Long-time Catholic Charities Supporters to be Honored at 60th Anniversary Celebration

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County will celebrate our 60th Anniversary on October 14 with a Paths of Poverty Summit, an Anniversary Mass, and a dinner and program honoring three couples who have been committed to our agency for many years. To recognize their contributions and dedication, they will receive the inaugural Matthew 25 Award. Throughout the years, thanks to these compassionate, committed couples, we have been able to give a helping hand to our neighbors in need.

Carol and Bob Peters

Carol and Bob have been volunteers with Catholic Charities since the 90s. Carol worked with the Independent Aging program serving seniors in our community, then Bob joined our Board of Directors from 1992 to 1997. Throughout the years, they have volunteered their time and talents on Catholic Charities committees and the Caritas Society.

Bob leverages his business expertise as Chair of the Major Gifts committee, raising funds for our programs and services. Both Bob and Carol continue to stay involved in Caritas and Catholic Charities committees.

“What we like about Catholic Charities is that they recognize emerging community needs and fill them through existing programs or by starting new programs,” said Bob and Carol. “While many organizations are single-focused, Catholic Charities serves multiple needs in our community. We support this philosophy and that’s why we continue to stay engaged.”

Andrea and Joe Thomas

Andrea and Joe were inspired to get involved with Catholic Charities after hearing a phenomenal explanation of why one should donate to the May Appeal. That was 40 years ago. Soon after, they became Caritas Society founding members.

Joe was a Board member from 1987 to 1993, Chair of the Development Advisory Board, founding President of Charities Housing, and was instrumental in the Zanker headquarters building purchase. Andrea was an active member of the Development Committee since it began in the early 90s and has always lent a hand when there is a need, from contributing ideas as a development leader, to being hands on. During the early years of the Caritas Society, Andrea and a small group of dedicated volunteers established a strong foundation for the Society by producing the Caritas Receptions at no cost to the agency. In just a few years the size of the group more than doubled to 100 members. Andrea and Joe continue to participate as hosts today and are active in many committees. They also spend time with other volunteers serving meals to low-income seniors at our John XXIII Multi-service Center, which helps the Center receive continued funding.

“We stay engaged with Catholic Charities because we are inspired by the good work that the organization does to help people in need,” said Joe and Andrea. “We appreciate the organization’s efficiency, focusing on customized programs helping the underserved in our community. Our dream is to see Catholic Charities serve even more people in need, and we hope we can continue to help with that.”

Susan and Ray Triplett

Susan and Ray were drawn to support the work of Catholic Charities 30 years ago as a response to their faith. Their commitment began when they joined the Caritas Society. Ray volunteered for numerous committees and served on the board, most recently as Board President from 2012-2014.

Over the years, Ray and Susan have helped with the May Appeal at their parish, and have hosted Catholic Charities functions. They continue to back our mission with their Family Endowment Fund and membership in the Domus Council, and by their encouragement of others to support our vital programs and services.

“We hope to motivate others to become engaged, enabling the organization to serve even more people in need,” said Ray and Susan. “We have been very blessed throughout our lives, and we feel a deep sense of responsibility to share these blessings with others. Through Catholic Charities, we can help meet critical needs in our community.”
Dear Friends,

Sixty years ago, Catholic Charities was a two person social services operation in Santa Clara County with a budget of $14,000. With the vision and the leadership of the first Executive Secretary, Helen Hansen, and subsequent directors, 60 years later we have over 520 staff and 1,200 volunteers serving 54,000 people each year with a budget of $34 million. Over the course of those 60 years we have helped at least 1.2 million people.

Those are staggering numbers. But the important question is – “How have we helped change their lives for good?” Imagine being in Santa Clara Valley in 1955. While the national economy was booming and the valley was growing, people were left behind – immigrant farm laborers, pregnant teenagers, people suffering with mental illness, the homeless, hungry seniors, youth in the juvenile justice system, and children in foster care. Catholic Charities responded by easing the suffering and reducing poverty. Today, Silicon Valley’s economy is booming, and we are still responding to the reality of poverty.

