

CONNECTIONS

A quarterly publication of the Christian Community Service Center

First Quarter 2018

How We Invested Your Harvey Donation

Bands of heavy rain started to hit Houston on Saturday, August 26, 2017. We saw the physical devastation and witnessed shattered lives in subsequent weeks as the financial, emotional, and health-related tolls were great. Christian Community Service Center's facilities were not spared: the main campus flooded for the third time in two years. And yet CCSC remained committed to serving clients despite the storm's impact on us.



By August 31, both Emergency Services sites were open and running. Operations were modified to quickly serve as many people as possible. We immediately focused on food, clothing, and other basic needs, helping more than 2,400 households in those first two weeks.

In the weeks that followed, we added layers of assistance. Hearing that many clients lost wages and/or their mode of transportation to work, Emergency Services doubled the maximum amounts offered for rent and utility assistance. We helped clients like "Jody," a single mom of two who lives with multiple sclerosis. When her home had water damage, she lost furniture, mattresses, and more. On a fixed income, the added expenses seemed overwhelming, but CCSC's assistance paying her December rent helped her regain traction and stability.

Next, CCSC leveraged its existing relationship with Fiesta Mart, our vendor for Back To School uniform vouchers, setting up a similar system to help flood victims with clothing. Families who had been impacted were able to replace coats, work boots,



scrubs, undergarments, and other needed apparel items with these resources. In all, 743 families received this respite.



Then, at Jingle Bell Express, we provided a bonus to each of the 888 families who attended the event: a plush blanket for battling the unusually cold weather. Many of these families were still without bedding due to storm losses.



Finally, CCSC partnered with two schools on the east side of town. Robinson Elementary was completely flooded and evacuated, so Pleasantville Elementary housed half of the Robinson student population for the fall semester. CCSC was able to provide academic supply kits to 913 students from these campuses so they could begin the spring semester with the necessary tools.

Story continued on page 3

INSIDE CONNECTIONS

- 4 Meet 2018 Board President Chris Matlock
- 4 Volunteer Spotlight – Kristi Turner
- 5 Jingle Bell Express 2017 Results
- 8 2018 Azalea Dinner & Auction
- Special Insert:** 2017 Year In Review



DONORS

Gifts received October through December 2017

EXULT \$25,000+

CCSC Memorial Endowment
Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund

HALLELUJAH \$10,000+

Boyd & Evelyn Mullen Foundation
Catherine Carl Wakelyn
Florence and William K. McGee, Jr.
Family Foundation
Kiwanis Club Foundation
Stephen M. Seay Foundation

ILLUMINATE \$5,000+

Albert & Ethel Herzstein Charitable
Foundation
Barbara Nowotny
Friends of CCSC
James and Mary Bratton
James and Peggy Trotter
Raymond and Linda Mullins
Russell and Stephanie Post
Sandra Carson
Stephen and Beth Hull
The Vaughn Foundation

TRIUMPH \$2,500+

Betty Seydler
Charity Guild of Catholic Women
Chris Germany
Fred and Stephanie Wilson
Friends of CCSC (2)
Judy and Henry Sauer, Jr.
Mimi McGehee
Ronald and Betsey Martin
Scott and Tamie Baggett
Shell Oil Company Foundation
(Anonymous Match)
Spindletop Charities, Inc.

PROCLAIM \$1,000+

Amy L. Sutton
Andrews Foundation
Carol and Mark Bruse
Cathleen Trechter
Chevron Companies
(Jerry Spetseris)
Christopher and Karla Medina
David and Loriann Schumacher
David and Nancy Loncarich
Don and Andrea Aubin
Don and Barbara Hodde
Doug and Gail McKinnon
Eugene and Kathryn McFaddin
ExxonMobil Foundation (Carolyn
Howard Volunteer Hours)
Friends of CCSC (6)
Gary and Kathy Long
Goodman Financial Corporation
Hayne and Pamela Blakely
Jay and Melinda Chernosky
Jeffrey S. Rawson
Jeromy and Lori Murphy
Jerry Spetseris
John and Cherry Schwarz
Joyce and Louis Sullivan, II
Judy L. Rosenberger
Kiwanis Club of Kirtland, Ohio
Lachelle and Mike Ashworth, II
Loretta Block
Louise Perlitz
Margaret and Campbell Griffin, Jr.
Marilyn and Joseph Patterson, Jr.
Mary Lee Lanik
Michael and Susan Hawes
R. David and Sherri Jones
Rhoda and L. Edward Tuffly, Jr.
Richard and Judy Agee
Robert and Suzanne Werner
Robert J. Braun
Roderick and Judith Lide
Ross Doan
Shell Oil Company Foundation
(Grace Yu Freeman)
Steven and Gina Stryker
Thomas and Karen Green

Thomas and Sharon Copper
Thomas and Vickie Sartwell
Tom and Connie Herald
Tom Black
William and Maarit Harp

