Feeding Our Community One Meal at a Time

In an area with incredible wealth, we also have many community members who experience devastating hunger and poverty. Thanks to our caring volunteers and staff, last year we served more than 575,000 warm and nourishing meals to our neighbors in need through our various nutrition programs.

At Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, we provide low-cost hot, nutritious meals to seniors in need who attend our Eastside Neighborhood Center in East San Jose and our John XXIII Multiservice Center in downtown San Jose. Our Senior Nutrition program serves more than 70,000 meals each year.

To help low-income children throughout the county, we provide healthy meals and snacks to the kids who participate in our free Communities Organizing Resources to Advance Learning (CORAL) K-8 after-school program, which is located at 22 sites. In partnership with the San Jose Unified School District and the Franklin McKinley School District, we serve over 1,900 students on a daily basis during the school year. In the summer, we serve over 600 students.

It is not easy to make ends meet in this valley, and we know that many families have parents who often work more than one job, who struggle to decide whether to pay for rent, health insurance, or groceries. To help ensure that low-income, hard-working families do not go without food, we work with Second Harvest Food Bank at various sites to provide bags of healthy groceries. We also have community gardens that people can use at our Franklin McKinley Children’s Initiative, Eastside Neighborhood Center, and Dahl Family Resource Center.

Thanks to funding from Catholic Charities of California, we offer Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed), which helps people lead healthier lives. In addition, we established healthy eating policies at 13 locations serving youth in the community.

For more than 63 years, Catholic Charities has worked to strengthen families and build economic self-reliance for the poor and vulnerable in our community. To find out how you can help us move the needle on poverty in our own backyard, please visit www.catholiccharitiesscc.org/donate.

Catholic Charities serves more than 575,000 meals each year to our neighbors in need.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, YOU CAN SUPPORT CATHOLIC CHARITIES IN THREE WAYS…

DONATE

This Christmas, your generosity will be rewarded two-fold during the Sobrato Challenge. Every new or increased dollar you give during this year’s Christmas Appeal will be matched through a 2 to 1 challenge grant from the Sobrato Family Foundation.

Our successes are only possible through the generosity and compassion of our supporters, like you. Please consider increasing your gift to help us maximize this challenge. Visit catholiccharitiesscc.org/donate. Thank you!

The SOBRATO Family Foundation

SHOP

Sign up for Amazon Smile and your holiday shopping can benefit Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County. The AmazonSmile Foundation donates 0.5% of eligible purchases 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! And please remember to return to the Amazon Smile website each time you make purchases. For more information, call (408) 325-5160 or email cshaw@catholiccharitiesscc.org.

GET INVOLVED

Our Christmas gift program, Season of Sharing, runs through December 20, 2018. Donations are needed to make Christmas brighter for those who will have little or nothing under the tree on Christmas morning. (See article on page 3 to learn how to get involved.)

For information, contact (408) 325-5125 or giving@catholiccharitiesscc.org.
Dear Friends,

As we prepare to celebrate this season of hope and sharing, my heart is filled with gratitude for the abundance of generosity from Catholic Charities supporters. Thanks to our donors who invest their wealth and their wisdom, Catholic Charities continues to succeed in changing lives for good. We see signs of hope every day. From the child who has learned to read at grade level to the senior whose hunger is sated by a hot healthy meal. From the orphaned refugee girl whose life is saved from traffickers to the citizen returning to society from jail who now has a decent job. From the immigrant who passed her citizenship exam to the father reconciled with his children. From the young man freed from gang involvement to the once homeless family who now has a permanent home.

I am encouraged by the foundations, corporations, government agencies, and individual donors who trust Catholic Charities to do quality work. They are investing in us even more as they see the amazing results with our clients thanks to the quality work of our compassionate staff and volunteers.

As our community has asked Catholic Charities to do even more, the agency has stepped up. Yet more needs to be done. Today, we especially need more help for those who are struggling with housing and food. More children need our after-school education support. More seniors need our senior support services and clients struggling with mental illness need our behavioral health services. Families struggling with poverty and the high cost of living need help making ends meet.

I invite you to join me in investing in Catholic Charities’ Community Impact Funds, so we can be there for these families who have the courage to knock on our doors asking for help to turn their lives around. Join us as we impact poverty through food, housing, health, education, and economic security.