In the 1950’s the federal poverty rate was around 22%. Today it is 14.5%. For seniors in the 1950’s poverty was 35%. Today it is 10%. While for children, the poverty rate was 27%. Today it is 20%. The new California Poverty Measure estimates over 18% of Santa Clara County residents live in poverty today.

What will our community look like 60 years from now? I don’t know, but I have a clear vision of what I hope it looks like – a place where everyone has a safe place to live, sufficient nutritious food, access to affordable education and healthcare, and the opportunity to work at a job sufficient to make ends meet. Imagine a valley of abundance in which none are so poor that they do not have something to contribute, nor so rich that they do not need the generosity of others. It is up to us to be faithful to our call to first care for “the least of these our brothers and sisters” who are most vulnerable. It is up to us to create pathways of hope and opportunity. I invite you to join us on this journey.

Happy 60th Anniversary!

All the best!
Gregory Kepferle, CEO

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ENVIRONMENTAL
SAVINGS STATEMENT

Tree – 1146 trees saved
Water – 1,574 gallons
Energy – 12,052 kWh
Total Waste – 514 pounds
Greenhouse Gases – 1,230 lbs.

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Step Up Silicon Valley’s Managing Director Harnesses the Power of the Community to Create Impactful Change

Almaz Negash is the Managing Director of Step Up Silicon Valley (SUSV), Catholic Charities’ social innovation network and anti-poverty lab focused on increasing economic self-sufficiency through convening, advocating for policy changes, and incubating innovative solutions. A social entrepreneur and nonprofit leader who believes in the power of individuals to gain economic self-sufficiency through social enterprise development and employment, Negash joined Catholic Charities in 2010. Under her leadership, Step Up effectively incubated Pay for Success (a.k.a. Social Impact Bond), a new model for financing social programs in Santa Clara County.

On June 23, 2015, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved $12 million in financing over a six year period for Pay for Success for Chronic Homelessness: Project Welcome Home. The funding will allow Abode Services, the lead agency, to provide housing and other supportive services to the most frequent users of County resources. The first Pay for Success project in California, Project Welcome Home will reduce chronic homelessness and increase stability for children, youth, seniors, and chronically homeless families. The project will also improve the supportive housing delivery system in the county.

Project Welcome Home will house and provide services to 150 to 200 chronically homeless individuals through an agreement with Abode Services, using the Pay for Success method. The county will invest $2 million a year for six years to help the neediest of our residents. The funding is set aside to repay upfront investors only if the project is determined to be successful by independent evaluators. I worked with Step Up Silicon Valley on this idea and brought it to the board in 2013.

— County Supervisor Dave Cortese
Appeared in San Jose Mercury News Online 07/09/2015

While Pay for Success is SUSV’s most recent successful initiative in the community, it is one of many projects that Negash and her small team work on every day. SUSV is currently incubating an Economic Bill of Rights/Public Works Project with Professor Scott Myers-Lipton from San Jose State University and 1,004 Out of Poverty, amongst others. Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County is the backbone organization for SUSV.

Negash was born in Eritrea and immigrated to the United States in 1987. She earned her BA from the University of San Francisco and MBA from Golden Gate University. For the last two decades, Negash has sought to improve the quality of life of our communities through local and global partnerships. In 2010, she founded the African Diaspora Network (ADN) to inform and engage Africans in the Diaspora and facilitate direct collaboration with social entrepreneurs, innovators, and business leaders to invest in and improve the lives of everyone on the continent.

