

Drew Haaser

Marcos Herrera

Hugh Isola

Philip A. Mahoney

Joseph Melehan

Lon Normandin

Timothy O'Donnell

Cathy Parker

Ronald Pelzel

Robert Peters

Steven Pirota

Michael Schall

John M. Sobrato

Diane Speno

Greg Staszko

Joseph Thomas

Ray Triplett

Patrick Waite

Kenneth Wang

Mike Yutzenka

VOICES OF HOPE PUBLISHING INFORMATION

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County

Tel: (408) 468-0100

Fax: (408) 944-0275

Web: www.CatholicCharitiesSCC.org

Editing: Caroline Ocampo, Adelene Gallego Ramos

Design: Métier Marketing Communications, Inc.

Photos: Jose Uribe, Debra Tisoy Pacio

Writing: Adelene Gallego Ramos, Debra Tisoy Pacio, Alison Poetsch, David Russo

Printing: ChaseVP

ENVIRONMENTAL SAVINGS STATEMENT

Trees – 19 fully grown Solid Waste – 914 pounds

Water – 8,504 gallons Energy – 12 million BTU

Greenhouse Gases – 2,030 pounds

Agnieszka Winkler Combines Entrepreneurial Skills With Spiritual Focus to Support Long-term Vision of Poverty Solutions

Agnieszka Winkler—a noted entrepreneur and author—remembers a time when she was a young mother volunteering to bring food to families who needed help. As she looked at the map in disbelief, she realized that the recipients of the meals were migrant workers living less than a mile from her house in San Jose.



Art Lund and Agnieszka Winkler

"It had a profound effect on me," said Agnieszka, who became a member of the Catholic Charities Board of Directors in 2016. "The poor can be so near you and we don't see it. And it's a blindness that is still true today. Perhaps we choose not to see it. But in the richest country in the world, it doesn't need to be this way."

Agnieszka joined the board after supporting and advising Catholic Charities' Step Up Silicon Valley for several years. Step Up Silicon Valley is a social innovation network that ignites ideas and turns them into action to move people out of poverty. Agnieszka's support was inspired by the agency's success in serving the poor with a long-term vision rather than focusing only on the immediate needs of people in crisis.

"Catholic Charities uses fast fail models and pilot programs to help people get a 'leg-up' and move out of poverty," she said. "Our family immigrated to America in the last wave to come through Ellis Island. It used to be easier to climb the ladder of success and move up—a few rungs of the ladder are broken now and we need to work on repairing them."

An innovation-focused entrepreneur with a global perspective, Agnieszka founded her award-winning advertising agency in San Francisco when she was 26 and advised major tech companies as her clients. After selling her original company, she went on to found two other marketing companies and wrote a book on the impact of technology on branding.

Today, in addition to her work with Catholic Charities, Agnieszka continues to use her vast experience to support many initiatives—locally and globally. Most recently, she founded the not-for-profit Mazatlan Forum, an interdisciplinary intercultural platform for collaboration among U.S. and Mexican intellectuals on subjects of mutual interest.

She also recently began speaking on spirituality in the workplace. Her interest in the subject began when she audited an MBA class on the topic at Santa Clara University, where she currently serves on the Board of Trustees.



Agnieszka Winkler enjoys reading with her grandchildren.

Her family are also an important part of her life and she enjoys spending time with her husband, Art Lund, their five children, and eight grandchildren.

As the Chair of the Long-range Planning Committee of the Catholic Charities board, Agnieszka is uniquely suited to guide the agency with her experience, spiritual focus, and interest in helping the poor in one of the richest areas of the country.

When making a case for the importance of seeking solutions to end poverty in Silicon Valley, she says it is not only an issue of empathy, but also a loss of human capital when people are not able to reach their full potential.

"It's my intent to support Catholic Charities' vision and mission as we move forward and apply innovative methods to find long-term solutions to end poverty in our communities."

From Kinship to Kinesiology—How One Family Helped Lift Another

Anthony was already an impressive young man when he shared his story of how he was helped by Catholic Charities at the Caritas Celebration back in 2014. Soon after he had even more to be grateful for—thanks to a donor who heard his story.

Catholic Charities supporters, Marcos and Denise Herrera, were moved to reach out after listening to Anthony speak at that reception four years ago. Anthony told the story of how he and his fiancée, Gaby, took on the guardianship of Anthony's four much younger siblings, protecting them from becoming separated and placed in the foster care system. Catholic Charities' Kinship Program provided Anthony and Gaby with legal support and important resources needed to build a strong and healthy family unit.



