



Voices of Hope

Compassion in Action: Housing in the Time of Need

Their greatest fear was that they would not be able to live together as a family after the baby was born. And that they would be homeless. Again.

Ricardo and Bernadette were living at a shelter at Grace Baptist Church and counting the days when their baby girl would be born. The shelter did not allow babies, and the wait list for shelters that did accept families with babies was long. Too long. The parents-to-be were running out of time.

Then their story made it into the Mercury News. That's how Catholic Charities heard about the couple with the baby on the way, but no home to live in after the baby was born. Catholic Charities' CEO, Gregory R. Kepferle, was drawn



Photo credit Jim Gensheimer/Bay Area News Group

to Ricardo and Bernadette's story and knew that the agency had to help.

"I was reminded of the Holy Family," said Greg. "Joseph and Mary were homeless when

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Saved Three Times by Catholic Agencies

Linh Pham was rescued by the Catholic Church three times in his life. Now an elder in the Vietnamese American community in San Jose, California, Linh is a recent survivor of the Coyote Creek flood. Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County came into his life after Linh and his family left his home in despair due to the flood.

Linh and his family were given immediate assistance with rent at his temporary home. After being displaced for about three months, his family was cleared to return home, and Catholic Charities assisted with rent, furniture, and household items.

The Catholic Church always seemed to show up every time Linh was in need. The first time was when he was a child in Vietnam. It was 1954. The French fell and Linh and his family escaped from North Vietnam to South Vietnam for safety. They were helped by the Catholic community, and were given shelter, food, and clothing.

The second time the Catholic Church appeared in Linh's life was when he fled Vietnam as a refugee in 1975. He was resettled by Catholic Charities in the United States. Linh and his family were given rental assistance. Catholic Charities also helped Linh and his family members find jobs, which helped them become self-sufficient in an unknown land.



Linh thought that his days of suffering through disaster has ended, but little did he know, in February 2017, his family would be in the direct path of the Coyote Creek Flood. Everything that he had worked to build in America was lost in a blink of an eye. Still reeling from the quick turn

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

2017 CHRISTMAS APPEAL

We are all aware of the factors that challenge the dignity, welfare, and security of people: poverty, illness, misfortune, the high cost of living, and more. As Catholic Charities, our response is strongly motivated by Jesus' clear example. He reached out with love and compassion to those in need. Our call to discipleship moves us to do the same. The 2017 Christmas Appeal is vital to the efforts of Catholic Charities to reach out with compassion and mercy to those in need. When you receive this year's Christmas Appeal we hope you will consider supporting those looking to Catholic Charities for help with a special gift or pledge. Your support reassures those who ask for help that they are not alone as they struggle to overcome hardships.



To donate, please call (408) 325-5125, email lpippin@catholiccharitiesscc.org, or go to www.CatholicCharitiesSCC.org/Appeal2017.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING WITH AMAZON SMILE

Sign up for Amazon Smile and your holiday shopping can benefit Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County. The AmazonSmile Foundation donates .5% of eligible purchase to our agency and there is no cost to sign up.

Please register at smile.amazon.com, select Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, and your purchases can support our work changing lives for good!



SEASON OF SHARING

A **Party with a Purpose** is a great way to get your family, company or organization involved in **Season of Sharing**. You can work together to collect food or toys, volunteer or to deliver presents to a Catholic Charities site.

Our Christmas Program, **Season of Sharing** runs November 1, 2017 through December 20, 2017. Together, we can brighten the season for thousands of families with toys, games, books, and gift cards!

For more information about getting involved, please contact Linda Pippin (408) 325-5125 or lpippin@catholiccharitiesscc.org.



Message From the CEO GREG KEPFERLE



Dear Friends,

How many ways can we say, "Thank you" this Thanksgiving and Christmas season? In their dialogues captured in *The Book of Joy*, the Dalai Lama and Rev. Desmond Tutu make the case that a joyful life is rooted in gratitude and generosity. So often we fill our lives with worry, grief and fear, that we can feel overwhelmed by all the natural disasters, the divisiveness in our world, and worries about health, work, or family concerns.