Negash is contributing author of the Role of Africans in the Diaspora (2013) and contributing author of Awakening Social Responsibility (2007). She has written numerous articles on global trade, social, and educational issues. Negash received the African Diaspora Bridge Builders Award from the Diaspora African Forum Foundation and the Diaspora African Forum in 2014. To learn more about Almaz Negash and Step Up Silicon Valley, please visit www.stepupsusv.org or contact Almaz Negash, Managing Director, Step Up Silicon Valley at anegash@stepupsusv.org.
An Evening to Remember

Caritas Society members enjoyed an inspiring evening at the Los Gatos home of Susan and Oliver Flach. Guests came to socialize with other Caritas members and learn first-hand how their support for Catholic Charities is helping alleviate, prevent, and reduce poverty in Santa Clara County.

At the start of the evening, Bishop Patrick McGrath eloquently summed up what it means to be a Caritas member, “Each one of you is like a thread in a tapestry…Every thread is needed to make God’s tapestry whole. As a member of Caritas, you are the binding fabric that makes Catholic Charities’ work strong and lasting.”

Yvonne Manriquez, a participant from Catholic Charities and The Health Trust’s collaborative First Five Family Resource Center, shared with the group how Catholic Charities was there for her family when they had been besieged with hardship. Yvonne related how the Catholic Charities programs had provided information, resources, services, and enriching activities for the whole family. She said their daughter had learned so much and, as parents, they had grown more knowledgeable, confident, and engaged.

The metaphor of the woven tapestry came up again and again. Yvonne thanked the Caritas Society members in attendance for making it all possible and shared that she herself would be giving back as a volunteer for the First Five program. Then Susan Flach closed by reminding the group that, “Through the support of Catholic Charities, each of us is helping make the world a better place.”

It was truly an inspiring evening that ended with Harry Connick Jr. singing “Yes We Can, Can.”

Spring Forward – Racing To Reduce Poverty

The second annual Spring Forward 5K/10K Run-Walk on April 18, was a huge success! The event attracted more than 1,600 runners and walkers, and hundreds of spectators. It was inspiring to see families and friends come out to support Catholic Charities’ goal to reduce poverty in Santa Clara County.

The event raised more than $130,000 in unrestricted funds that will help support the programs and services provided by Catholic Charities.

Thank you to all of our generous sponsors, including Title sponsor, SanDisk; Host sponsor, Microsoft; Gold sponsors, SGI, SAP, and KLA-Tencor; Silver sponsor, IntelliCorp; Bronze sponsors, Anthem, Citibank, Cognalytics, and Joseph J. Albaneze; Media sponsors, NRC Bay Area and Silicon Valley Business Journal; and Mile Marker sponsors, Blix Bicycles, Cinnabar Hills Golf Course, Diocese of San Jose, Joe Thomas and Merrill Lynch, Triplett Insurance & Financial Services, and XL Construction.

Time to Consider Updating Your Estate Plan

Did you know that between 2001 and 2015, the federal estate tax exclusion amount jumped from $675,000 to $5,430,000 per individual? This level removes the vast majority of households from the estate tax danger zone. If your estate plan was written or last revised several years ago, you may want to contact your estate planning attorney to discuss whether an update makes sense.

Until recently, when couples developed estate plans, one of the most common approaches was to set up a joint trust called an “A/B” trust. These complicated joint trusts may no longer be necessary given the higher exclusion amount. Simplifying your trust when possible, may save you time and expense, as well as provide you with financial flexibility in the future.

While you are reviewing your estate plans, please think about your commitment to supporting organizations whose work you value. A bequest to Catholic Charities can be designated without impacting your immediate cash flow, lifestyle or family security, and if your family’s circumstances change, it can be reversed. You will find making a bequest to Catholic Charities to be a satisfying and long-lasting way to put your faith in action.

If you have questions about supporting Catholic Charities with a planned gift, please contact Alison Poetsch, 408-325-5288 or apoetsch@catholiccharitiessc.org.

THE MOST COMMON FORMS OF BEQUESTS FOR GIVING TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES:

A fixed amount of money, a designated property or a percentage:

1) the sum of $___________.
2) ___________shares of stock in _________________Company.
3) my real property located at_____________________________.
4) _______% of my estate.