Anthony and his sister celebrate his graduation from San Jose State.

When learning more about the challenges facing Anthony and Gaby, the Herreras wanted to provide support for the family. A scholarship to cover college textbooks and fees was at the top of their list of needs, and fortunately, something that Marcos could help with.

This hand-up helped make possible the good news Marcos received in January 2018—a graduation announcement from Anthony. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Kinesiology, step one to achieving his academic goals of earning both a Masters in Kinesiology and a teaching credential. Obtaining those credentials are needed for Anthony to achieve career goals of becoming an Athletic Director and head basketball coach at a local high school.



Anthony and Marcos Herrera

Gaby is doing well, too. She is in her second year of the nursing program at Samuel Merritt University in Oakland and works at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford in Palo Alto. The Herreras also helped her receive a scholarship to support her education.

Everyday, Anthony and Gaby demonstrate that they are up to the challenges they have undertaken. While they maintain their studies and part-time jobs, they make sure their four children (now 10, 14, 16, and 17) have opportunities to participate in sports and other extracurricular activities. It's exciting to see that the whole family is on a healthy trajectory. Their lives are changed forever!

For ideas on how you can make a difference, contact Alison Poetsch at (408) 325-5288.

Students in After-School Program Receive Free Books



ILC Community Engagement Volunteer Cheryl Moorman (pictured right) with volunteer sorting books.

In 1998, the Immanuel Lutheran Church of Saratoga (ILC) and its Community Service Committee, led by JoAn Lambert and its parishioners, saw the need for vulnerable families to have access to children's books. The families didn't need books to borrow, they needed books to build a library of their own.

The ILC formed The Books for Kids team and set to work to gather thousands of gently used children's books. The Books for Kids team got so

good at it, that they were frequently sending books to area schools and shelters, even trucking books to the Navajo Indian Reservation in New Mexico, and shipping in pallets and containers to Tanzania and Kenya. "Our constraint was not having enough books, but the cost of delivery," said Lambert.

Matching demand with supply, ILC arranged a collaboration with Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County to provide a steady stream of books to 2,400

elementary school children. "We provide some books to kids, but there are not enough for families to keep them," said Sara Reyes, Senior Division Director of Catholic Charities' CORAL (Communities Organizing Resources to Advance Learning) after school program. "We simply need more books!"

In the true spirit of collaboration, the remaining roadblock of delivering and sorting the books was solved with the assistance of a local company. "I was looking for ways to engage my staff in community activities and give back," said Bob Gavin, Senior Vice President of Bio-Techne, a biotech firm in San Jose. Catholic Charities' staff connected Bob's desire to help with ILC's logistical needs. "Helping sort and deliver books to kids was the right fit for us."

October 2017 marked the first successful delivery of over 1,200 books by the Bio-Techne team from ILC to Catholic Charities. Cheryl and Jack Moorman of ILC had been storing boxes of books in their garage waiting for a way to get them to children. They said, "We are blessed that we could partner with CORAL and Bio-Techne!" To date, 4,200 books have been delivered to CORAL after school programs.

To learn more about CORAL, please contact América G. Gomez, Program Director, at aaguirre@catholiccharitiesscc.org.

Innovating Social Impact Technology to Fight Poverty

Catholic Charities is turning to technology to create innovative products that can solve the difficult challenges of poverty in the community. We partnered with SeniorGrowth, a data technology startup, to successfully co-develop and pilot an innovative new client service and program evaluation application, MyWellBeing (MWB).

"It is an honor to work with Catholic Charities and build innovative products like MyWellBeing that can help solve their most difficult challenges in their community, and make a lasting impact in each of their client's lives," said Felipe de la Fuente, CEO and Founder of SeniorGrowth.

The MWB application runs on SeniorGrowth's cloud-based care platform. It allows any case manager to assess an individual's quality of life and self-sufficiency level via a mobile device like a tablet or smartphone. After an assessment is completed, SeniorGrowth's proprietary algorithm analyzes the results and creates a well-being profile with goals to track

progress, assisting with both care planning and easily aggregating outcomes data among thousands of clients for program reports.

MWB was piloted in the Golden Gateway Program, which serves physically, linguistically, or culturally isolated older adults with undiagnosed depression or mental health problems. Eighty-six (86) individuals in the program were evaluated. Case managers worked one-on-one with each client to create a personal care plan. Each case manager was able to monitor and track clients' progress and conduct a mid-term assessment over the next six months. The results from all 86 individuals was outstanding! Every single individual showed improvement in multiple domains, including housing, health care access, safety, mental health, and food security. The program as a whole achieved 100% client engagement.