REJOICE \$500+

Anita and John Bateman, IV
Apache Corporation
(Anonymous Match)
Arnold & Saunders, LLP
Betsy Bolin
Boy Scout Troop 55 (Stuart
Whiteside Eagle Scout Project)
Bruce and Sara Williams
Carol and Simeon Lake, III
Charles and Janice Thompson
Chevron Companies
(Chris Sorensen)
Chevron Companies (James Engel
Volunteer Hours)
Colleen and George Spencer, III
Daniel Pagnano and Mary Cronin
Dean and Marilyn Callender
Emmanuel Episcopal Church
Friends of CCSC (2)
James and Marilyn Sweeten
Jerry and Corrine Bouquot
Jim and Dorann Blanke
John and Linda Riley
Jonathan Cox
Kendall and Cynthia Miller
Larry and Elizabeth Vavlik
Local Independent Charities
of Texas
Michael Metzger
Mike and Pamela Rush
Mobile TV Group
Morgan Stanley Foundation
(Jonathan Cox)
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Weeks
Philip and Stephanie Hodge
Remi and Rebecca van
Compernelle
Richard and Carolyn Weiss
Richard and Susan Cruse
Rick and Mary Thamm
Robert and Donna Stokes
Shell Oil Company Foundation
(Shawn Hansson)
Stephen and Christie Norman
Stephen and Pamalah Tipps
Thomas and Carolyn Caldwell
Victor and Helen Otte
William M. Calhoun

CELEBRATE \$100+

Allyson and Walter Weathers, Jr.
Andrew and Cheryl Fossler
Andrew and Molly Laegeler
Andrew Chan and Cynthia Woo
Barbara and George Batten, Jr.
Barbara Davenport
Barbara K. Runge
Barbara Strobel and George Bement
Barbara Yantis
Bette Benton
Beverly A. Mugerza
Beverly Merritt
Bob and Janice Woodburn
Bolivar and Marilyn Andrews
Brad Grounds
Brad Schott
Brent and Annette Tarver
Brian and Charlotte Grove
Brian Henry
Bruce Farrar and Lisa Hunt
C.J. Yeoman
Cam and Carol Postle
Carloyn White
Carol Strawn
Carolyn H. Vestal
Carolyn Wildenthal
Cettina Halsey
Charles and Catherine Reavis

Charles and Jane Szalkowski
Charles R. Tanner
Chevron Companies (Anonymous
Match)
Chevron Companies (Lana Loy)
Christopher and Julie Whitten
Claire C. Wilkins
Clare Attwell Glassell
Col. and Mrs. Charley Echols
Daisy and William Quayle, Jr.
Danielle Equale
Dave and Nancy Barziza
David and Amanda Nathan
David and Becky McClanahan
David and Laura Fulton
David and Loretta Elledge
David and Wendy Farmer
Demi Strawman
Dexter and Mary White
Dick and Pat Cloutier
Don and Marcia Raskin
Donald and Glenn Hurd
Donald and Martha Mims
Douglas and Josephine Hillegeist
Douglas Sandvig and Mary
Ricciardello
Duane and Haley Smith
Ed and Anne Jones
Edgar and Lory Lewis
Edie Archer
Edward and Janice Donaldson
Eldon and JoNell Beadle
Elson and Lori Robertson
Evan and Penny Pivalizza
Ewing Werlein, Jr.
Florence and Eugene McKelvey, Sr.
Frederick J. Plaeger, II
Friends of CCSC (12)
Gene and Sandra Williams
George E. Muncrief
Greg and Staci DeKunder
HP (Czarena Siebert)
Hugh and Fannie Parker
J. Gordon and Mary Kay Dees
Jack and Rebecca Browder
Jackie McCoy
James A. Kearley
James and Cecelia Bishop
James and Julie Kemper
James and Mary Winn
Jane Hasenpflug
Jeff and Caroline Gardner
Jeffery and Christine Toronjo
Jerry Long
Jim and Belinda Weatherly
Jo E. Stevenson
Joann Roach
Joe and Jeanette Barlow
Joelene Evans
John and Dorothy Wilson
John and Klinka Lollar
John and Linda O'Black
John and Margaret Dwyer
John and Rita Hannah
John and Susan House
John C. Boehm
John D. Carrara, Jr.
John P. Elwell
John P. Stroman
John Romeo and Janet Chung
John Wurster and Deborah Burks
Joseph and Diane Gocke
Joseph Looke
Joyce Maples
June Kangieser
Kathy Shearer
Kathy Kirk
Kathy Vermillion
Kaye Barrett
Kelley M. Bruso
Kendall and Joann Seuser
Kevin and Judith Hagerty
Kit Gwin
Kleta J. Gerhart
Kroger Food Stores