A contingent bequest:

“I give, devise and bequeath all the residue of my estate, including real and personal property to Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, Federal Tax ID # 94-2762269, a nonprofit corporation of the State of California, located at 2625 Zanker Road, San Jose, CA 95134, (choose one:)

1) the sum of $___________.
2) _______% of my estate.

A residual bequest:

“I give, devise and bequeath all the residue of my estate, including real and personal property to Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, Federal Tax ID # 94-2762269, a nonprofit corporation of the State of California, located at 2625 Zanker Road, San Jose, CA 95134.

A contingent bequest:

“In the event of the death of any of the beneficiaries, I give, devise and bequeath to Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, Federal Tax ID # 94-2762269, a nonprofit corporation of the State of California, located at 2625 Zanker Road, San Jose, CA 95134, (fixed amount, percentage, or residual language as above).”
CREATING PATHWAYS OF...
Creating Pathways of Hope and Opportunity

“Imagine a valley where all children and families share in the abundance of our community and have the resilience and resources to overcome poverty.”

—Gregory R. Kepferle
CEO of Catholic Charities

1955 Helen Hansen (first auxiliary) opened Marillac League.

1959 Catholic Social Service was always focused on helping the poor no matter what their need.

—Helen Hansen, first Executive Director of Catholic Social Services

1999 “Imagine a valley where all children and families share in the abundance of our community and have the resilience and resources to overcome poverty.”

—Gregory R. Kepferle, CEO of Catholic Charities

1982 San Jose Catholic San Jose

1984 Eastside Neighborhood Center dedicated

1984 Caritas Society Founded

1985 Franklin McKinley Children’s Initiative launched

1986 Caritas Society Founded

1990 New headquarters purchased on Zanker Road

1990 Youth Services Division created

1993 Housing Management Corp. founded

1996 TaxEZ Program Began

1999 Washington United Youth Center Opened

2001 FIRST Five Family Resource Centers Opened

2004 Refugee Foster Care Program Created

2004 TaxEZ Program Began

2007 Step Up Silicon Valley Anti-Poverty Network Launched

2007 Expansion of Behavioral Health Services

2007 Franklin McKinley Children’s Initiative Launched

2007 Pathways Out of Poverty Action Summit – 60th Anniversary Celebrated

2008 2008

2010 Day Break Care began home care services.

2010 Mission Rebuild program launched

2010 John XXIII Integrated Health Clinic opened

2012 Planning for the future

2015 TaxEZ Program Began
Cinnabar Golf Club was the venue for the 31st Annual Catholic Charities Golf Tournament. 250 golfers, volunteers, and guests enjoyed a day of golf, followed by dinner, live and silent auctions.

The tournament netted $284,692 to support Catholic Charities programs and services. Leveraging the City of San José’s 6:1 match, the tournament’s Fund-A-Need featuring Gang Intervention and Prevention raised an all-time record $76,110.

First Place Men’s (L–R): CJ Enfantino, Chris Enfantino, Bob Anthony, Gene Enfantino

First Place Women’s (L–R): Sue Harris, Camille Giolusdbibi, Diane Wydier, Marilyn Steinhard

Golf committee chairman Drew Haaser, with Gregg Fergot, Suzy Seandel and Brian Casey

A golf time out for a little air guitar!

Two foursomes from the Republic of Family of Companies

To donate, visit www.crowdrise.com/apryllegilbert or contact Sara Reyes, Division Director of Children, Youth, and Family Development Division, Washington United Youth Center at sreyes@catholiccharitieswcc.org.

Live auction packages included a rare soft tasting party for 10, 49er tickets and tailgate party, a Tuscan Culinary Evening cooking class and dining for 16 at La Rusticana d’Orsa, and a five course gourmet meal and wine pairing for 10 by A Catered Affair and Joseph George Fine Wines.