"At Catholic Charities we are in the heart of Silicon Valley, and we are constantly scanning

technology innovations to see how we can adapt them to serve our community," said Jacqueline Copeland-Carson, Chief Operations Officer at Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County. "MWB is a powerful and transformative tool for people of all backgrounds trying to create a better future. Its potential impact for all our clients and the broader community is exciting."

The MWB application is part of Catholic Charities' Social Impact Technology Initiative, designed to innovate cutting edge tech solutions to our region's most complex social challenges.

To learn more, please watch this impact video: bit.ly/CCSCC-Social-Change-Video.



A case manager and a client review data to assess client's health needs.

STEP UP SILICON VALLEY: 10 YEARS IN THE MAKING



Almaz Negash,
Senior Managing Director
Step Up Silicon Valley

Ideate–Incubate–Launch. The U.S. economy is booming and Silicon Valley companies play a major role in it. We have the highest paid skilled labor in the country. According to Joint Ventures of Silicon Valley report, the median income for skilled tech workers is above \$118,700/year, while low-skill workers wage is around \$27,000/year. Here is the hard truth—in Santa Clara County the threshold income for a family of four is \$84,750. Even at that, some families are struggling to make ends meet.

Families in the Valley are forced to make decisions on whether to buy food, pay for rent, or transportation. In an economy that is growing fast, now one should be forced to make such a decision. So, the question is how do we rise up to the occasion and make a systemic change to ensure that everyone has access to quality education, food, healthcare, housing, and good paying jobs?

It is a fact that in Santa Clara County, rental costs will be an impediment to financial security (average rent is \$2,616/month). Nonetheless, we can't give up on our community and we need to advocate and work collectively to change systems that keep people in poverty. The good news is that, we live in a community that wants to make an impact, and Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County (CCSCC) is one example.

In 2007, in response to the growing social and moral crisis created by poverty, CCSCC developed Step Up Silicon Valley out of the belief that complex problems like poverty can only be solved when organizations, corporations, foundations, government leaders and individuals work collaboratively to generate knowledge and resources needed to enable systemic change. While we have a long ways to go to move people out of poverty, over the past 10 years, Step Up Silicon Valley has ideated, incubated, and launched transformative projects such as Pay for Success (a.k.a. Social Impact Bond), Franklin McKinley Children's Initiative, 1,000 Out of Poverty, and Data Integration System.

The Data Integration project, launched on February 15, 2018 is the latest innovative initiative of SUSV developed to streamline the process of evaluating the social impact of each organizations' efforts, and monitor success metrics through ongoing data sharing and inter-agency collaboration. This initiative helps identify, design, test, implement, and evaluate technological solutions to increase the timeliness of, access to, and accuracy of information to connect people in poverty and their professional and volunteer helpers to resources to help people move out of poverty. Read more about our impactful work at www.stepupsv.org.

Living Well, Leaving Well

Catholic Charities' Legacy Giving Committee, chaired by Caritas member Joe Melehan, hosted the third "Living Well, Leaving Well" event at St. Lucy Parish in Campbell on February 22, 2018. Guests enjoyed a special speaker and a panel discussion.

Father Gerald Coleman, noted moral theologian, author and past President of St. Patrick's Seminary, once again presented the



Father Gerald Coleman

Catholic teaching on care at the end of life. His presentation encouraged lively discussion regarding the inherent dignity of life. To build a moral framework for guests, Fr. Coleman quoted Pope Francis, "The dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision of society," and St. Thomas Aquinas, "A positive moral duty to preserve one's health and life using medical treatments that offer a reasonable hope of benefit but do not involve a physical or moral impossibility."

A panel of experts included Jerome Galli, estate planning attorney at Galli Miller Law Corporation; Aaron Szager, certified financial planner with BlueSky Wealth Advisors; and Catholic Charities' Senior Director of Planned Giving, David Russo. They discussed planning challenges facing today's families.

Among the many topics that inspired lively discussion was advanced healthcare directives. This essential part of your estate plan documents your wishes for medical treatment. Current forms are useful but are often incomplete and do not incorporate one's values and beliefs. The panelists and Fr. Coleman gave best practices to make your values and wishes clear to your doctors and care providers.

Finally, Milton Cadena, Program Director for Catholic Charities' Senior Day Care Services, highlighted its older adult services, specifically its senior nutrition program. In 2017, over 70,000 hot, affordable meals were served to seniors at two senior centers operated by Catholic Charities.