Lainie Ereno
Lana Lee and Stewart Cureton, Jr.
Lannie and Gaelyn Leshar
Larry and Dena Robinson
Larry and Suzanne Carreker
Latham and Janet Knight
Laura Boston
Lillian and Robert Rowan, Jr.
Loretta and John Kelly, Jr.
Louanne Sullivan
Lucia D. Sandoval
Lurie and Lewis McAdow, III
Lynn and O.J. Tauber, Jr.
Marcia E. Wasson
Margaret Barrow
Maggie Dement
Marilyn S. Dietrich
Mark and Anya Tish
Mark and Lauren Baird
Mark and Rebecca Udden
Mary and Frelynn Cohrs
Mary R. Livesay
Mary S. Schrank
Maryellen Mathews
Maury Stiver
Meredith Langley
Michele C. Woods
Mike and Bonnie Stroman
Mrs. Hannelore M. Schwarze
Nancy Nodler
Nancy Trimble
Neil and Suzanna Hanchard
O.H. and Rachel Frazier
Patsy D. Yeager
Paul and Carolyn Meyer
Paul and Kristine Woldy
Paula Peden
Peg Nevers
Prudential Foundation
(Barbara Hermans)
R. Alton and Nancy Milrany
Randall's Good Neighbor Program
Randy and Kathleen Ransleben
Ray and Lu Ann Burgess
Raymond F. Sylvester
Richard and Deborah Duffy
Richard and Nora Brooks
Richard and Patricia Legler
Ricky S. Boehme
Robert and Linda Kelly
Robert and Jacklyn Lane
Robert and Molly Sample
Robert and Sarah Ray
Robert DeRoy Jobe
Robert DuVernay
Robert Wolff
Ronald and Marilyn Taylor
Ruben W. Woliver
Ruben and Martha Martinez
Sally W. Hilliard
Sandra Kang and Kris Ramesh
Scott and Steffy Clingan
SN Operating, LLC
Steven and Cindi Lambert
Steven and Diane Anderson
Steven W. Ard
Tabor Lutheran Church Elliott, Iowa
Ted and Franna Litton
Thomas and Cindy Barrett
Thomas and Olga Lewis
Thomas Seymour
Tom and Donna Cardinale
Tom and Lisa Gossett
Tommie and Mary Renfrow
Tony and Barbara Franchina
Veronika Nicholson
Warren and Elizabeth Fisher
Wilbur and Czarena Siebert
William and Christina Moore
William and Gail Taber
William and Karen Donovan
William and Kathleen Henri
William and Lillian Caudill
William and Susan Bauch
William and Tabitha Rice

William and Virginia Camfield
William J. Coffey, II
Williams Companies Foundation
(John Boehm)

JOY UP TO \$99

Alan and Danna Holland
Alejandro and Lynn Rosas
Alejandro and Erika Pineda
AmazonSmile Foundation
Amy Keith
Andre Beaubien
Anita Crawford and David
Montenegro
Ann and Theodore Weiss, Jr.
Ann Bishop
Anna White
Ashley McPhail
Barbara Montalbano and M.T.
Garrett, Jr.
Ben and Sarah Powell
Benjamin Halladay
Bettie and E.K. Salls, Jr.
Betty Owens Geary
Betty S. Brown
Bob and Mary Singleton
Bobbie Wisecup
Bradford Scott
Bruce and Irene Lee
Burak Powers
Calvin and Lynn Ryan
Carl and Judy Thrasher
Celia Morgan
Charles and Tempie Fulwiler
Charles F. Dunkin
Christa L. Molter
Chuck and Amelie Carlton
Clarence and Dee Stanley
Claud and Kathryn Riddles
Craig and Gaye Hablinski
Cynthia A. Gabriel
Cynthia and Laurence Burns, Jr.
Cynthia and Thomas Wier, III
Dale and Christine Smith
Dan and Barbara Clinton
David Jones
David and Alice King
David and Constance Brakebill
David and Jeanne King
David and Judy Schubert
David Fowler
David Seeger
Diana and W.B. Freeman, Jr.
Doris Bilton
Douglas and Anne Culver
Dwayne and Nancy Mollard
E. Ted and Sallie Davis
Edward and Margaret Panuska
Eleanor Kay Grant
Elinor Hart
Elizabeth Brumley Prochnow
Emma Ibarra
Ethel Dodge
Eugene and Marilyn Shepherd
Executives Association of Houston
Frank and Sara Eggleston
Friends of CCSC (4)
G. Serpell and Elizabeth Edwards
Gail Jacobson
Garrett Chilek
George and Jan Atkinson
Georgia and Joel McGlasson, II
Glenn and Gay Humphress
Gordon and Adriane Arnold
Harry Mathis
Heather Handley
Heather Williams
Howard Franck
James and Edna Edgley
James and Jenrose Foshee
Jane Eixmann
Jane Abshire
Janet Horn
Janet Crow

Donors continued on page 7

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Michelle Shonbeck

Dear CCSC Friend,

Last year, I took a trip and had flown back home, boarding a shuttle bus to take me to my parked car. It was about 8:00 at night, and there was an elementary school-aged girl asleep in the front seat near the driver. As the driver and I began conversing, he apologized for bringing his daughter to work. A neighbor normally watches her after school until her mother gets home from work, but the neighbor was sick that day, so he picked his daughter up from school, and she was going to ride the shuttle bus for his eight hour shift.

He works 6 p.m. to 2 a.m., and his wife has a retail job with varying hours each week. The neighbor helps out – except when she can't. Even though I've heard stories of working families for many years, I was saddened to see this little girl sleeping on the bus and to hear how hard the father and his wife work to provide for their family of three.

Of course, I told him about Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) and encouraged him to come to us for help. And I hope he did, but I'm not sure. He assured me they "had things covered, and it wasn't so bad." But it wasn't so great, and I really wanted to help him.

Does hearing this story make you want to help him also? If so, consider this: CCSC needs people to help us help families like these. Can you sack a bag of groceries? Price clothing? Do you enjoy talking to people? I'll bet we have a volunteer job description to fit your skills. Erin Donohue on staff would love to talk to you about these options, so I hope you'll consider reaching out to her at volunteer@ccschouston.org.

In Christ,



Michelle Shonbeck, Executive Director

The Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) is an award-winning, community-based non-profit organization serving the southwest Houston community. Incorporated in 1980, CCSC has grown to encompass a coalition of 42 churches united in service to the needy.

