

Catholic Charities

CHANGING LIVES

PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS, RESTORING HOPE



Catholic Charities | SAN FRANCISCO
MARIN
SAN MATEO

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PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS IN SAN FRANCISCO

The goal of Catholic Charities Homelessness Prevention is to ensure that vulnerable people have a home, either in the form of temporary shelter or long-term housing. The programs provide eviction prevention support in the form of rental assistance for back rent, security deposits, and referral to appropriate community agencies.

“By providing eviction prevention, we are helping to maintain the number of low rent units in San Francisco,” said **Jose Cartagena**, Catholic Charities Homelessness Prevention Program Manager.

If a tenant is unable to pay their rent because of a family emergency, health scare, or other unforeseen reason, their landlord can evict them and increase the rent to fair market rate, which is higher than what most San Franciscans can afford.

“A client who had lived in the same unit for a long time is usually paying a lower rent compared to tenants who have rental agreements less than two years old,” Jose said. “Landlords could and will increase rent on units after long-term tenants are evicted.”

Catholic Charities Homeless Prevention provides short-term, emergency assistance for individuals like **Cecilia**, who found herself facing immediate eviction, despite having a full-time job.

“I felt overwhelmed,” Cecilia said. “I believed my son and I were going to be out on the streets. I’m so glad I found out about Catholic Charities. It has been a blessing.” ■



Jose meets with Catholic Charities client, Cecilia.

THANK YOU, HOLIDAY VOLUNTEERS!

We were blessed to have volunteers from across the Bay Area give of their time and talent to make the holidays special for our clients. From a party with Santa for refugee and immigrant children in San Mateo, to Christmas Carolers in San Francisco, to a party for youth in San Rafael, volunteers made this Christmas season one to remember. ■



In partnership with **Project Night Night**, the **Calvary Nursery School** donated over 80 Night Night Packages benefiting children and youth in our Homelessness and Housing Services.



Santa Clara Valley Thunderbirds Club created more than 300 Holiday Gift Bags for Catholic Charities Assisted Health and Housing clients.



The **San Mateo County Sherriff's Offices** adopted families for our Refugee and Immigrant Services Holiday Party in San Mateo.

NOTE FROM JEFF: POVERTY AWARENESS MONTH

Dear Friends,

Every January we recognize **Poverty Awareness Month**.

Despite strong economic growth in California, **16.4% of Californians** live on **less than \$24,000 per year** for a family of four. When we factor in the higher cost of living, about **4 in 10 California residents are living in poverty**.

As demonstrated in our story about Catholic Charities Homelessness Prevention, most families living in poverty live in a household with at least one adult working. At Catholic Charities, we believe that providing hard-working families with that extra little bit of help to keep them in their homes can break the cycle of homelessness; and prevent more costly interventions.

In Matthew 25, Jesus calls to us to care for the poor, saying "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Together with your help, Catholic Charities is working to reduce poverty in our communities and provide families with a hand-up, not a hand out.

God Bless,



Jeff Bialik
Executive Director

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25



Loaves & Fishes

AWARDS DINNER AND GALA

Saturday, April 22, 2017

*The St. Regis Hotel
San Francisco*

*Bill Ring
recipient of the
2017 Loaves & Fishes Award
for Faith in Action*

During his 25 years as a Catholic Charities Board member and Director Emeritus, **Bill Ring** has actively engaged in strengthening and supporting services to children and youth.

Bill has a distinguished history including: two-time Super Bowl Champion with the San Francisco 49ers, winner of the 1983 Len Eshmont Award, inductions into both the San Mateo County Sports Hall of Fame and the College of San Mateo Athletics Hall of Fame, and Bill was the Alumni Team Captain of the 2016 NFL Alumni Game vs. the Wounded Warriors as part of the Super Bowl 50 festivities.

Learn more at:
CatholicCharitiesSF.org/LoavesandFishes

MARY SUTHERLAND'S ESTATE GIFT TINGED WITH MEMORIES OF GREAT DEPRESSION

When **Chris Sutherland** started sorting through her mom's belongings after her death this year at age 93, she found, among other surprises, 32 broom handles stored in Mary's neat-as-a-pin Balboa Terrace home.

"My mother just didn't believe in throwing things out," Chris said of the late **Mary Elizabeth Sutherland**. "She was a child of the Great Depression. She always worried about having enough money in old age, and enough to pass on to her two daughters and five grandchildren."

When they met with an attorney in 2012 to review the value of Mary's estate, "she didn't believe it," Chris said. "She didn't think of herself as a person with wealth."