Do you have an advanced healthcare directive? Does it reflect your beliefs and values? Have you thought about what your legacy will be? If not, contact David Russo at (408) 325-5248 or drusso@catholiccharitiesscc.org for a consultation.



David Russo, Jerome Galli, Aaron Szager

Responsible Landlord Engagement Initiative Honors Neighborhood Champions



Mayor Sam Liccardo

On the evening of February 21, community members, neighborhood leaders, and city officials gathered at the San Jose City Hall Rotunda for the annual Responsible Landlord Engagement Initiative (RLEI) Neighborhood Champions Awards. The awards ceremony honored 20 San Jose neighborhood groups for their efforts to work with landlord and property owners to keep their neighborhoods safe, vibrant, and healthy.

During the ceremony, San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo called Bill Holmes to the stage and commended him as an exemplary landlord whose longstanding leadership sets an example for the community partnerships in sustaining safe housing across the city of San Jose.

The Responsible Landlord Engagement Initiative is a program of Catholic Charities that works with neighborhood leaders, law enforcement, and local government to hold property owners and tenants accountable for assuring that their properties contribute to the well-being of the community. The program represents a unique way of approaching neighborhood development through improving "problem properties."

"We are so grateful for your leadership in this effort, to all the program partners who have been working hard on this," said Liccardo. "This is where innovative partnership starts. A lot of folks tend to talk about technological innovation in the Valley, but not enough talk about celebrating the social innovation we have here."

RLEI is the only community-driven program of its kind. Its success is based on the commitment of residents who take pride in making their neighborhoods safe and clean.

Through the teamwork of property owners, tenants, nearby residents, and other stakeholders, the program has resolved issues for 32 neighborhoods in the past year. Over the past six years, RLEI has worked alongside 120 neighborhood groups in San Jose to improve the safety and livability of their residents. The initiative has evolved from one case with 55 petitioners in 2011 to 132 cases with over 2,150 petitioners by the end of 2017. Dramatic improvements have included the replacement of property managers, blight removal, and crime reduction.



L-R: Catholic Charities CEO Gregory R. Kepferle, SJPD Lt. Michael Sullivan, SJPD Deputy Chief Anthony Mata

To learn more about the Responsible Landlord Engagement Initiative, please contact Program Manager Jaime Angulo at jangulo@catholiccharitiesscc.org.



L-R: Councilmember Sergio Jimenez, Mr. Steve Moffett & Mrs. Diane Moffett, Mr. Jim Green, Mr. Sean Screws

Catholic Charities and Honor Home Care Collaborate to Better Serve Older Adults

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County and Honor Home Care, the largest non-medical in-home care provider in the Bay Area, recently announced a Care Network Partnership.

Through the new relationship, Catholic Charities will recommend Honor Home Care to clients of its Day Break Cares In-Home Care. Catholic Charities will no longer directly provide in-home care services. Instead, agency caregiver staff will work with Honor, who will provide services to the agency's existing in-home clients.

"We are committed to the community of aging adults and their caregivers in Santa Clara County," said Nita Sommers, Honor's President of Enterprise. "Through this unique partnership, aging adults will continue to receive high quality care so they can remain comfortably and safely in their own homes. In addition, the care professionals who do compassionate work will now have access to our exceptional training and support."

Ten years ago, Catholic Charities had a vision for creating a social enterprise that provided jobs for clients and helped seniors stay in their own homes, while paying market rate fees that could raise funds for the agency. Out of that vision came Day Break Cares, a three-part social enterprise providing In-Home Care Services, Geriatric Home Aide Training, and Adult Day Care. The goal was to provide entry-level healthcare jobs to refugees and low income clients.

Day Break Cares provided employment to approximately 122 home care staff. They served 200 clients and provided about 200,000 hours of service. The home care professionals—former clients—represented all walks of life, including veterans, immigrants, and refugees. This was the first healthcare job for many of them.

Over the years, clients' needs and the senior services market changed dramatically. Catholic Charities also had to change and restructured

Day Break Cares. A more competitive home care market and increasingly complex regulatory environment were pulling the agency away from their original priority of providing job opportunities through senior services.

Honor invested significantly in building tools and training to provide caregivers with exceptional support. Honor is able to provide better potential earnings and more work for its Care Professionals, helping Catholic Charities meet its original In-Home Care goal of providing upwardly mobile employment opportunities.