As you sit down with loved ones and count your blessings this Thanksgiving, please remember those that we serve. With your contribution, together we will continue to change lives for good.

Many blessings in this season of Thanksgiving,
Gregory R. Kepferle, CEO

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VOICES OF HOPE PUBLISHING INFORMATION

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County
Tel: (408) 468-0100
Fax: (408) 944-6275
Web: www.CatholicCharitiesSCC.org
Managing Editor: Adelene Gallego Ramos
Design: Mitter Marketing Communications, Inc.
Photos: Jose Uribe
Writing: Adelene Gallego Ramos, Debra Tisoy Pacio, Alison Poetsch, David Russo, Christi Shaw
Printing: ChaseVIP

ENVIROMENTAL SAVINGS STATEMENT
Trees – 139 lbs of CO2
Water – 4,028 gallons
Energy – 12,000 BTU
Solid Waste – 114 pounds
Groundwater saving – 1,673 pounds

COMMUNITY IMPACT FUNDS – YOUR HELP IS THEIR HOPE

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County envisions a thriving community in which everyone has access to affordable health care, sufficient nutritious food, affordable housing, meaningful educational and career opportunities, and reliable income that meets their basic financial needs. We invite you to grant the gift of hope and opportunity to our most vulnerable community members through our Community Impact Funds. Our essential services in food, housing, health, education, and economic security give a hand up to our neighbors in need by providing the foundation for stability and self-sufficiency. Your Help is Their Hope.

FOOD

When you or your children are hungry, life’s challenges are even more difficult to overcome. We serve over 575,000 meals to more than 10,000 of our neighbors in need each year, preparing hot meals at our senior centers, distributing free grocery bags at our community centers, and providing nutritious snacks for our after-school students daily. A hearty meal goes a long way for those who endure hunger each day. By nourishing the body, we nurture hope and nourish the soul for our neighbors in need.

HEALTH

Health and well-being take many forms, from the physical to the emotional. Seniors receive wellness assessments and nurse check-ups, individuals and families access counseling, frail adults are cared for at our Adult Day Care centers, and young men and women attend peer support groups and groups to prevent them on a path to healthy adulthood. Health is wealth—we care for the well-being of our community members to foster holistic strength.

HOUSING

Our region’s housing crisis means that families are often crowded in shared apartments with other families, live in converted garages, or sleep in cars. This is not home. Our housing programs provide support for families and individuals facing housing instability or homelessness, from case management to housing placement for flood survivors to supportive services at Charities Housing sites, to direct financial assistance to keep people in their homes. Neighbors are assisted to address unsafe and blighted properties. Home is a place of love, belonging, community, and safety, not stress, fear, or instability. We provide comfort, respite, and the daily blessing of home for those who are without.

EDUCATION

Education opens doors to opportunity and life-long learning. Our after-school expanded learning program, CORAL (Communities Organizing Resources to Advance Learning), serves 2,500 youngsters in high-needs neighborhoods every year with literacy and STEM programs, sports, and enrichment activities. Our Family Resource Centers provide parenting education and early childhood programs, while senior and neighborhood centers host classes and workshops, and ESL instruction helps participants to navigate civic processes and connect to the wider community. Our programs open doors to educational pathways leading to stability and self-sufficiency.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Income is the key to self-sufficiency, the key that will unlock all of the above for people living in poverty. Our employment programs specialize in placing those with severe barriers to employment, securing jobs for over 100 people every year, while our Financial Education programs help participants to budget, save, and plan for their future. We assist our immigrant neighbors to obtain legal status and citizenship to secure employment and engage in the community, and help refugees fleeing violence and instability around the world to build a new life in our beautiful and vibrant Santa Clara County. Our participants pursue meaningful career opportunities and professional development that fosters skill sets and drive. We support our community members to seek and sustain a reliable income to achieve long-term stability.
Back by popular demand, our CORAL after-school students will once again participate in the Christmas Tree Ornament programming project. The goal of the project is to introduce students to “coding” skills. Each student programs a lighting sequence for a microprocessor controlled tree ornament that is hung on a tree throughout the holidays at San Jose’s Christmas in the Park event. Thanks to growing donor support, this year 125 students will have this fun opportunity to learn about computers, programming, circuits, variables, functions, light colors, and more.