Bellaire United Methodist Church
Bering Drive Church of Christ
Bethany Christian Church
Christ the King Lutheran Church
ChristChurch Presbyterian
Covenant Church
Faith Lutheran Church
First Christian Church
First Evangelical Lutheran Church
First Seventh Day Baptist Church
Grace United Church of Christ
Holy Ghost Catholic Church
Houston International Seventh Day Adventist Church
Kindred Church

Pathways Church
Pilgrim Lutheran Church
Rice Temple Baptist Church
River Oaks Baptist Church
Sharpstown Baptist Church
Southwest Presbyterian Church
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
St. Anne Catholic Community
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
St. John the Divine Episcopal Church
St. Luke's Presbyterian Church
St. Luke's United Methodist Church
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
St. Martin's Episcopal Church

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
St. Michael Catholic Church
Saint Paul Presbyterian Church
St. Peter Claver Catholic Church
St. Philip Presbyterian Church
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
St. Theresa Catholic Church
St. Thomas' Episcopal Church
St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
WatersEdge Community Church
West End Church
West University Baptist Church
West University United Methodist Church
Westminster United Methodist Church

Cover Story continued from page 1

Donors in the CCSC community were incredibly generous, after Harvey, providing financial support so we could ramp up these additional services. Community members brought in diapers, cleaning supplies, and more. Former clients reached into their wallets and made donations. As we continue to assess how CCSC can help with long-term recovery, we remain grateful for the way our community came together in the wake of the storm.



The mission of Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) is to serve the poor, hungry, disabled and otherwise needy while respecting their religious, ethnic or cultural differences. CCSC was created out of faith, and founded in the belief that we are called to help all God's children heart to heart and hand in hand.



Meet 2018 Board President Chris Matlock

It's the mission that draws incoming 2018 Board President Chris Matlock to Christian Community Service Center (CCSC). "I just love CCSC's mission – to serve the 'Least of These' – meeting folks in dire need, where they are, with dignity and without judgment," Chris says. "I also love how different Christian denominations forget their religious differences and come together to be the hands and feet of Jesus, something we all have in common!"

Like many CCSC volunteers, Chris first served with the Back To School and Jingle Bell Express programs. He has since been a member of the Endowment Board and the Board of Directors. A fourth-generation Houstonian, Chris is the father of a son and daughter who both recently graduated from Texas A&M, and is an ordained Elder at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, where he has attended for 25 years. Chris has been in wealth management for nearly 25 years and is the Director of Portfolio Management at Goldman Financial Corp.

Looking forward to his year as Board President, Chris says, "As Houston grows (and it will!), the number of people in financial, medical, and emotional crisis will also grow. CCSC must be able to meet that growth. Unfortunately, our current facilities are at capacity while also flooding with each major rainstorm. Fortunately, we have a plan to meet that growth and prepare for the future, and we will be sharing this vision more publicly in the year to come."



Volunteer Spotlight: Kristi Turner

Kristi Turner makes volunteering a priority. In November, 2017 Kristi, who lives in Vancouver, Canada, found out she would be making Houston her temporary home for two months. By December, Kristi was volunteering twice a week at the Emergency Services-Central food pantry.

"I decided to volunteer while in Houston because I wanted to get to know the city I was going to call 'home' for the next two months," Kristi said. "When I came across the posting for CCSC (on the VolunteerMatch website), I knew this was the organization I wanted to be part of because the goals of CCSC aligned with my own beliefs and desire to help people.

"It's been very fulfilling to be a part of such a great cause," Kristi added, "and to see firsthand the positive impact we are able to have on people's lives."

VOLUNTEER NEEDS

If you like being part of a team in a fast-paced environment and want to serve your community directly by helping in a food pantry, CCSC's Emergency Services-Southwest program would love to sign you up for a regular shift. You can volunteer individually or put a group together. Contact Erin Donohue at volunteer@ccschouston.org.

"GREAT BUYS for a GREAT CAUSE!"



5413 Bellaire Blvd.
Bellaire, TX 77401

Monday – Saturday 10am – 5pm
713-665-4000
www.ccschouston.org

Sunshine Resale Shop
COUPON

25% OFF
Entire
Purchase

*(Coupon not to be combined with other sales/
coupons. Excludes consignment and furniture)
One coupon per purchase.*

Connections
Expires: 5/1/2018





2017 YEAR IN REVIEW

About Us

The **Christian Community Service Center (CCSC)** is a coalition of churches working to reduce the effects of poverty in the local community. Our Christ-centered ministry accomplishes this through various resources: volunteerism, in-kind donations, operating a resale shop, and cash donations from the private, nongovernmental sector to include church, individual, foundation and corporate support.

The ministry's focus is to apply core business principles to the accomplishment of its mission so the agency is returning value to the community in an efficient and effective manner.

How We Help

Basic Needs **10,967** unduplicated persons served

CCSC provides community members in crisis immediate relief with everyday necessities. **Emergency Services-Central** and **Emergency Services-Southwest** offer food, clothing, hygiene items and financial assistance, helping our neighbors avoid homelessness and substandard living conditions.

Employment **714** unduplicated persons served

Our organization invests in individuals interested in reaching self-sufficiency through hard work. **JobNet** prepares self-motivated job seekers through job readiness coaching and employment services. **Martha's Way** cultivates talented entrepreneurs through hands-on vocational training and job leads.

Youth Services **10,254** children served

CCSC supports children and teens, one of the most vulnerable populations. **Back To School** promotes academic preparedness; **Jingle Bell Express** addresses play, literacy and hunger; and the **Louise J. Moran Vision Care Program** provides vision-related services to underprivileged students.