"My dad was a professional investor who left her very comfortable when he died in 1994," she added. Still, when the attorney asked if she would like to leave something to charity, Mary's first question was, "Can I afford it? Will there be enough for my children and grandchildren?" Assured that there would, she left generous legacies in her living trust to a number of causes, including Catholic Charities.

Described by Chris as elegant, charming, and tough as nails, she kept bouncing back from serious illnesses including pneumonia during her last eight years.

The child of Irish immigrants—her father worked as a janitor in San Francisco's public schools, investing in rental properties on the side—Mary was a proud lifetime San Francisco resident. She graduated from Star of the Sea High School and San Francisco College for Women at Lone Mountain.

After two years as a teacher, she raised her family in St. Emydius and St. Stephen parishes, with her husband, Bruce, a WWII veteran who supported her work for Catholic causes.

Her two daughters raised, Mary cared for her elderly parents, an aunt, her husband, and a brother; all at the end of their lives. "She was the primary caregiver to one aging family member after another," Chris said, "After my dad died in 1994 and my uncle in 1996, my mother finally found herself with some free time."

She used much of it as a twenty-year-plus volunteer with **Catholic Charities Little Children's Aid**. "It was her love and her passion that any new mother who was low-income and served by Catholic Charities would have all of the clothes, diapers, and other essentials she needed for the start of her baby's life," Chris continued. "She spent her free time going to sales at Ross and Target, buying the cutest baby clothes she could find."

Though Mary's estate gift to Catholic Charities is undesignated, Chris suspects this child of the Depression would be pleased if it were used to support the kind of work her mother carried out as a member of Little Children's Aid.

Catholic Charities is honored to memorialize Mary Elizabeth Sutherland as a member of its **Legacy Circle**. ■

For information on the Catholic Charities Legacy Circle and how to make a planned gift, contact Kathy Brown at kbrown@CatholicCharitiesSF.org or 415 972 1291.





SIGN UP FOR OUR ENEWS!

Stay connected with Catholic Charities all year long by signing up for our eNews. Send an email to media@CatholicCharitiesSF.org, call Caroline De Bie at 415 972 1276, or go to CatholicCharitiesSF.org/eNews to sign up.

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

With locations in San Francisco, Marin, San Mateo, and Sonoma counties, there is always a Catholic Charities location nearby that needs your help. We depend on the generosity of volunteers to help elementary school children with their homework, provide support for aging adults and respite for caregivers, and so much more.

Check out the volunteer opportunities below and learn more at CatholicCharitiesSF.org/get-involved. Questions? Call **Diana Contreras** at 415 972 1297 or email volunteer@CatholicCharitiesSF.org.

SAN FRANCISCO

Classroom Grandparent Volunteer Children and Youth Services

Catholic Charities Treasure Island Child Development Center is a licensed facility that provides family support and full-time childcare for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers in the Treasure Island community. Grandparent volunteers are needed to assist teachers in accomplishing daily curriculum goals for each class.

SAN MATEO

Afternoon Activity Assistants Aging Support Services

Catholic Charities Adult Day Service San Mateo provides a friendly and welcoming environment offering daily activities for seniors and disabled adults. Activity Assistant volunteers will support in a variety of activities in the afternoons, including arts and crafts, bingo, games, music, and DIY (Do-It-Yourself) activities for seniors.

MARIN

Literacy Specialist Children and Youth Services

Catholic Charities Canal Family Support is seeking an experienced volunteer who enjoys working with children, who come from disadvantaged backgrounds, to serve as a Literacy Specialist volunteer. The Literacy Specialist volunteer will lead small reading intervention groups focused on comprehension, vocabulary, and phonics instruction to elementary-age English language learners.



CAMP REGISTRATION
IS NOW OPEN!

SESSION ONE	JUNE 26 - JULY 2
SESSION TWO	JULY 5 - JULY 11
SESSION THREE	JULY 12 - JULY 18
SESSION FOUR	JULY 20 - JULY 26
SESSION FIVE	JULY 27 - AUG 2
SESSION SIX	AUG 4 - AUG 10

Register today at:
CatholicCharitiesSF.org/cyocamp





990 Eddy Street
San Francisco, CA 94109
415 972 1200
CatholicCharitiesSF.org



Together we are making a difference in our community.

Last year, our services in San Francisco, Marin, San Mateo, and Sonoma counties helped over **37,500 individuals.**

Learn more about **CatholicCharitiesImpact.org.**