Catholic Charities clients share these same concerns and more. A refugee orphan wonders if she will survive and who will take her in. Much like the Holy Family, homeless parents worry if they and their newborn child will have to live on the street. An immigrant youth fears for her parents being deported because she received temporary protection under DACA. An adult son grieves the dementia that consumes his aging parent. A former gang member who did his time in jail worries if he can get a job, given his record, and his tattoos. A child struggling with English and math anxiously questions if she will ever understand. An isolated senior overwhelmed by loneliness wonders if she will ever get out of her depression. Displaced disaster survivors worry if they will ever be able to go home.

Catholic Charities clients also share their joys and hopes, their gratitude, and generosity. Neighbors in the Santee neighborhood of East San Jose generously give their time to make their neighborhood a welcoming place where children can learn and thrive in safety. Foster parents welcome orphaned refugee youth into their loving homes. Immigrant youth advocate boldly for acceptance of "Dreamers." Older students volunteer their time helping younger students after school with homework and sports. Neighbors affected by blight organize to call landlords to clean up their properties. Immigrants pass their citizenship tests and are sworn in as proud new Americans. Job seekers find meaningful work. Children learn to read. Seniors delight in shared meals and dancing. People with disabilities find meaning through a peer group and spiritual support. People who lost their homes find new housing, a welcoming community, and new hope for the future.

At Catholic Charities, we are grateful for the generosity of our donors and volunteers, as well as for the trust our clients place in us. In this season celebrating gratitude and generosity, I invite you to share in the joy by supporting Catholic Charities as we provide help and create hope right here in Santa Clara County. Our neighbors need your help. You will make a difference. Thank you!

Blessings Always,
Gregory Kepferle

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ENVIRONMENTAL SAVINGS STATEMENT

Trees – 19 fully grown
Water – 8,504 gallons
Energy – 12 million BTU
Solid Waste – 914 pounds
Greenhouse Gases – 2,030 pounds

Together We Can Change Lives for Good!

Poverty obscures the path to self-reliance, isolating families so children grow up never knowing what hope and opportunity look like. Here's a story of a family you helped.

Ms. Augustine recognized the potential in Angela from the first day of school. She referred Angela to Catholic Charities' challenging CORAL STEM* after-school program where she excelled. Angela loved the program and was thriving. But over time she began to change. She became quieter, distracted, and started to miss homework. Ms. Augustine knew something was wrong.

One day Angela broke down. She knew she was in a safe place and that Catholic Charities' staff really cared about her, so she felt comfortable sharing what she was struggling with. We learned that her father had been laid off and was having trouble finding work because of his past. Her mother worked in a nursing home for \$10.20 an hour and the family was on the verge of losing the only apartment they could afford. Like so many children, Angela was sensitive, scared, and distracted by her parents' fear. Angela's education started to suffer.

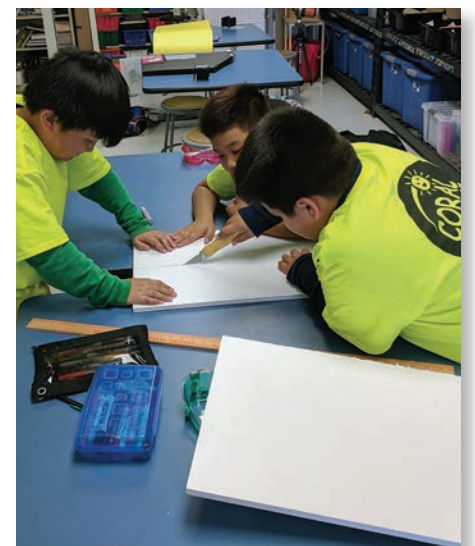
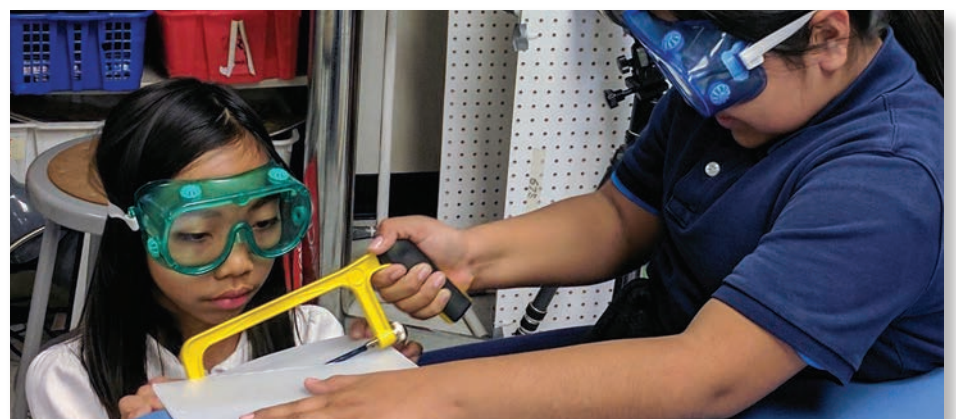
We know that many families in our district are one crisis away from homelessness. So many of our kids face problems most of us never have to deal with—homelessness, hunger, gang violence, absent parents, and addiction issues that make learning so much more difficult.