A Client Story

In 2006, Vanessa was motivated to make a change. Her family struggled to make ends meet, and she wanted stability for her young children. Entrepreneurship appealed to Vanessa on several levels—added income, flexibility to stay engaged in her children's school activities, and independence. She discovered the Martha's Way vocational training program through a CCSC member church, and it was the right fit for her. "CCSC gave me the tools I needed to run a successful housekeeping business and provide a much better future for my two daughters."

Vanessa earned her certificate and diligently pursued clients. Twelve years later, not only is she prospering in her career, but she is also volunteering at CCSC. Vanessa returns to Martha's Way to offer encouraging career testimonials to other hopeful program participants. She also contributes her valuable bilingual skills at the Back To School and Jingle Bell Express events, often bringing her girls to volunteer beside her.

Vanessa's success is no surprise to the staff at CCSC. Her strong work ethic and generous spirit touch everything she does. She is saving to send her 17- and 15-year-old daughters to college, purchase a home, and expand her business—all goals this single mom could not attain before. CCSC has made a difference in her life, and Vanessa is paying that forward.

New skills and confidence.
An opportunity to give back.
A promising future for the next generation.
This is how CCSC transforms lives.



Christian Community Service Center

Contact us at 713-961-3993
or at ccschouston.org

Why CCSC Matters



In 2017, CCSC touched lives in the following ways:

- 28,816** Clients were supplied with nutritious food packages *
- 772** Households received electricity, water, natural gas or rent assistance
- 237** Persons received medical assistance for eyeglasses, dental services or prescription medication
- 7,606** Persons were provided with gently-used clothing *
- 6,975** Pounds of produce was harvested for clients at the CCSC Garden
- 455** Job-seekers gained valuable skills through workshops, computer training and personalized coaching with 32% gaining employment; 176 clients created customized development strategies with the Client Services Connector
- 269** Motivated entrepreneurs participated in a 42-hour unique vocational training program; 44 job leads were shared with graduates
- 6,573** Students started the academic year with new school supplies and school attire
- 2,662** Children received new toys, books and family food packages for Christmas
- 1,019** Students received vision screening; 588 were provided professional eye exams with 539 receiving new prescription glasses

*Includes duplication; excludes clients served in the two weeks after Hurricane Harvey

Hurricane Harvey

While CCSC helps year-round with client “storms,” Hurricane Harvey created a unique opportunity to assist neighbors in need. Clients lost jobs, wages, cars and homes.

In the immediate response, CCSC focused on providing extra food and hygiene items, impacting more than 11,000 persons from 2,400 households.* Later, we doubled the maximum amounts offered for rent and utility assistance, provided vouchers for families to buy new clothes, distributed blankets to battle the cold weather, and partnered with school campuses to replenish student supplies. CCSC donors and volunteers responded generously to make these services possible.

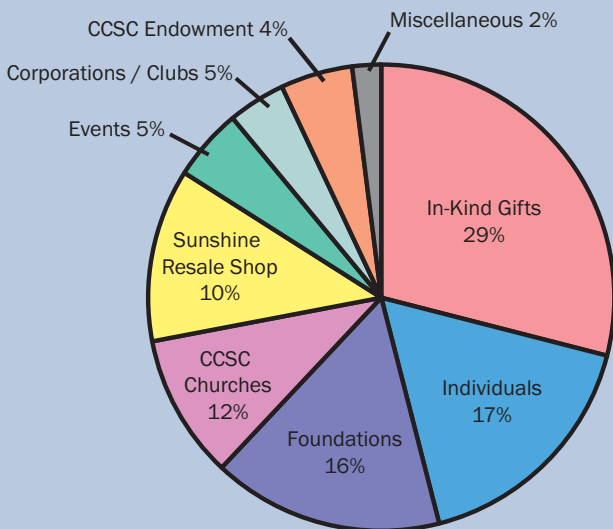


Volunteer Impact

Volunteers power CCSC. Without volunteers, the organization could not achieve its mission. Whether packing groceries, providing vision screenings, teaching PowerPoint, distributing school supplies or serving on a fundraising committee, the work of each CCSC volunteer makes an important difference in the community.

In 2017, 2,585 volunteers contributed 42,136 hours across CCSC. Of those, 369 persons were involved in ongoing roles. In the state of Texas, the estimated value of these donated hours is \$1,059,720, yet the impact of those hours is priceless.

Development



Funding Sources (unaudited)

Funds generated by sales at the Sunshine Resale Shop help propel the mission of CCSC. The high quality, donated merchandise available for purchase includes furniture, jewelry, clothes and household goods. In 2017, sales of donated items netted \$11,608, allowing more clients to be served through CCSC programs.

CCSC held two events this year to raise funds and increase community relationships: The *Azalea Dinner* in the spring and *Grow, Gather & Give!* in the fall.

In 2017, CCSC launched the first building campaign since 1992 to grow its mission (numbers not reflected in this report). Our organization intentionally maintains diverse funding streams, as noted in the adjacent chart.

GARDEN



On November 11, the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) Garden was recognized with a unique accolade by Urban Harvest at its annual *Harvest Celebration*. “The *Nutgrass Award* recognizes a community garden that, like the persistence of nutgrass, has persevered and triumphed over the years in spite of adverse circumstances, exhibiting determination, sustainability - and ultimately - success.” In 2016, our garden was relocated once again and 2017 brought a variety of weather-related challenges. Nonetheless fruit and vegetable production doubled and nearly 3.5 tons of fresh produce was provided to CCSC clients last year! CCSC extends its gratitude to each of our dedicated, hard-working Garden volunteers that make each harvest a success.