According to Aldo Estrada, STEM Curriculum Manager for CORAL, “Participation in the Christmas Ornament project turned out to be an incredibly memorable experience. Sometimes it can be difficult to explain STEM curriculum and its significance to parents, however, the value of the ornament project was very tangible to both students and parents.”

At the culmination of the project during the Thanksgiving weekend, with families in attendance, each student will place their special ornament on their school’s designated tree. The brightly lit trees will be on display for the duration of the holiday season, serving as a source of both great personal and family pride.

This project is a great example of how Catholic Charities partners with the community and thinks creatively to provide enriching learning opportunities for students in need. And it illuminates the fundamental value of Catholic Charities programs to individual and corporate supporters.

Do you have an educational project or concept that students will remember for the rest of their lives? Do you work for a company that is seeking to show how their technology helps our community? Join us and help develop the future engineers, scientists, and community leaders of the future!

To learn more about our CORAL program, its partnerships and special projects, contact CORAL and Family Services Director, America Aguirre, aaguirre@catholiccharitiesscc.org.

You can make Christmas brighter for a needy senior or family this year. Catholic Charities’ Season of Sharing program collects gifts for individuals and families who will have little or nothing under the tree on Christmas morning. Last year, more than 2,000 Christmas gifts were distributed to grateful Catholic Charities clients of all ages.

Please consider donating an unwrapped gift this year or getting your organization, parish, club or corporation to participate as a group. One idea is hosting a “Party With A Purpose” and asking guests to bring an unwrapped gift to donate to Season of Sharing.

Needed items include:

- Gift cards to stores (especially Target, Walmart, Safeway, and gas cards)
- Games, toys, books, sports equipment, dolls, and crafts for infants to teens
- Sweatshirts, gloves, hats, and socks for kids, teens, and adults
- Blankets
- Personal hygiene items, including toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, and deodorant

“We are so thankful to all of the individuals, parishes and corporations who participated last year,” said Susan Lucas Taylor, Catholic Charities Chief Development Officer. “Together, we can brighten this Christmas season for thousands of families!”

The program runs through December 20, 2018. For more information or to set up a donation pick-up, please call (408) 325-5125 or email giving@catholiccharitiesscc.org.
Catholic Charities’ 10th Annual Bocce Tournament in September brought 32 teams and many guests to Campo di Bocce for a fun-filled evening to “Roll Against Poverty.” Highlights of the evening included the Wine and Spirits Ring Toss, Silent Auction, Dream Vacation Raffle, along with delicious food and wines.

This year’s Bocce Champions were The Bean Counters, sponsored by Marc Seymer. Coming in at a close second was Linna’s Pallinas sponsored by The Party Helpers. Congratulations to the winners and all of our tournament players!

“Thanks to our generous sponsors, dedicated committee members, and enthusiastic players and volunteers, the tournament raised critical funds for Catholic Charities programs and services to combat poverty in Santa Clara County,” said Joe Gentzkow, Tournament Chairman. “We are grateful to all who made this 10th Annual Tournament such a success!”

This year’s Tournament had the first ever “Honorary Queen of Bocce,” Sandra Sepulveda, a partner at the law firm Berliner Cohen, LLP and member of its Estate Planning Group. Sandra has made helping our community a priority for the entirety of her career. She has served as a Vice President of the Board for the Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley and has been volunteering for Catholic Charities since 2009. She has served on the Bocce Planning Committee from its inception and on the Catholic Charities Board of Directors since 2014. She has been instrumental in growing this Tournament and tripling event support. Including Sandra, Committee members for the Bocce Tournament are John Di Palermo, Dominic DiTullio, John Doyle, Joanne Escobar, Steve Giachetti, Craig Kovaleski, Kevin Moul, Beth Rhodes, and Paul Vaccaro.

Are you interested in serving on next year’s Bocce Tournament Committee, or participating in the Tournament? Contact Kathleen Burroughs, kburroughs@catholiccharitiesscc.org or (408) 325-5191.

Bishop’s Tea with Circle of Hope

Hosts Gloria Citti and Adrianna Citti Glasco welcomed Bishop McGrath and guests to his annual Bishop’s Tea in September. The event is a reunion of sorts. Longtime supporters and members of Catholic Charities’ Circle of Hope gathered to share memories and stories of how they first came to support Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County.