"Catholic Charities is proud to join with Honor to provide our clients with best-in-class non-medical home care services," said Jacqueline Copeland-Carson, Chief Operations Officer at

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County. "The Catholic Charities/Honor Home Care Partnership helps us reach a larger critical mass of seniors and their families, while extending employment opportunities in the burgeoning home care market. Honor shares

our values of blending compassionate care and economic opportunity with cutting edge technology for the good of all."

Catholic Charities has a Social Impact Technology Initiative whereby they partner with technology companies to better use technology to improve people's lives and become more efficient as an agency. Honor's best-in-class technology in the non-medical home care industry make them an ideal partner.

After the transition, Catholic Charities will direct clients seeking non-medical home care services to Honor, and Honor will ensure that clients who are not ready for home care are aware of Catholic Charities' Adult Day Care services. Catholic Charities continues to offer free Geriatric Home Aide Training in partnership with Foothill College.



OUR SOCIAL COMMITMENT TO THE WORLD

Father Jon Pedigo,
Director of Advocacy &
Community Engagement



There was a recent article I read about people sitting at the coveted spaces at the end of the pew. My retort to the article was that people sit on the edge have legitimate reasons for doing so. Perhaps they are ministers and they need to leave to serve communion or lector or maybe they need quick access to the bathroom. But there are other, less noble, but more common reasons too. People want to beat the traffic jam in the parking lot and get to the iHop for breakfast, get home before their house guests arrive, or, as in the case of my friend, Damien, want to catch the last quarter of the game.

When we mentally check out of mass or leave right after communion, we miss the "why" of our faith. The closing part of the mass provides us the context of why we gather. Recall the final words of the liturgy, "The mass is ended, go and love and serve the Lord." The liturgical script is rooted in Matthew 25, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you? And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers or sisters of mine, you did for me.'" The liturgy's last words are, therefore, words commanding the congregants to participate in the social mission of the church.

A man once remarked to me, "When I go to mass, I go to get Eucharist, I don't see what mass has to do with receiving refugees or challenging the federal budget to pour more money into social programs." It was made clear to me that he did not understand that unless one receives the least of these, one does not receive the Lord. The Eucharist is indeed inextricably tied to our social commitment to the world. Our work at Catholic Charities is, therefore, more than social work. With each person we serve in any one of our 38 programs, we live out Divine Mission of the Holy Mass.

Refugee Foster Care Supports Youth Toward Independence

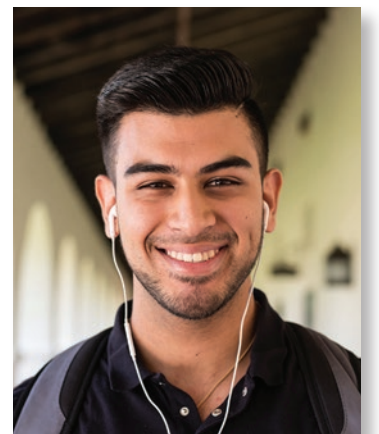
While reviewing his college class schedule, Santiago shared that he never imagined that he would be able to attend college. He expected to be sent to the United States to work without any hope of attending high school, let alone graduating with a diploma. Despite a difficult transition, Santiago—a refugee youth from Guatemala—received the support he needed to persevere and achieve his college-bound dreams through the Refugee Foster Care program at Catholic Charities.

Santiago met a number of challenges in foster care. His first home was in a rough neighborhood that made him feel unsafe. Later, his family had an unexpected challenge that left them unable to care for a foster child. Santiago finally landed with a foster mother, Rachel, who helped him to personally grow and find a family connection. But after seven months, Rachel could no longer foster a child due to unforeseen circumstances. Although discouraged, both Santiago and Rachel were determined to stay connected, and Catholic Charities remained dedicated to providing Santiago with a stable family and an opportunity to accomplish his dreams. Rachel and Santiago worked with the program to come up with a creative solution, and Santiago was encouraged to try the Supervised Independent Living Program, where he could rent a room at the house of Rachel's sister.

"He loved it," said Angela Albright, Division Director, Refugee Foster Care. "Living there, Santiago received familial support while maintaining ties with Rachel and the family. The arrangement helped him to find a sense of independence while staying connected to the family he came to love."

Today, Santiago is overjoyed to have a family and a place to call home. He recently began his first term of college classes, is proud of himself, and grateful for the opportunities that prepared him for a successful future. His next step? To pursue a degree that will set him up for a rewarding job, and possibly a Master's degree!