(at left) CCSC Garden Co-Leader, Elizabeth Castro, receives Urban Harvest’s “Nutgrass Award” on behalf of the ministry.

JOBNET

Being unemployed requires that you rethink your spending habits. It often leads to higher credit card debt and a lower credit rating. Managing spending and controlling debt become a major concern. Concentrating on a job search becomes increasingly difficult. To help job seekers confront this barrier, JobNet has added a financial coach. This volunteer will meet individually with clients to provide resources and support during a stressful time.



MARTHA’S WAY



Creating the safest indoor environment possible for your family, pets, and guests is important. Martha’s Way housekeepers receive education and hands-on training focused on reducing allergens, bacteria, and germs that can make your family sick. Graduates are versed in using natural cleaning materials to disinfect your home. Distilled white vinegar, lemon juice, and baking soda are some of the natural ingredients that can be used to clean green. By combining effective cleaning techniques and green products, housekeepers are prepared to meet your custom cleaning preferences. To connect with a Martha’s Way graduate, contact Ana Tappan at 281-906-8421.

JINGLE BELL EXPRESS

Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) successfully completed its 38th Jingle Bell Express event on December 8 and 9, 2017.

- 2,622 children (infancy through age 15) received new toys, new books, wooden toys and stocking stuffers.
- Their 888 families received holiday food packages.
- Every family received a warm, plush blanket this year thanks to generous financial donations targeting Hurricane Harvey relief.
- More than 800 volunteers served at the Registration, Sort & Set Up, and Distribution phases of Jingle Bell Express!

CCSC extends extra special thanks to the Jingle Bell Express volunteer committee for its leadership and commitment;

to the churches, schools, businesses and community groups that held donation drives; to Fiesta Mart Supermarkets for its generous food donation; to the St. Luke’s United Methodist Church Woodshop for providing handmade wooden toys; and to Bellaire United Methodist Church for its gracious hospitality as host site. Thank you for bringing Christmas joy to so many neighbors in need!



THANKS TO IN-KIND DONORS

A donation of goods or services is an excellent way to help our organization achieve its mission. Here is a list of CCSC's recent in-kind contributors. (If we missed your group, please let us know so we can recognize you in the next newsletter.)

Baker Botts, L.L.P.
 Bellaire United Methodist Church
 Boy Scout Troop 55
 Bristow Group Inc.
 Brookfield Office Properties
 Danielle Equale
 Fiesta Mart, LLC
 Fire Protection Services
 First United Methodist Church
 Haltmar Family
 Houston Baptist University

Jack Green
 Joy Hall
 Junior Girl Scout Troop #146007
 Kolache Shoppe
 Mr. & Mrs. Marc Herzstein
 Panera Bread #4114
 Poe Elementary
 River Oaks Baptist School
 St. Luke's United Methodist Church
 St. Philip Presbyterian Church: Kids
 Against Hunger

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
 St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
 Stuart Whiteside
 West University United Methodist Church

A special "Thank You" also goes to all churches and organizations that provide CCSC with gifts from organized food, clothing, hygiene, and/or shoe drives on a regular basis.

CCSC WISH LIST

CCSC's Wish List reflects unbudgeted items that would be very handy "extras" to help carry out the organization's mission. Thank you for your help!

EMERGENCY SERVICES – SOUTHWEST

Light Weight Platform/Dolly Cart with 250-Pound Capacity	\$180
Elevated Cart	\$130
Can Openers for Food Pantry Clients (continuous need)	\$1/ea.

JOB NET

Canon PowerShot ELPH 190 Digital Camera	\$175
---	-------

SUNSHINE RESALE SHOP

Acrylic Mirrors – 4 needed	\$30/each
----------------------------	-----------

YOUTH SERVICES

Portable P.A. System with Wireless Microphone	\$115
---	-------

EMERGENCY SERVICES – CENTRAL

Utility Cart for Food Pantry – 1 needed	\$140
Heavy duty doormat – 2 needed	\$85/each
Gallon Sized Ziploc Bags (continuous need)	\$5/box
Can Openers for Food Pantry Clients (continuous need)	\$1/ea.

CCSC GARDEN

Garden Sprayer – 2 needed	\$35/ea.
Trimmer/Edger	\$90

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

Retractable Banner Floor Stand for CCSC Events	\$340
Copy Paper 8.5 x 11	\$50/case

CCSC now offers Birthday Honorariums

Honor a family member or friend on their birthday with a card that also supports the Christian Community Service Center. When there is a birthday to celebrate, send in an honorarium gift on behalf of your loved one, indicate it is for their birthday, and we will send them a festive card (please provide their address). Gift amounts are not disclosed.



Happy Birthday!!