Circle of Hope members are special friends of the agency who have made a bequest within their will or trust. Guests enjoyed traditional afternoon high tea in Gloria’s sumptuous garden while Bishop McGrath shared timely reflections and touching thoughts about his time as Catholic Charities’ Board President.

If you would like to join Circle of Hope, or would like to learn more about making a legacy gift to Catholic Charities, contact David Russo at (408) 325-5248 or drusso@catholiccharitiesscc.org. Join Circle of Hope today and don’t miss next year’s event!

Longtime supporters of Catholic Charities’ Circle of Hope enjoy each other’s company at the Bishop’s Tea.
Five Reasons You Should Consider Informing Us of Your Bequest

Have you made a bequest in your will or trust to Catholic Charities? Here are five reasons you should consider sharing the information about your legacy gift:

1. RECOGNITION – Documenting your philanthropy allows Catholic Charities to recognize you now, during your life. As a member of the Circle of Hope, you will be invited to our exclusive tea hosted annually by the Bishop.

2. PEACE OF MIND – Documenting your planned gift helps to ensure your charitable goals are met – now and in the future. We will work with you to confirm that appropriate language is used to meet your legacy goals, documents are drafted properly and stored safely.

3. DESIGNATE A PURPOSE – It is important to record how your contribution will be used. Will your gift support us in perpetuity, for a specific program, or will it support a vulnerable population? You have options and we would love to discuss them with you.

4. INSPIRING OTHERS – A legacy gift is exemplary and serves as a role model for others. Your philanthropic legacy can motivate additional donors thereby providing even more resources to help Catholic Charities reduce poverty further.

5. NO OBLIGATIONS – We recognize that your goals need to be flexible. You may change your mind or your financial circumstances may change. Indeed, even listing a gift amount is an approximation. Further, we respect and honor your intent and privacy. Informing us will not encourage further solicitations on our part.

If you have made bequest to Catholic Charities in your will or trust, please inform us today and join our Circle of Hope. Contact David Russo at 408-325-5248 or drusso@catholiccharitiesscc.org.

CAKES FOR KIDS

Catholic Charities partnered with Cakes4Kids to bring birthday joy to the refugee foster youth and families we serve. Cakes4Kids is a nonprofit that believes every child deserves to celebrate their birthday regardless of their circumstance. A network of volunteer bakers make fresh custom cakes for foster, orphaned, and other children facing difficult situations.

This September, Manju, a refugee foster youth supported by Catholic Charities, received the first cake from the partnership. By request and to Manju’s specifications, a volunteer baker made her a custom sugar-free chocolate cake decorated with butterflies.

Andreas Valverde, a Catholic Charities’ Refugee Foster Care social worker shared how important these little gestures mean to the youth she supports. “It helps them feel like they belong. I cannot wait to deliver the next cake!”

To learn more about how you can help make a difference for the children we serve, please visit www.catholiccharitiesscc.org.

Financial Foundations Initiative Empowers Participants

In her early 70s, Lana dreamed of a vacation to visit her sister in Fresno, who she had not seen for many years. But living on a fixed income prevented Lana from pursuing her dream. Between cost and distance, it seemed financially impossible, until one day, Michael Carter, Program Supervisor of Catholic Charities’ new financial education program, suggested, “Let’s figure out a budget for that. Let’s talk about having you go on a train to see your sister. Lana’s eyes lit up with joy. In her early 70s, Lana dreamed of a vacation to visit her sister in Fresno, who she had not seen for many years. But living on a fixed income prevented Lana from pursuing her dream. Between cost and distance, it seemed financially impossible, until one day, Michael Carter, Program Supervisor of Catholic Charities’ new financial education program, suggested, “Let’s figure out a budget for that. Let’s talk about how you can help make a difference for the children we serve, please visit www.catholiccharitiesscc.org.

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Mike and Lana worked together to develop a budget for a five-day trip to Fresno via train with enough saved for Lana to visit restaurants and do some sightseeing with her sister. The trip amounted to approximately $400, and for Lana, this was a lifelong dream that she achieved on her own, with the help of Catholic Charities.

With anchor funding from Citibank Community Development and additional support from Wells Fargo, the program is set to meet its goal of serving 75 clients with one-on-one coaching by June 2019.

“Nobody wants to save for a rainy day,” says Mike, “But people should save for something good, because if something bad happens, you have money for that, too.”