Catholic Charities' Refugee Foster Care program resettles unaccompanied refugee minors into long-term foster homes throughout the Bay Area and provides supportive services to both the youth and families. To learn more about Refugee Foster Care, please contact Division Director Angela Albright at aalbright@catholiccharitiesscc.org.



Catholic Charities May Appeal: 2018 Joseph Harold LaScola Foundation Challenge

The LaScola Family Continues Son's Legacy of Helping the Poor

In life, Joseph Harold LaScola was a devoted husband and son, an avid runner, and a dedicated supporter of providing opportunities to people in need. His family continues to honor his memory and is pleased to announce a special matching gift challenge for the Catholic Charities May Appeal.

"The work of Catholic Charities and local parish outreach programs personify Joseph's way of helping those less fortunate than himself," explained his parents, Joseph A. and Emily LaScola. "Joseph felt deeply that our Catholic tradition instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first. We miss him and know that he walks beside us in our efforts to help the poor."

Toward that end, the Joseph Harold LaScola Family Foundation has chosen two ways to honor their son's memory during the upcoming Catholic Charities Appeal. They will donate \$1,000 for every new Caritas Society Member during this year's Catholic Charities Appeal, May 19-20.

As devoted parents and proud parishioners of Saint Thomas of Canterbury Parish, the LaScolas are honoring their son in a way that makes a difference in

the community and reflects his dedication to the less fortunate. Joseph died unexpectedly on September 23, 2015 in the arms of his wife, Angelika.

"It is our hope to encourage parishioners throughout the Diocese to re-dedicate themselves to serving the poor in our community, through the fine work of Catholic Charities, as well as through neighbor-to-neighbor efforts of individual Parish outreach programs," the LaScolas said. "In our son's name and with the blessing of his wife, we support this essential work."

Caritas Society members contribute annual gifts of \$1,000–\$25,000 to Catholic Charities' programs. For information, please contact Alison Poetsch at (408) 325-5288 or apoetsch@catholiccharitiesscc.org. To find out how your Parish can get involved, contact Linda Pippin at (408) 325-5125 or lpippin@catholiccharitiesscc.org.



Joseph Harold LaScola

Catholic Charities' Geriatric Home Aide Course Helps Students Kick-start a Career in Healthcare

For more than eight years, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, in partnership with Foothill Community College, has offered a free certificate course in Geriatric Home Aide (in-home care). This course is being offered again three times this year, with sessions starting in January, April, and September.

Taking the non-credit course is a great way to begin a journey in healthcare. The training is designed to provide students with basic, hands on skills and knowledge that are needed to start a career in health care. This course emphasizes basic nursing needs, safety considerations, and nutritional needs for older adults. Students also



learn how to provide care to ambulatory elderly patients in their homes. Students who have graduated from the class have been successful in starting careers in the healthcare industry, and have found work as caregivers, nurse assistants, or have continued their education and graduated with a degree in healthcare.

learn how to provide care to ambulatory elderly patients in their homes.

Students who have graduated from the class

A former student states, "I now have more knowledge of the common conditions that an elderly person might face. I can approach a client and effectively address concerns with greater confidence, always with empathy. I now have a guideline for professionalism and scope of practice."

In total, there are 104 hours of classroom training, no cost tuition or fees, and books will be provided. No residency documentation is required. Classes take place at Catholic Charities' headquarters, 2625 Zanker Road, San Jose, CA, 95134.

To learn more, please call (408) 325-5171 or visit bit.ly/CCSCC-Home-Care-Aide.

The 34th Annual Catholic Charities Golf Tournament and Auction

Monday, June 25, 2018

Almaden Golf & Country Club, San Jose

WIN AN OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME!

Play in the Lexus Champions for Charity Golf Tournament at Pebble Beach!

Golf for two

Spyglass, Pebble Beach, and Spanish Bay

December 2018

Play and be treated like a pro!

- Luxury accommodations: 4 nights lodging at The Inn at Spanish Bay or The Lodge at Pebble Beach
- Complete hospitality package, all meals included
- All transportation and shuttles included
- Optional spouse package



\$100 donation. All proceeds benefit the work of Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County. Only 250 tickets are available for this exciting drawing – generously supported by Lexus of Stevens Creek. Contact Myra Kaelin, mkaelin@catholiccharitiesscc.org, (408) 325-5250.

The winning ticket will be drawn the afternoon of Monday, June 25, 2018. According to IRS regulations, donation drawing tickets are not tax deductible. The winner need not be present to win. A donation is not necessary to be eligible for the drawing.