A few days later, we met with Angela's parents and talked about additional Catholic Charities programs that might help. They were embarrassed, scared, and truly were on the edge of being homeless. Angela's father was connected to our Catholic Charities employment program and within a short time found a good job. Her mother is working to obtain her CNA certificate, which will increase the family's income. Today, Angela is not living in fear and is growing in her understanding and love of CORAL-STEM.

Thank you to our supporters for making works of mercy happen here in Santa Clara County and helping create a path for families who work hard to create better lives for themselves and their children!



CORAL-STEM Expanded Learning in Action!



* CORAL – Communities Organizing Resources to Advance Learning
STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

This Dream Will Not Be Deferred

Grace is a Dreamer. At 24 years old, she is already working in the career that she had dreamed of—advocating for immigrants in the Bay Area. She graduated two years ago from Santa Clara University with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Ethnic Studies. Grace is also a Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) beneficiary.

Growing up, Grace was keenly aware that being undocumented meant that certain benefits that her friends took for rights would become privileges for her. Unlike her classmates, Grace couldn't apply for a Driver's License. Nor could she apply for a job because she lacked a Social Security number. She ended up cleaning houses with her mom. Still, she always felt that she belonged here.

Her parents always instilled in her the importance of graduating from college. Her



mother often reminded her of the many sacrifices her parents made to provide Grace and her siblings with a better future than they would have had if they lived in Mexico. Grace attended Sacred Heart Preparatory and applied to many colleges during her senior year, not knowing how she would finance her college education because she was ineligible to receive financial aid. Nonetheless, she was determined to find a way. After receiving many acceptance letters, Grace was blessed to receive a full scholarship to Santa Clara University.

Grace was in her first year of college in 2012 when President Obama announced the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. She rejoiced at the possibility of being able to work lawfully, but wondered if it was safe to apply. After consulting with an immigration attorney, she submitted her DACA application. Grace finally felt safe to come out of the shadows and live like a normal American. The belonging she felt in her heart was strengthened with documentation that she can now obtain: a Social Security card, a work permit, and a Driver's License.

As a DACA recipient, Grace worked and paid income taxes. She finally lived without fear of being deported. She now works doing what she loves—assisting immigrants and low-income families in obtaining relief from the same daunting situation that she is in.

Grace joins Catholic Charities in encouraging DACA allies to call our Senators and Congressional Representatives and urging them to pass the DREAM Act. "My fellow Dreamers should be allowed to become American citizens. We should not be a bargaining chip for the administration. This is the only home we have ever known. We don't want to live in the shadows."

Educare Establishes Strong Foundation for Kids Through Early Childhood Education

Educare California at Silicon Valley has been an essential part of San Jose's Franklin McKinley School District since 2015. Renowned for its early childhood education model, the program serves youth from underserved backgrounds to prepare them for success in kindergarten and beyond. Teachers work closely and thoughtfully with children to develop early literacy and math skills, while fostering social-emotional skills such as focus, persistence, cooperation, and positive interaction with peers.

Educare helps children from birth to age five grow up safe, healthy, and eager to learn. The Educare model consists of four core features: high-quality teaching practices, embedded professional development, intensive family engagement, and data utilization. Strong leadership at the Franklin-McKinley School District develops this culture of high-quality early childhood

education and family supportive services. Working together with community-based partners such as Catholic Charities and the Franklin McKinley Children's Initiative, Educare provides access to resources beyond the classroom to help children, families, and communities to thrive. Learn more at www.educaresv.org.