To learn more about the Financial Foundations Initiative, please contact Program Supervisor Michael Carter at mcarter@catholiccharitiesscc.org. If you’d like to donate to support our Community Impact Fund for Economic Security, which helps clients like Lana, please visit www.catholiccharitiesscc.org/donate.
Restorative Justice Center Helps Adults Change Their Lives for Good

Catholic Charities’ Restorative Justice Center helps adults with a criminal background change their lives for the better. The Center takes a more holistic approach to healing, recognizing that program participants often turn to crime, drugs, or alcohol as a result of past challenges or trauma. Through access to various social supports, the program stabilizes lives for recovery and successful reintegration into the community.

Bridges of Hope is a faith-based re-entry program. The program provides case management services and faith-based services to men and women coming out of Main Jail and Elmwood Jail. They also help with basic needs and connect participants to additional community services. Bringing Everyone’s Strengths Together (BEST) provides case management and social opportunities for young men and women ages 12-24, who live in six local hot spots that have been identified as being highly impacted by gangs and police involvement. The program is based out of Washington United Youth Center.

PRO-GRIIP provides therapy, intensive case management services, and social opportunities to youth ages 14-21 who are on Juvenile Gang probation. The program is offered throughout Santa Clara County.

Support and Enhancement Services (SES) provides therapy, case management services, and social opportunities to youth ages 12-18 who are on Juvenile Probation. The program is also offered throughout Santa Clara County.

Inmate Services provides light case management services, referrals to legal services, linkage to reading materials, linkage to eyeglasses, linkage to faith-based services, and linkage to family members in the community are provided to men and women who are at Main Jail or Elmwood Jail.

Right Directions Program clients come from prison, jail, and AB109 (Assembly Bill 109 diverts people convicted of certain classes of less serious felonies from state prison to local county jails). Full scope employment services are provided, including Job Readiness/Job Preparation, Job Development, Job Placement, and Job Retention. Tattoo removal is also provided for life threatening, visible tattoos.

Gender Responsive Opportunities for Women (GROW) clients come from prison, jail, and AB109. The program provides full scope employment services, including Job Readiness/Job Preparation, Job Development, Job Placement, and Job Retention.

Probation Employment – JOBTREK clients come from the probation department. Full scope employment services are provided, including Job Readiness/Job Preparation, Job Development, Job Placement, and Job Retention.

To learn more about the Restorative Justice Center, please visit www.catholiccharitiesscc.org/health. If you would like to make a donation to Catholic Charities’ Community Impact fund for Health, please visit www.catholiccharitiesscc.org/donate.

CAR DONATIONS BENEFIT IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE INTEGRATION SERVICES

Each day, Rayi goes to school with a smile. His parents are proud because at the age of 12, it is the first time that he has ever attended school. Diagnosed with down syndrome and cerebral palsy, he was unable to attend school in Afghanistan due to a lack of special education services. But through the help of Catholic Charities’ Immigrant & Refugee Integration Services (IRIS) and the Car Donation program, Rayi is enrolled and attending school for the very first time.

IRIS provides displaced families with an array of services, including housing, ESL tutoring, cultural orientation, transportation assistance, job training, referrals to community resources, and case management. These services are made possible through Catholic Charities’ Car Donation program. For 17 years, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County has accepted donations of all types of vehicles that directly help families and individuals in need within Silicon Valley onto paths of self-sufficiency.

Rayi is one of a family of eight whose parents greatly value education. His father, Isaad, was a veterinarian and professor in their regional university in Afghanistan. Both parents made an extra effort for their older daughters to attend college and take extracurricular English language classes. Now, Rayi has access to the resources that he needs to learn and thrive.

“I am so happy with the services that Catholic Charities has provided to my family,” says Isaad. “My case manager knows so much about my religion and culture. It makes me so surprised, but so happy. The best is that my case manager has helped enroll my children in school, even my 12-year old son with a disability. September is the first time my son will be going to school. Every day he goes with a smile. He loves it!”

Your donations are a part of a community effort to help rebuild lives. 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.