Thank you to our sponsors, golfers, and volunteers for making this a successful event! Be sure to join us for our 32nd Annual Golf Tournament.

Golf tournament sponsors

Coast to Coast for Kids National Fundraising Run Benefits Youth Center

Aprylle Gilbert is an example of how one person can make a difference. Her fundraising event for disadvantaged youth began May 11 in Long Beach, CA, as she started her “Coast to Coast for Kids” national charity run benefitting Catholic Charities’ Washington United Youth Center (WUYC). The Center provides youth and their families the support needed to be successful in school, employment, and in the community. WUYC programs target youth ages 12 to 17, and offer support services for adults.

The run takes Aprylle along historic Route 6, from Long Beach to Provincetown, MA. She will traverse 3,652 miles, running 30-50 miles per day, and hopes to complete the run by late September. An extreme-distance endurance runner, Gilbert is a local singer-song writer, author, and a top folk-rock musician. She is passionate about raising awareness (and money) for disadvantaged youth. Gilbert, a former run-away teenager, wants to inspire others to make a difference. Instead of running away, she is running towards her dream of being the first to run the entire length of Route 6.

Gilbert’s “Coast to Coast for Kids” run supports youth activism by helping WUYC improve after-school programs building confidence, self-esteem, and leadership skills. This vision has blossomed into a program fostering community activism across the nation, welcoming athletes to run with her to raise money for local charities.

“I am hoping my run will develop connections and build a network for community activism,” said Gilbert. “I want to encourage young people to make health and fitness a priority and inspire them to dream big!”


To donate, visit www.crowdrise.com/apryllegilbert or contact Sara Reyes, Division Director of Children, Youth, and Family Development Division, Washington United Youth Center at sreyes@catholiccharitieswcc.org.
Quality Family Time at the Santee Community Garden and Open Space

Santee Community families now have access to a community garden and open space where they can spend quality time together, exercise, and grow organic fruits and vegetables thanks to the Franklin McKinley Children’s Initiative (FMCI). The FMCI collaborative led by Catholic Charities with the Franklin McKinley School District (FMSD), and the City of San Jose’s Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) and Housing Department held a grand opening celebrating the new open space and community garden was held April 16 at Bridges Academy Middle School.

Attendees included: Dr. John Porter, FMSD Superintendent; Madison Nguyen, Former Vice-Mayor; Tam Nguyen, District 7 City Council Member, City of San Jose; Gregory R. Kepferle, CEO, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County; Elizabeth Alvarez, Director, Franklin McKinley Children’s Initiative, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County; Omar Torres and Thanh Tran, FMSD Board members; Van Le, East Side Union High School District Board member; Domingo Candelas and Alex Wara, representatives from Senator Jim Beall’s office.

Through FMCI, Catholic Charities, the School District, and the City of San Jose worked with the help of Garden to Table to create a community garden and enhance the field at Bridges Middle School. Funding came from the City of San Jose Housing Department’s Community Development Block Grant for Place Based Initiatives, and Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services.

The Franklin McKinley Children’s Initiative (FMCI) was launched to break the cycle of poverty in the neighborhood through promoting quality education, creating a safe and strong neighborhood and through economic development. Community members of FMCI are identifying and advocating improvements that deter crime and gang activity, such as lighting and safety around schools, and improvements to local nonprofit agency facilities. With the community garden and open space, members of the Santee community can participate in a healthy active lifestyle, garden, play, and enjoy time together outdoors.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Alvarez, Director, Franklin McKinley Children’s Initiative, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County at ealvarez@catholiccharitiesscc.org.

Day Break Cares is a Win – Win – Win for Seniors, Loved Ones, and Caregivers

Catholic Charities has 60 years of experience serving seniors in the community. Our Day Break Cares (DBC) program was established to meet the needs of parishioners who needed help caring for their loved ones. In 2000 our first adult day care center at St. Francis of Assisi Parish opened in San Jose. We opened a second location two years later at John XXIII Multiservice Center in downtown San Jose.

