CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF CALIFORNIA

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2017

Volume 2, No. 2

CALIFORNIA'S LARGEST NETWORK OF SOCIAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

Catholic Charities of California represents the twelve Local Catholic Charities Organizations in California.

Every year, these organizations provide more than 1.5 million professional social services to Californians who need help and hope. Catholic Charities of California is the single point of access to this statewide network.



Photos of Deborah, with permissions.

FEATURED

CATHOLIC CHARITIES DIOCESE OF FRESNO

Catholic Charities in Fresno has been serving low-income families in the Central Valley for over 49 years. CC Fresno are first responders helping the community with food, clothing and other basic necessities of life. They perform an initial assessment and can determine which wrap around services a client may be eligible for such as: CalFresh assistance, PGE Care, DMV Reduced Fee Vouchers, Hygiene, and Rent/Mortgage assistance. Additional programs include: Representative Payee, Senior Companion, Thrift Store/Clothing Referrals, and Career and Education Center.

FACTS

- 132,000 individuals received emergency food services
- 15,000 individuals received clothing services
- 760 individuals received Payee services
- 100 individuals received Senior Companion services
- 48 individuals enrolled in our Career and Education Center classes
- · 1,290 individuals enrolled in Cal Fresh

Impossible to I'm Possible



Catholic Charities Diocese of Fresno provides emergency services to roughly 132,000 clients on an annual basis. While this number is impressive and speaks to the volume of individuals that we assist daily, it does not speak to the life changing impact that our programs provide.

In partnership with State Center Community College, last year Catholic Charities launched its Career and Education Center. These free two-week classes provided instruction in basic computer skills as well as personal and professional growth. These classes gave our clients the confidence that allowed them to take that next step towards self-sufficiency.

Meet Deborah, a recent graduate of our Career and Education Center. Deborah had been a drug addict in a residential treatment program and came to us in the Fall of 2016. Deborah did not have an easy path to our classroom and 2015 was especially hard on her. Her 25 year old son died in a motorcycle accident, her boyfriend left her when she enrolled in a treatment program, and she suffered a massive heart attack.

Deborah, however, was determined not to be limited by the challenges that were in front of her. With the support from another recovering addict, Deborah enrolled in our classes and let her heart and mind be open to the possibilities. In two weeks, Deborah learned basic computer skills and received job readiness training. In two months, Deborah received a certificate for a job readiness course, passed the TAPE assessment test, passed 1 of 4 GED tests, and received a certificate of RADT (registered alcohol and drug technician). In addition, Deborah has started a Facebook support group for those grieving the loss of family members.

Deborah sums up her growth best by these simple words... "Impossible to I'm possible."



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UPDATE ON STATEWIDE ACTIVITIES

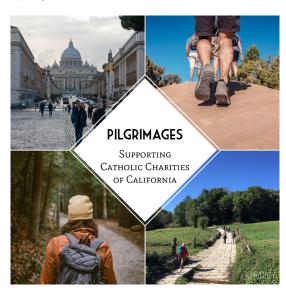
Catholic Charities of California (CCC) have spaces available for you to join a a seven-day walking pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago in Spain or the Via Francigena in Italy!

All arrangements (except flights) will be made by CCC and the cost is \$1,500 for double occupancy and \$1,800 for single occupancy. We can also accommodate groups, if you would like to organize friends and family for an enriching experience. Organized groups of 12 people (11 + organizer) will waive the cost for the organizer.

For our 2017 & 2018 brochure with dates and more information, visit our website: www.CatholicCharitiesCA.org

To make a reservation, call or email us at: 916-706-1539 or Pilgrim@CatholicCharitiesCA.org

Join us for a walk that will change your life, while helping to support programs that serve those in need!





Catholic Charities Statewide Immigration Network

UPDATES

Local Catholic Charities Organizations in California proudly serve immigrants in communities across the State. For over 60 years, these services have included everything from emergency food and housing assistance, to mental health counseling, to professional legal services.

Immigrant legal services help immigrants to obtain temporary or permanent legal status. Catholic Charities Organizations are recognized by the federal Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA). This means that they employ BIA-accredited staff—highly trained staff who are authorized by the BIA to practice immigration law.

The Catholic Charities statewide network of agencies has been awarded \$5.1 million by the California Department of Social Services Immigration Services Program to provide Immigration legal services and education and outreach to over 20,000 immigrants over the next year. This is the second consecutive award for the network, where over 11,700 immigrants have been served since January 2016.

Check out our website to learn more about our network of Catholic Charities agencies and the areas we serve.