DACA IS DONE, BUT OUR WORK CONTINUES

Father Jon Pedigo,
Director of Advocacy & Community Engagement



Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), the executive order signed by President Obama in 2012, gave nearly a million people who grew up in the United States but entered the country without

permission as children, the opportunity to legally work through a special provision that would have to be renewed every two years. DACA recipients—called "Dreamers"—are essentially Americans. The U.S. is the only country they know.

Through DACA, hundreds of thousands of young persons attended college and vocational schools. Many recipients are highly trained professionals in essential jobs: doctors, specialists, engineers. In September 2017, the Trump administration rescinded DACA, leaving these young people vulnerable for termination from their jobs and eventual deportation. The rescission has clearly had a chilling effect not only on Dreamers, but on the entire immigrant community.

The Roman Catholic Church criticized the decision to rescind DACA. Under the support of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Diocese of San José has been on the forefront of legislative and advocacy support for DACA and comprehensive immigration reform. Joining with Catholic Charities, clergy, and laity from other faith communities, members of the faith community mobilized to support DACA recipients and their families. Catholic Charities and the community organizing group, People Acting in Community Together (PACT) formed a partnership to provide workshops on legal rights, legal consultation, and free DACA renewals. This effort was duplicated by Catholic Charities offices throughout the country. Tens of thousands of people were aided by this response nationwide.

Even through the decision to rescind DACA is done, the battle for comprehensive immigration reform is not! Catholic Charities, Bishop Patrick McGrath, and multi-faith leaders are committed to accompany DACA recipients and their families through this difficult period: we will provide ongoing legal consultations, legal rights workshops, and leadership programs for immigrant leaders.

Learn about our ongoing work at www.catholiccharitiesscc.org. I also invite you to subscribe to my newsletter, email me at jpedito@catholiccharitiesscc.org.



Celebrating Generations of Generosity



10-year Caritas Society Member Loretta Wickenden reads the First Reading for Mass.



20-year Caritas Society Members Steve & Judy Volm, pictured with Bishop McGrath.



It was a packed house in the St. Lucy Parish School gym for our beautiful Caritas reception.

Caritas Society members and their guests gathered at St. Lucy Parish on Wednesday, October 18, for Catholic Charities' Annual Caritas Celebration. Clergy from seven different parishes concelebrated with the Most Reverend Patrick J. McGrath as we honored "Generations of Generosity," the legacy of giving that is the Caritas Society.

Bishop McGrath shared the parable of the Good Samaritan in the evening's Gospel reading, stating in his homily that, "Our common work as the Caritas Society is a part of this Biblical legacy of generosity and direct service to the poor. Our annual gathering is an opportunity for me to thank you for your generosity and support for Catholic Charities and for all of us to recognize how people have been helped by the partnership between benefactors and those charged with the duty to care for those who are in need."

At the reception following, Catholic Charities Board of Directors President Khanh Duy Russo shared his own incredible story with guests, and his personal journey from Catholic Charities client to now Caritas

Society member. "Through the refugee resettlement program, my family was sponsored and brought to America. We arrived with no money, no housing, no food, and we didn't speak any English. As political refugees, Catholic Charities provided my family with a home and nourishment. They connected us with the local church and other Vietnamese refugees; we built community, my parents learned English, and we began to regain our sense of self and dignity. I am proud to say that Catholic Charities continues to carry that commitment in everything we do."

As Bishop McGrath noted, "When we are all at the table together, there is no limit to what we can do." Thank you to our faithful Caritas Society members for continuing to support our important work!

If you would like to join us as a Caritas Member at next year's Celebration, please contact Alison Poetsch at (408) 325-5288, apoetsch@catholiccharitiesscc.org. or Kathleen Burroughs at (408) 325-5191, kburroughs@catholiccharitiesscc.org.



30+ year Caritas Society Members Darrell and Patricia Berg (center), pictured with CCSCC Board President Khanh Duy Russo (left) and CEO Greg Kepferle (right).



The St. Catherine School Choir, directed by Marlene Fernandez, blessed us with their sweet voices during Mass.



CCSCC Board President Khanh Duy Russo shares his story with us.

CHECK OUT CATHOLIC CHARITIES' CENTERS!

EASTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER, WASHINGTON UNITED YOUTH CENTER, JOHN XXIII MULTISERVICE CENTER



Students take a break from Citizenship lessons at John XXIII Multiservice Center.



Seniors from the Walk with Ease walking group take a quick selfie in front of John XXIII Multiservice Center.



Grupo Por Vida performs during Cinco De Mayo at Eastside Neighborhood Center.



Washington United Youth Center celebrates 15 years!



Washington United Youth Center's Annual Posada Celebration was created by the community for the community.



Eastside Neighborhood Center's Grupo Por Vida dressed up as cowgirls for a Vaqueros themed dance.

ANNUAL 'ROLL AGAINST POVERTY' BOCCE TOURNAMENT RAISES FUNDS FOR PROGRAMS

Catholic Charities 8th Annual Bocce Tournament in September raised over \$80,000! The fun-filled evening at Campo di Bocce in Los Gatos was filled with new players and sponsors, all there to enjoy food and drink as they "rolled against poverty." As usual, our "Wine & Spirits Ring Toss" proved to be one of the highlights of the night, along with exciting Silent Auction items. New champions took home first place—"The Rulebreakers," sponsored by Ferrari, Ottoboni, Caputo & Wunderling, with a close second won by "Zombie Apocalypse."

Are you interested in serving on next year's Bocce Tournament Committee, or participating in the Tournament? Contact Myra Kaelin, mkaelin@catholiccharitiesscc.org or (408) 325-5250.



Bocce Tournament Champions "The Rulebreakers" (left), sponsored by Ferrari Ottoboni Caputo & Wunderling, pictured here with CCSCC Chief Development Officer Susan Lucas Taylor, Bocce Committee Chair Joe Gentzkow, Fundraising Events Manager Myra Kaelin, and second place winners "Zombie Apocalypse."



Representatives from the Archbishop Mitty "Mighty Monarchs" enjoyed friendly competition with Bellarmine High School's "Go Bocce Bells!" pictured here. Also represented at the tournament were Presentation High School and St. Francis High School.



Team Bay Area Builders 'Roll Against Poverty!'



Enjoying wine and their take-home winnings from the Wine & Spirits Toss.



First-time attendees Bob Fasano (left) and Rodger Shaheen (right), members of the "Bocce Bullitts," sponsored by Abbot, Stringham & Lynch.



Dream Vacation Drawing winners Beth and Bob Rogers are thrilled with their choices!

Your Car Donation Helps Rebuild Lives

Kariem was only 18 years old when he lost his entire family. Genocide broke out in his native village in Darfur, Sudan, forcing Kariem to flee to neighboring Libya. For six years, he made a living as a laborer, but faced harassment and persecution as an immigrant worker. Forced into hiding from local militia, Kariem finally made the decision to embark on a perilous journey across the Mediterranean Sea to Europe. He had nowhere else to go.

With assistance from the UNHCR, Kariem eventually resettled in the United States. He suffered from significant post-traumatic stress disorder, but adjusted quickly to his new surroundings with help from Catholic Charities. Through English as a Second Language (ESL) and employment-related classes, Kariem secured a job as an assembly worker at a local factory.

The array of resettlement services Kariem received, including ESL tutoring, cultural orientation, mentoring, and assistance with transportation, are made possible through Catholic Charities' Car Donation program. For more than 17 years, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County has accepted donations of all types of vehicles. Car donations are tax deductible and support programs that help families and individuals rise up out of poverty and change their lives for good.

"I am blessed to be alive today and thank Catholic Charities for providing me with stability and support," says Kariem.

Please consider donating your working or non-working vehicle to Catholic Charities' Car Donation program. Learn more at www.cardonationcc.org or call (866) 565-5912.



Focus for Work Helps Focus for Life



Beth had everything going for her. She was an accomplished violinist and career woman with a job that utilized her talents and degrees in business and linguistics. She had a stable, supportive relationship, and was an active member of her church congregation in Seattle. But Beth's move to the Bay Area posed a number of changes in her personal life and health, as well as harassment at work, that left her feeling lost and vulnerable. Under significant stress, Beth ended up in the hospital and in need of medical attention.