A contribution has been made to
 Christian Community Service Center
 in your name by

CCSC's mission is to serve the poor, hungry, disabled and otherwise needy while respecting their religious, ethnic or cultural beliefs.

www.ccschouston.org

Stock Donations to CCSC

CCSC gratefully accepts stock donations, and like any other donation, it can be designated to the program of your choice. It can be a win-win situation: CCSC receives a contribution, while the donor may be able to write off the gift and avoid paying capital gains taxes on the stock appreciation. For more information on how to donate stock to CCSC you may contact Judie Kochenower, Finance Director at CCSC, jkochenower@ccschouston.org, or 713-961-3993 ext. 203

MEMORIAL AND HONOR GIFTS

Gifts received October through December 2017

IN MEMORY OF:

Mr. Albert T. Kister
Mrs. Danielle Leggett
Mrs. Emily Kister Barre

Ana James
Mr. John M. James

Betty and George Robertson
Dr. Patricia Robertson

Betty Robertson
Mr. & Mrs. David A. Robertson

Beverly and Dean Robinson
Mr. Phillip Robinson

Bob Ziegler
Mrs. Kathryn Ziegler

Boyd Patton
Mrs. Rose Anderson

Brad Horton
Ms. Jane Abshire

Mr. Bruce Gentry
Ms. June Gentry

Dick Kramer
Mr. & Mrs. John Lynn

Edith Hallas
Ms. Linda Schooley

Eleni Riquelmy
Ms. Jet Prendeville

Fran Franklin
Mrs. Alice U. Smith

Gilbert E. Brown
Mrs. Gene Brown

Grace Kontz
Mr. & Mrs. David Elledge

James R. Berry
Mrs. Skip Britton

Janet Price
Mrs. Kathryn V. Artlip

Mrs. Jean LeClair
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Smith

Josephine "Jo" Jones
Ms. Marian Roper

JT Wier
Ms. Jane Abshire

Katheryn Aleen Jones
Mr. John M. James

Kenneth Clarke
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Zamadics

Mr. Kenneth E. Benson
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Benson

Lila Marie Tetzlaff
Mr. & Mrs. John Lynn

Linda West
Mrs. Betty Dossey

Mrs. Lorene Bock
Ms. Katy Bock

Lucien Rocan
Ms. Jacquelyne Rocan

Luke Henderson
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Henderson

Maria Magno
Mrs. Monica Wright

Mickey Armstrong
Ms. Jane Abshire

Miles Woodward
Mr. Michael J. Woodward

Missy Bandy
Mr. Ronald Bandy

Mrs. Myrtice Mooneyham Kazee
Mr. Barry D Robertson
Mrs. Betty Whiteside
Ms. Elizabeth Taylor
Gregory and Donna Gilbert
Ms. Marjorie Huffman
Mrs. Patricia Burchett
Mrs. Rose Anderson
Mrs. Teresa Hagstrom
Ms. and Mrs. Warren Hall

Nick Sacaris
Ms. Judy Sacaris

Mrs. Pepper Anderson
Mr. Robert W. Anderson

Randy Gorham
Mr. Andrew Weaver

Robert Jacoby
Mrs. Virginia Jacoby

Roger Stark
Ms. Wanda Schaffner

Ron Crabb
Dr. & Mrs. Ralph Weaver

Roscoe H. Jones
Mrs. Ruth E. Jones

Vic Moellering
Mrs. Barbara Moellering

Violet and Louis Stolz
Ms. Suzanne Girouard

William Walter Akers
Mrs. Skip Britton

Yvonne M. Pantoja
Mrs. Monica Wright

IN HONOR OF:

All Staff & Volunteers of CCSC
Mrs. Beth Wiggins

Amber Shedd
Mr. Dan Shedd

Mrs. Audrey J. Moses
Dr. Robb Edwin Moses

Mr. & Mrs. Bebe and Bob Burns
Mr. & Mrs. Lee R. Larkin
Dr. & Mrs. William Lee

Bebe Burns
Mr. Samuel Burns

Beth & James Wiggins
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Lewis

Bellaire United Methodist Church's Ministers & Staff
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Lamont

Mr. & Mrs. Bob Selig
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Burns

The Boehm Family
Mr. John C. Boehm

Brent & Annette Tarver
Friends of CCSC

Calista Schneidau
Ms. Mary Dusing

Mr. & Mrs. Carol and Charles Lucas
Mr. & Mrs. Lee R. Larkin
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Estill

Carol Beittenmiller's Birthday
Cam & Carol Postle
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Wallingford

Mr. Chris Selig & Miss Christine Rinehart
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Burns

Ms. Cindy Williams
Mrs. Kathryn V. Artlip

Doris & Bill Sing's 50th Anniversary
Ms. Vicki Gorman

Elizabeth "Anne" Holloman
Ms. Jane Eixmann

Dr. & Mrs. Gerald Batte
Mrs. Mary Jo Loyd

Mr. Gordon Arnold
Mr. & Ms. Bob Krupka

Gordon Arnold, the Houston Astros, and all those who do good works for their fellow human beings
Mr. Jeffrey Lewis

Greg Grissom
Mr. Gary Grissom

Mr. & Mrs. James Bratton
Dr. & Mrs. William Lee

James Howard Gibbons
Ms. Cassie Stinson

Mr. & Mrs. Jane and Bill Lee
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Estill
Mr. & Mrs. Lee R. Larkin

Mr. & Mrs. Jane and Lee Larkin
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Estill
Dr. & Mrs. William Lee

Jane Eixmann
Grace United Church of Christ

Mrs. Jane Szalkowski
Ms. Judy Bolling

Janie & Jack Schubert
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Schubert

Mr. & Mrs. Jon Selig
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Burns

Karen Holloman
Mrs. Kristi Hvidbjerg

Kathleen Adams
Sheryl Davis

Kelly Finkenbinder
Mrs. Kristi Hvidbjerg

Ms. Kelly Matthews
Ms. Yen Hoang

Mr. & Mrs. Lance Olinde
Mr. Hsao-Hsien Chio

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Loyd
Mrs. Mary Jo Loyd

Liz Stephens
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Burns

Loren M. Goens
Rev. Ray Winston Goens, Jr.