Over time, we learned that clients in the day care centers needed assistance in their homes. We saw the opportunity to provide a trusted service to the aging population, while also providing valuable training and employment to adults who needed a job. Thus, Day Break Cares was created.

Day Break Cares caregivers receive 154 hours of training before being hired, and receive an additional 12 hours of training annually ensuring they are well prepared to continue providing care. Many of the staff go on to become Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) and even Registered Nurses (RNs) while employed with DBC.

When a family chooses to use the DBC services, they also help our caregiving staff become self-sufficient. The DBC programs are designed to employ and promote professional growth in the health care field, and employees earn a competitive living wage and benefits when possible.

The Day Break Cares program is complemented by the other senior services that Catholic Charities provides, including senior nutrition programs, senior centers, a grocery bag program, classes specifically for seniors, dance, bingo, and more. Catholic Charities holds the county contract for the long term care Ombudsman program, ensuring seniors in institutionalized care are safe and free of harm.

“If you have friends or family members that would like to be a part of the senior centers, please come and visit!” said Tatiana Colon, Division Director, Older Adult Services. “If you are looking for home care or adult day care, please consider Day Break Cares.”

To learn more about Day Break Cares and the senior centers, please visit www.daybreakcares.org or email Tatiana Colon at tcolon@catholiccharitiesscc.org.

Celebrating Amazing Volunteers at Our 5th Annual Volunteer Recognition Breakfast

At Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, we know that the difference we make in our community would not be possible without the help of our generous, committed volunteers. In 2014, they provided approximately 46,000 hours of service. To thank and celebrate these volunteers, we held the Fifth Annual Volunteer Recognition Breakfast, April 14 at David’s Restaurant in Santa Clara with more than 250 attendees at the event.

Recognizing that for many of our volunteers English is not their primary language, the activities of the event were trilingual—in English, Spanish, and Cantonese. This reflected the diversity in our programs and showed that anyone from any culture, who speaks any language, can volunteer and to help others.

Our volunteers supported more than 40 programs that serve the community. They worked with parents and young children in “Mommy and Me” programs. They helped out local youth who are trying to stay out of gangs. They also served healthy meals to low-income seniors. These are just a few of the ways our volunteers serve, and the opportunities are endless.

More than 150 volunteers received the Presidential Awards and were given a certificate of recognition signed by President Barack Obama. This Award honored volunteers who served more than 100 hours during the year to Catholic Charities. “Our volunteers are extremely important to us,” said John Rinaldo, Parish Partnership Director, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County. “They enhance the quality of the experience working with the community and make a real difference in helping lift our friends and neighbors out of poverty. We thank them for their service!”

If you want to make a difference and learn more about the volunteer opportunities at Catholic Charities, email volunteer@catholiccharitiesscc.org or visit catholiccharitiesscc.org/volunteer.
Go Aprylle Go! Local Kids Show Their Excitement for "Coast to Coast for Kids" National Charity Fundraising Run

Washington United Youth Center kids cheer for Aprylle Gilbert during the kick-off event for her "Coast to Coast for Kids" national charity fundraising run. The run will benefit the Center’s after-school programs that build confidence, self-esteem, and leadership skills in local, underserved kids. Gilbert is an extreme-distance runner, singer-songwriter, and author who is also passionate about raising awareness and funds for underserved kids in her community. Her run began in May 2015 in Long Beach, CA and will take her along the entire length of historic Route 6, ending in Provincetown, MA. She will traverse the entire 3,652 miles, running about 30-50 miles per day, and hopes to complete the run by the end of September.

DID YOU KNOW?
96% of parents and caregivers who participated in the Baby & Me program offered at Catholic Charities Family Resource Centers reported improvements in their knowledge of child development, knowledge of supporting kinder readiness, and knowledge of positive parenting.