THE HEALTH TRUST TRANSFERS SEVEN FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

The Health Trust recently transferred seven Family Resource Centers (FRCs) to Catholic Charities. FRCs are a place-based strategy to strengthen communities by investing in families with young children living in high-risk neighborhoods. FRCs offer parenting and child enrichment classes; screenings for oral health, vision, hearing, and development; health and nutrition information; resource and referral assistance, and more, all free of charge. The Health Trust previously managed six centers and co-managed one site with Catholic Charities before determining the transition as the best alignment for their new strategic plan focusing on health prevention and support among specific populations. Catholic Charities now manages 11 of the 17 FRCs in the County of Santa Clara.
Catholic Charities and Santa Clara University’s Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship held the San Francisco Bay Area GSBI® Boost on July 24-26, 2018 in San Jose, California. The Boost was a free, three-day, capacity-building workshop for social entrepreneurs who are positively impacting the lives of those in need in the Bay Area. Seven programs from Catholic Charities participated in the Boost, including Art for Change, Baby Steps, Communities Organizing Resources to Advance Learning (CORAL), Adult Day Care, Immigration Legal Services, Responsible Landlord Engagement Initiative, and Supportive Housing Services. The Boost was made possible thanks to a grant from Agnieszka Winkles, Vice President of Catholic Charities’ Board of Directors. To learn more, please visit https://www.scu-social-entrepreneurship.org/bayareaboost.

Philanthropy and Volunteerism Inspired by Beloved Son

It is the memory of their beloved son, Joseph Harold LaScola, which inspires and motivates the philanthropy and voluntarism of Joseph A. and Emily LaScola.

“The work of Catholic Charities and local parish outreach programs personify Joseph’s way of helping those less fortunate than himself,” the LaSolas said.

Catholic Charities is grateful to the LaSolas for their dedication. Their family foundation’s recent challenge match secured the largest number of Caritas Society donors in the history of the agency.

“Joseph felt deeply that our Catholic tradition instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first,” according to the LaSolas. “We know he walks beside us in our efforts to help the poor.”

For information on becoming a Caritas member with Catholic Charities, please contact apoetsch@catholiccharitiesscc.org or (408) 325-5288.

Distinguished Giving Committee Hosts First “Let’s Talk” Series Focused on Education

We all know that education is one of the greatest equalizers, the best escape route from a life of poverty. However, research shows that people struggling with poverty are less likely to achieve a college education. In East San Jose, the Franklin-McKinley School District has a population of 7,500 elementary students; 45% are English language learners and 77% are from low socio-economic status. The needs of these students and their families are high and the demands on the school district are great.

On September 10, 2018, Catholic Charities’ Distinguished Giving Committee Co-Chairs, Judy Marcus and Mike Pope, hosted a conversation to discuss education for our poverty challenged youth. Juan Cruz, Superintendent of the Franklin-McKinley School District, launched the dialogue and highlighted the long-standing partnership between the school district and Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County. For many years, the agency has supported the community with Family Resource Centers, Prevention and Early Intervention Programs, and Academic Support through the CORAL (Communities Organizing Resources to Advance Learning) after-school program. Thirty guests participated in an intimate dialogue that brought greater understanding of the challenges and needs of poverty challenged students.

The event was the first in a series titled, “Let’s Talk,” designed to host meaningful conversations about the important issues impacting our community, offering a forum for our distinguished supporters to provide feedback and guidance on the best ways that Catholic Charities can address these issues.

Catholic Charities is committed to moving the needle on poverty for our community, especially for the children that we serve. If you would like to learn more about how you can help, please visit www.catholiccharitiesscc.org.
Did You Know?

Catholic Charities and the County of Santa Clara launched a new House Sharing program that matches people willing to rent out a room in their home with people seeking affordable housing. The program is administered by the agency, who will conduct marketing and outreach, facilitate housing agreements, screen House Providers and Renters through background checks, and will provide advice/support to participants. Learn more at www.catholiccharitiesscc.org/house-sharing-home.

Food is Love...and We Love Our Community!

Our staff and volunteers at Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County know too well how difficult it can be for seniors on a fixed income to pay the bills, rent, medication, groceries, and all the things one needs to survive in this valley. To help make things a little more manageable, we provide low-cost hot, nutritious meals to these older neighbors in need at our Eastside Neighborhood Center in East San Jose and at our John XXIII Multiservice Center in downtown San Jose. For many of them, this will be the only hot meal they have that day. Thanks to the big hearts of our staff and volunteers, we have been serving the older generation for more than 54 years. If you can help us feed more seniors by volunteering or gifting us with a donation, please visit www.catholiccharitiesscc.org/donate.