Marcia James
Mrs. Jane W. Hansen
Ms. Janice Meyer
Mrs. Jeanette Wenneneser

Mr. & Mrs. Marshall Paskett
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Burns

Mrs. Mary Jo Loyd
Mrs. Molly Estrada Wahlberg

Michelle Shonbeck
Mrs. Kristi Hvidbjerg

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Burey
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Burns

Morgan & Penny Lloyd
Mr. & Mrs. John Lloyd
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Lloyd

Mr. & Mrs. Phil Selig
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Burns

Dr. Ourania A. Preventza
Dr. Benjamin Cheong

Rebekah E. Rivera
Mr. & Mrs. Rene Rivera

Mr. & Mrs. Richard G. Rorschach
Mrs. Virginia Rorschach

Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Rorschach
Mrs. Virginia Rorschach

Mr. & Mrs. Robert and Susan Estill
Mr. & Mrs. Lee R. Larkin
Dr. & Mrs. William Lee

Robert Estill
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Taylor

The Shanks Family
Dr. Jennifer Moren Cross

St. Luke's United Methodist Church
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Gossett

Susan B. Paddock
Mrs. Cynthia Doroghazi

Mrs. Valerie Burns
Mr. & Mrs. Laurence Burns, Jr.

Yolanda Gaxiola
Mr. Russell Pitman

DONORS

Continued from page 2

Jay and Betty Brothers
Jeanetta M. Aguirre
Jeanne A. Walker
Jeff and Leslie Creel
Jerry Aucoin
Joan Panuska
John and Barbara McMahon
John and Connie Stone
John and Jacqueline Craddock
John and Linda Howard
John and Sue Farrell
Jonell Raborn
Julie and Philip Boudreaux, III
Kathryn Adams
Kathy and Tom Tellepsen, II
Kenneth and Sharon Owens
Kerry McKay
Kevin and Amy Holmes

Kirby Attwell
Lana Wynne
Larry and Martha Loyd
Laura Helmke
Laura Martin
Linda Bevil
Linda Burch
Linda McCallister
Louis and Yvonne Saucier
Louis McCarter
Lynn Hollingsworth
Madeline Schmitt
Margaret Pack
Maria Paloma de Arizon
Marlys Barry
Mary Lou Reece
Mary Rinaldi
Maureen Alsop

Maurice Bass
Melinda O'Connell
Melissa Proll
Meredith Smouse
Michael and Patricia Davis
Michele Tyson
Micki Fine and John Pavlicek
Miryan Boles
Nancy Stephenson
Nita Davis
O'Reilly Family
Olga Ontiveros
Omar and Dora Rios
Onalee H. McEwen
Pamela Howard
Patricia Arnold and Daniel Sheehan
Patricia Deckert
Patricia Dickson

Patty Chen and Sanjay Mani
Philip and Michele Navratil
Phillip and Diane Ubias
Ray and Janet Winburn
Rebecca Nesmith
Richard and Jeanne Domercq
Robert and Janie Patterson
Robert and Rita Griffin
Robert Choate
Robert M. Hetherington
Ron and Charlotte Ridley
Ronnie and Laura Gee
Rosalon A. Moorhead
Sara Fielder
Sarah Bottomley
Sheila Vo
Stephen and Joanna Handel
Stephen and Justine Adiletta

Stephen Turman
Suanne Pitts
Sue Gorman
Susan Silvus
Tammy Pizzitola
Terence and Judeth Vinson
Thomas and Susan Golden
Tiffany Classen
Vickie C. Murphy
Virginia Rorschach
W. Blake and Adele Dominguez
Wanda Schaffner
William and Bette Borgsteadt
William and Catherine McNamara
William and Janet Head
William and Patty Porter
William and Sarah Lu Burrowes
William and Virginia Tubbs

Does Your Company Match Charitable Gifts?

Many companies offer employees, retirees, and sometimes employee spouses, a matching-gift benefit that can double or even triple your donation to a qualifying charitable organization like CCSC. Some will even make a matching contribution for your volunteer hours! Each company has its own method for you to submit a matching-gift request. Check with your Human Resources department to find out how you can maximize your donations to CCSC.

Christian Community Service Center
P. O. Box 27924
Houston, TX 77227-7924

Connections, CCSC's quarterly newsletter, is designed to keep you in touch with CCSC's mission, ministries, events, member churches and volunteers.

www.ccschouston.org

Return Service Requested



Follow Michelle Shonbeck's blog:
blog.ccschouston.org



Follow us on Twitter:
[@CCSCHouston](https://twitter.com/CCSCHouston)



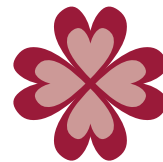
Like us on Facebook:
CCSC – Christian Community Service Center & CCSC's Sunshine Resale Shop

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Houston, Texas
Permit No. 467

 *CCSC 2018 Azalea Dinner* 



A Time to Grow
*(For everything there is a season
and a time for every matter under heaven . . .)*



2018 Azalea Dinner & Auction
April 26, 2018
Hilton Post Oak



***Wanted: Table Sponsors, Auction Items
& Attendees!***

Information on donating an auction item, sponsoring a table and making a reservation can be found at www.ccschouston.org/azalea or contact Kelly Finkenbinder at 713-961-3993 or kfinkenbinder@ccschouston.org