Creating Lasting Change for Parishioners in Need

If you had the power to direct the resources of Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, what would you do? Fr. Jon Pedigo, Director of Advocacy and Community Engagement, recently asked this question to 43 pastors in the Diocese during a series of interviews last winter.

The pastors identified the lack of affordable housing and its implications on poverty as a significant issue within their Parishes. While the largest impact are in the deaneries with low income parishioners, virtually all deaneries feel the effects of high housing costs.

A second concern was homelessness. All pastors noted the rising level of unhoused persons on or near church property. The high cost of housing has driven the working poor out of houses and into cars and onto the streets.

A third concern was also related to housing—the rise in senior care. In Deanery 5, some Parishes saw a significant demographic shift: fewer young families with children and a growing number of older parishioners.

Fear and anxiety among immigrants was a fourth concern. Since the 2016 elections, immigrant parishioners have experienced harassment in schools and at work, separation of families, and economic hardship due to the deportation of a family member. Many pastors were concerned about the impact of this anxiety on the spiritual and emotional well-being of parishioners.

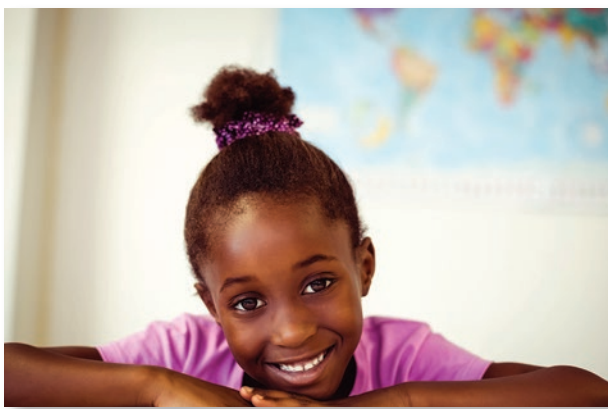
In response to the Gospel call to help those in need, many Parishes have food pantries, a St. Vincent de Paul Society, or social justice group that attends to the immediate needs of people. Pastors ask for more coordination that include the best of social service practices with Parishes, social justice ministries, St. Vincent de Paul Society, and Catholic Charities.

Moving forward, Fr. Pedigo is committed to convening conversations between pastors, Catholic Charities staff, lay ministers, and those directly affected by housing issues, homelessness, and issues affecting seniors and immigrants. The outcome of these conversations will lead us to create a way to bring about real and permanent change in the lives of parishioners in the Diocese.

Together Again

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County's Immigration Legal Services recently helped an 8-year old Eritrean client reunite with her grandparents. Jasmine was adopted by her grandparents after both her parents passed away when she was a baby.

After a few years, her grandparents immigrated to the U.S. after their daughter, Jasmine's aunt, petitioned for them. Since immediate relatives cannot have derivatives joining them, Jasmine was left alone in the care of a family friend in Ethiopia. Jasmine and her grandparents had to flee from their home in Eritrea after the Eritrean military harassed them.



After a harrowing escape to Sudan, they then ended up in Ethiopia.

The Immigration Legal Services staff at Catholic Charities have been trying to reunite Jasmine with her grandparents since 2014. Overcoming many obstacles, legal complications,

and afraid that Jasmine may never be allowed to leave Ethiopia, she finally arrived to the U.S. in 2017. Happy to be back together, the family now resides in the Bay Area.

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County not only helped reunite the family, they helped Jasmine's grandmother enroll in their Geriatric Care Training program. Soon after, she landed a good job as a caregiver and worked for Catholic Charities' Day Break Cares social enterprise.

To learn more about Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County's Immigration Legal Services, please visit www.catholiccharitiesscc.org/immigration-legal-services.

Nine-year Old Lucy Donates Bake Sale Proceeds to Disaster Recovery Services

During an unusually warm February afternoon, Lucy and her cousins stood before a red and white checkered table topped with homemade brownies, chocolate chip cookies, and rice krispy treats. Lucy was hosting a bake sale in a small neighborhood in Willow Glen, where there would be ample foot traffic and what she hoped to be an appetite for treats. In a single day, Lucy raised \$105 for Catholic Charities' Disaster Recovery Services while also raising awareness of the ongoing support for individuals and families affected by the February 2017 floods in San Jose.



L-R: Lindsey Caldwell and Lucy G.