Beth found help through Catholic Charities to rebuild her confidence and career during her recovery. Missing the sense of community, belonging, and fulfillment that she had in Seattle, Beth explained that she was seeking meaningful work, as well as support in taking care of her mental health. She was referred to Focus for Work, a program at Catholic Charities that offers services including counseling, skills assessment, resume writing, and interview training.

Focus for Work provided Beth with assistance in career preparation and search efforts. Ruthann became her case manager and would coach Beth through the process of finding a fulfilling career. Ruthann helped Beth identify jobs that would be a good fit for her skills and provided her with resources to polish her resume, network, address disability status, and find her voice when explaining to potential employers why they should hire her.

The program also helped Beth develop soft skills that would equip her to address the harassment she experienced in the workplace. Coaches taught Beth what would be considered appropriate treatment, with a strong emphasis on employee rights and how to work with Human Resources to resolve concerns. This helped Beth realize her own personal value and recognize her right to be treated well.

"With Ruthann's help, I was able to navigate the situation and move on from a toxic work environment to a role in a better corporate environment," says Beth, who has been working as a linguist in software development for six months. "I have many other goals, both career and personal, and I am thankful to Ruthann and Catholic Charities for boosting my confidence and building my skills to help me accomplish more."

To learn more about Focus for Work, please contact Eila Latif, Deputy Division Director, Economic Development Services at eila@catholiccharitiesscc.org or (408) 325-5286.

Parishes Respond to Devastating Flood

A heartbreaking natural disaster, the Coyote Creek Flood, struck in February and affected thousands of families here Santa Clara County. The Catholic community's compassionate response allowed Catholic Charities to respond and ease the pain and suffering experienced by thousands of families and children.

Within days of the Flood, with help from the Catholic community, Catholic Charities mobilized its resources to help those affected. As the days have gone by and the physical and emotional recovery began, it will be with the support of Catholics like you that will measure our compassion for others.

Thank you to the following Parishes and to others that so generously gave to the Flood Relief efforts: Church of the Resurrection Parish, Holy Cross Parish, Holy Family Parish, Holy Korean Martyrs Parish, Holy Spirit Parish, Most Holy Trinity Parish, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Our Lady of La Vang Parish, Our Lady of Peace Parish, Queen of Apostles Parish, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Sacred Heart Parish, San Jose Chinese Catholic Mission, Santa Teresa



Parish, St. Catherine Parish, St. Christopher Parish, St. Clare Parish, St. Cyprian Parish, St. Frances Cabrini Parish, St. John the Baptist Parish, St. John Vianney Parish, St. Joseph, Cupertino Parish, Cathedral Basilica of St. Joseph, St. Joseph, Mountain View Parish, St. Julie Billiart Parish, St. Justin Parish, St. Lawrence Parish, St. Leo Parish, St. Lucy Parish, St. Maria Goretti Parish, St. Martin Parish, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, St. Nicholas Parish, St. Simon Parish, St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, St. Thomas of Canterbury Parish, St. Victor Parish, St. William Parish.

Please pray for the people affected by the Flood. May God bless you and may His face shine upon you.

In Philanthropy, Parents Lead the Way

John and Melinda DiNapoli's support of Catholic Charities is motivated by the positive difference they make in people's lives every day. Individuals of all cultures and faiths can get help—whether they are young parents, school age children, at-risk youth, or older adults.

John and Melinda shared their testimonial on the evening of September 12, 2017 when more than 100 guests gathered at their home to learn about the critical role Catholic Charities plays in our community. Lively music, beautiful flowers, delicious food, and wine created a festive atmosphere but it was the inspiring speakers who made the evening.

John first learned about Catholic Charities through his parents, Phil and Jennifer DiNapoli, who were both involved in many ways, including serving on the Board of Directors. Beyond their parents' commitment, John and Melinda now support the agency's work because of the impact on changing lives for good.

When two clients confidently shared their stories, guests listened attentively. After having suffered set-backs, thanks to the encouragement and guidance received from case managers at Catholic Charities, the clients were able to complete their education, find employment, and get their lives back on track. They spoke of gratitude and the desire to give back.