"Hurricane Harvey got me thinking about how many people in the world face disasters every day," said Lucy. "I really wanted to help with the Santa Barbara fires and the mudslides, but I knew I wasn't old enough to go there. So I decided that donating money can help. Watching the news, I realized there

Lucy G. is nine years old and passionate about disaster relief. She attends St. Lucy School as a fourth grader, and was moved by the news of Hurricane Harvey wreaking havoc in Texas last August. After conducting web research of reputable local organizations, Lucy found Catholic Charities and wrote a letter to share her idea of kickstarting a fundraiser.

"Hurricane Harvey got me thinking about how many people in the world face disasters every day," said Lucy. "I really wanted to help with the Santa Barbara fires and the mudslides, but I knew I wasn't old enough to go there. So I decided that donating money can help. Watching the news, I realized there

were so many things I can help with in the world by donating money to disaster relief."

Since the 2017 San Jose floods, Catholic Charities' Disaster Recovery Services assisted 235 displaced families. The program housed almost all families and is continuing to assist remaining displaced families with transitional housing. Additionally, they continue to assess the unmet needs of all individuals impacted by the disaster and provide resources to assist these families through the long-term disaster case management program.

"After one year following the anniversary of the disaster, we have seen great improvement and transformation of people's lives, but our work is not done," says Lindsey Caldwell, Division Director of Emergency Programs and Housing Services. "We continue to assist these families towards self-sufficiency and a new normal. We know for many, the road to recovery can be long and challenging. We are grateful for generous donors and individuals like Lucy because we can't do this much needed work for our community without them."

To learn more about Disaster Recovery Services, please contact Lindsey Caldwell at lcaldwell@catholiccharitiesscc.org.



Lucy G. and her cousins are ready to raise funds and awareness for disaster relief with a bake sale

Tax Reform Changes and Charitable Giving

In December, the landscape for taxes shifted dramatically with the passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("The Act"). This sweeping legislation represents the largest tax reform in over three decades.

The Act's primary goals were to simplify the tax code and encourage business growth. Some notable individual tax law changes included:

- Reducing the number of tax brackets;
- Increasing the child credit;
- Increasing the charitable contribution limits to public charities;
- Increasing the standard deduction;
- Eliminating the personal deduction;
- Repealing the overall limitations on itemized deductions;
- Capping the deduction for state and local taxes at \$10,000; and
- Effectively doubling the estate tax exemption.

Most will agree that there are winners and losers, as all good compromises inspire. One thing is certain though, the effects of the tax law changes for this year and beyond will take some time to determine.

The Act benefited charitable giving via a substantial increase in year-end giving, particularly donor advised funds, which saw a big bounce in giving in December 2017. Donor advised fund dollars are now ready to be put to good use by operating nonprofits like Catholic Charities. The Act includes an increase in the amount families can give and deduct for charitable purposes, expanding to 60% of adjusted gross income. Both are good news for nonprofits and community.

Some see planned gifts, like bequests, to charities as potential losers of The Act. Estate taxes do not apply until an individual's worth exceeds \$11.2 million, or over \$22 million for married couples. The exemption increase could, although we certainly hope not, reduce the tax motivation for high-net worth families to create

a legacy after life. Some also see the doubling of standard deduction as limiting or reducing annual charitable giving. The higher standard deduction will likely reduce the number of itemizers significantly. Charitable donations are itemized deductions, so optimizing annual giving could result in taxpayers bunching their donations every other year. This could make it more difficult for public charities to plan.

Tallying tax winners and losers from The Act has very little to do with the needs of our community. At Catholic Charities, we will continue to rely on our dedicated donors to give not only based on tax code, but also on the values we hold and share. More accurately, you likely give because you are called to do so and your drive to be good brothers and sisters of faith brings us closer to Christ's hopes for us.

Question about tax-wise giving? Contact David Russo, Senior Director of Planned Giving at Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County at (408) 325-5248 or drusso@catholiccharitiesscc.org.

Address Service Requested

DID YOU KNOW?

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County is dedicated to working with parishioners in the San Jose Diocese. Through our Advocacy & Community Engagement program, we form strategic partnerships with Parishes, social action groups, and community organizers. To get involved or learn more about our many resources for Parishes, please call our Parish Hotline at (408) 325-5196.



Catholic Charities Voices of Hope Newsletter

A CELEBRATION FOR THE COMMUNITY, BY THE COMMUNITY



Children from Catholic Charities' Washington United Youth Center celebrated the Christmas holidays with the annual Posada de la Comunidad in December 2017. Neighborhood families enjoyed holiday music, singing, Mexican Folkloric dancing, face painting, arts & crafts, and posole. The event was created by the community for the community.