Joe Gentzkow followed their inspiring talks. He and his wife, Silvana, are also deeply committed to the mission of Catholic Charities. Like the DiNapolis, Joe's parents, Paul and Barbara Gentzkow, have been long-time supporters. Now Joe serves on Catholic Charities' Fund Development Committee and is the Bocce Tournament Chair. Joe encouraged all in attendance to invest in the work of Catholic Charities by becoming members of the Caritas Society.

In closing, John thanked fellow Host



Our Host Committee: Melinda and John DiNapoli, Linda and Marte Formico, Karen and Dan McQuade, Loreen and Dan Huddleston, Gretchen and Matt DiNapoli. Not pictured: Jill and Rick Martig.

Committee members: Gretchen and Matt DiNapoli, Loreen and Dan Huddleston, Linda and Marte Formico, Jill and Rick Martig, and Karen and Dan McQuade. John added, "Not everyone can do the work of Catholic Charities, but helping to grow the numbers of its supporters among our generation is one way we can all make a lasting difference."

For more information about how to join the Caritas Society and other ways to support Catholic Charities, contact Alison Poetsch, Individual Giving Manager at (408) 325-5288.



Greg toasts a new generation of Caritas: Joe Gentzkow with Phil and Lyndsey Albanese.

Thanksgiving Feast Provides Community and Communion

Robin and Jake Caputo have made volunteering at Kings Crossing apartment community a Fall tradition, preparing and serving a gourmet Thanksgiving feast for over 100 people.

"It's a good night for both volunteers and residents. It's fun for our friends to spend time together and do good," said Robin. "I decorate and serve, while Jake cooks." The tradition began in 2013 when the Caputos made sharing their time and talent a priority. "We feel blessed to be able to help," said Jake, who owns Cosmopolitan Catering.

Kings Crossing is one of seven affordable housing communities where Catholic Charities provides supportive housing services for residents

to assist them in maintaining a stable home.

"To change lives, you need more than housing inventory, you need community," said Consuelo Collard, Program Manager, Supportive Housing Services. "The Caputos have provided more than food, they've provided communion."

"Despite the rise of opportunity and wealth in our area, it was apparent to us that people were being left behind. What we do is just one small piece, but we need more people to do it and we look to agencies like Catholic Charities to provide opportunities," said Robin and Jake. "This is one of the best dinners that we serve all year, and we appreciate meeting new community members."

To learn about ways to volunteer and change lives for good, contact Kathleen Burroughs at (408) 325-5191 or kburroughs@catholiccharitiesscc.org.



Talent Show Celebrates Diversity, Culture, and Community

With enthusiasm and flair, Kho and Ohnmar began to dance in the Zanker courtyard before an audience of 100 families as the opening act of the 2017 Refugee Foster Care Talent Show. Proud to represent their Rohingya culture, the two brothers lit up the stage with five minutes of elaborate choreography inspired by dance moves in films they had watched with their foster mom and practiced intensively.

A special edition of "Hot August Nights," the annual event encourages youth participants, ranging from age 11 to 24, to share talents from their home country, empowering them to hold onto their heritage as they acculturate to the United States. For the first time, the talent show included biological children to infuse a truly comprehensive view of family and long-term permanency. One act featured a sibling duo, with a young foster youth dancing with her new sister to a song from Myanmar that they learned together.

The talent show featured 10 acts from singing, to dancing, and a yo-yo performance, as well as art displays. One teenager exhibited a painting so

remarkable that an audience member asked to purchase the artwork. Inspired by her talent, the program plans to incorporate art galleries in future Refugee Foster Care talent shows.

Kho and Ohnmar set the stage for an evening that celebrated diversity and community during a heavy time for the foster families in the midst of news on travel bans and the rescinding of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

"Their culture was honored, their hard work was honored, and their talent was honored," says Angela Albright, Division Director of Refugee Foster Care. "The timing was perfect. We needed to see the beauty of what these multicultural youth bring to our country. This unity is what we want the world to look like."

To learn more about Catholic Charities' Refugee Foster Care program, visit www.catholiccharitiesscc.org/refugee-foster-care.

Compassion in Action: Housing in the Time of Need

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Jesus was born in a stable. This family was in a church shelter and needed our help. We could not turn our backs on them."

Thanks to a landlord we work with, Catholic Charities found a studio apartment for the couple in downtown San Jose. We will cover their rent until they find jobs. We will also help the couple find jobs by providing them with employment training and placement assistance.

"I'll never forget where I came from,"

said Bernadette. "It puts a smile on homeless people's faces to know there is someone out there who cares."

This is just the beginning of Bernadette and Ricardo's story with baby Serenity.

"They have a long journey ahead of them," said Greg. "Our community will do what we can to help them become self-sufficient and stable. We want to see Serenity grow up in a happy and safe environment, and never know the fear of being homeless."

Saved Three Times by Catholic Agencies

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of events, Linh once again was rescued by the Catholic Church...this time in the form of Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County.

"I could not believe that the Coyote Creek Flood would leave us homeless," said Linh. "I



The Disaster Recovery Team at Catholic Charities quickly mobilized to assist victims of the Coyote Creek Flood. They continue to help with long-term case management.

worked so hard for so many years to build a good life for my family in San Jose. I don't know why, but for some reason, when life seems to be most difficult, the Catholic Church shows up to help. Thanks to Catholic Charities, I am optimistic that we will get back on our feet."

"Catholic Charities has been serving our Vietnamese American neighbors for 38 years," said Gregory R. Kepferle, CEO of Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County. "We have always been there for the Vietnamese American community and they have always been there for us. We are touched that Linh thinks of us almost like family."

To learn more about our work in disaster recovery after the Coyote Creek Flood, please visit www.catholiccharitiesscc.org/flood-relief.

FOUR THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN GIVING STOCK

We are experiencing another series of profitable quarters for investors in 2017, with Q3 marking the seventh consecutive quarter of positive returns in the U.S. stock markets. Despite tense political and social headlines, the financial markets are taking a cue from the economy. Strong corporate earnings, stable low interest rates, benign inflation, and positive consumer sentiment continue to lead the markets to new record breaking highs. Although emerging markets and international developed stocks are leading performance in 2017, anticipation of meaningful personal and corporate tax reform in the U.S. is also supporting the markets.*

This year's strong financial markets creates opportunities to give in a smart way. When making year-end gifts, consider giving stock instead of cash or writing a check. Here are four things to consider when giving stock to Catholic Charities:

1. Earn a charitable income tax deduction for the fair market value of the gifted securities as of the date of gift—NOT what you paid for them.
2. Eliminate capital gains tax that would ordinarily become due if you had sold the appreciated securities on the open market and donated the proceeds to Catholic Charities.
3. Claim your charitable deduction against up to 30% of your adjusted gross income. Any unused deductions can be carried forward over the next five years.
4. If you have in mind an amount you plan to contribute to Catholic Charities, rather than giving cash, use appreciated stock. Then, use the amount of cash you had planned to donate to buy back the same securities but at current higher market rates. This gives you a stepped up basis and offsets a future capital gains tax burden.

If you have questions about how to donate stock or need stock transfer instructions, please contact David Russo, Senior Director of Planned Giving, at drusso@catholiccharitiesscc.org or (408) 325-5248.

*Market commentary brought to you by Aaron Szager, CFP, Senior Wealth Advisor at BlueSky Wealth Advisors, LLC of Santa Clara. Mr. Szager is also a member of Catholic Charities' Legacy Giving Committee.

Address Service Requested

DID YOU KNOW?

Catholic Charities operates three licensed Senior Activity Centers at convenient locations to provide respite for family caregivers and a friendly place where seniors who need supervision can spend an enjoyable day. We also provide compassionate, non-medical home care through our Day Break Cares social enterprise. Learn more at www.daybreakcares.org.



Printed on Recycled Paper

Catholic Charities Voices of Hope Newsletter

Protecting Families, Defending Dreamers, and Standing in Solidarity



Our faith tradition at Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County leads us to support and serve the most vulnerable. Our experience working with immigrants, especially youth and young adults who have been recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), has shown us how great a contribution socially and economically these young people offer our country and communities. The administration's decision to rescind DACA threatened the immigrant community that we serve. Dreamers were given only four weeks to renew their status, if they qualified. To help the community know their rights, know their advocates, and know how to move forward during this stressful time, Catholic Charities' Immigration Legal Services offered free Know Your Rights and DACA Renewal Clinics, as well as drop-in consultations continuously until the October 5 renewal deadline. We have served approximately 1,500 DACA clients since 2012. We continue to stand with immigrants and their families.