

NEWS & NOTES

A monthly newsletter to keep you informed.



Here's to Grow, Gather & Give! 2018

A toast and thank you to all the donors, sponsors, underwriters and attendees of the 2018 Grow, Gather & Give! Romance & Rioja event. We had SO much fun!

Also, a HUGE thank you to our host, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, and the committee that put in all the work to make that evening's magic happen: Andrea Aubin (chair), Laura Bard, Carol Beittenmiller, Sarah Bell, Mary Goodman, Vicki Laverde, Nicki Nachenberg, Carol Postle, Rebekah Rivera, Dena Robinson, Suzanne Shelby and Mary Thamm. Thank you ladies, you put on a GREAT party!

ES-Central Client Faces Hard Times With Great Attitude

Laid off, unable to find work, and in need of assistance with rent--these are familiar circumstances faced by many clients at Christian Community Service Center and it was

the case for Joe, who recently visited Emergency Services-Central for the first time.

ES-Central Program Manager Nolonda Jones met Joe during his initial interview. "As I walked into the room, the first thing Joe said was that we were both wearing gray pants and shirts in the same shade of blue," Jones recalls. "He was jovial and endearing and I thought to myself how his positive attitude would serve him well during this tough time.



Clients may choose clothing and shoes from the ES-Central Clothing Closet.

"The next week, Joe visited us again, but this time to give to us," Jones said. "As he dropped off a stack of men's shirts he asked if I remembered him. I said of course-- he was my unforgettable wardrobe twin! We laughed together. Joe was there to donate clothing for others. As he headed around the corner to JobNet for employment assistance, Joe expressed how thankful he was for CCSC and that these clothes were his way of paying it forward."

Joe's donation was timely because ES-Central was having a busy October. Emergency Services helped more new families, more children and more elderly persons than any prior month this year. The program always needs gently used apparel and shoes in every size (children and adults).

If you have the opportunity, be like jovial Joe and contribute a few pairs of pants or a couple sweaters. Clothing donations are received at 3434 Branard, 77027 on weekdays from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m.-noon. You may call 713-961-3993 for more information.

How CCSC Gives Help is as Important as the Help It Gives

In a recent month, the volunteer team at Christian Community Service Center's Emergency Services-Southwest site assisted 331 families in need. In addition to receiving food, 38 families were able to remain in their homes or keep their utilities connected due to financial assistance CCSC provided.

About four months after each client receives financial help, CCSC calls him/her to check on their stability and well-being. During a recent follow-up call, one client expressed her appreciation saying that the ES-SW volunteers were wonderful because they took the time to explain the process to her. She so appreciated both the practical assistance and the kind atmosphere in her time of crisis.



ES-Southwest Assistant Manager Jane Eixmann assists a client.

We could not fulfill our mission to help those in need in our community without the help of our kind and compassionate volunteers. If you are interested in joining the Emergency Services-Southwest or Central teams, please contact Erin Donohue at volunteer@ccschouston.org

Garden Brings Variety to CCSC's Food Pantry Offerings



CCSC's Garden volunteers harvesting squash.

In October, the Christian Community Service Center Garden yielded 377 pounds of fresh produce to share with hungry clients at our two food pantries.

Harvested by passionate garden volunteers, these fresh fruits and vegetables are a welcome addition to our 5-day grocery packages.

Clients have the opportunity to select the produce they can use--from eggplants to beets and broccoli. The food pantry even

hands out a few recipes to help clients learn how to prepare vegetables that they are trying for the first time.

The CCSC Garden team is always looking for volunteers to serve on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at the Emergency Services-Southwest location, 6856 Bellaire Blvd. Training is provided. If you are interested in exploring gardening, please contact Erin Donohue at volunteer@ccschouston.org

Help Those in Need with Holiday and End-of-Year Giving



Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a glorious New Year!

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

CCSC Christmas Card Acknowledgements

Are you looking for the perfect gift for a loved one that will truly make a difference? Spread joy by making a gift to CCSC in someone's name and honoring that person by supporting our neighbors in crisis who visit CCSC. Each gift will be acknowledged with a personalized Christmas card like the one pictured above.

To send a CCSC Christmas Card, go to www.ccschouston.org and click the green "I Want to Donate" button. Once we have received your gift(s), we will send a Christmas card to the recipient(s) you designate in the "Memory/Honor/Christmas Acknowledgement" section. (Please make sure to include the full name and complete address of your recipient/s or their family.)

Gift Giving Guide:

\$25.00	Provides one box of diapers to a family in need.
\$45.00	Provides a Pre-Kindergarten through Eighth grade student grade appropriate school supplies and a new school uniform before the first day of school.
\$67.00	Provides a bucket of cleaning supplies for a Martha's Way student.
\$84.00	Provides a family consisting of 4-6 people a 5 day supply of food.
\$125.00	Provides a family with financial assistance for utilities or prescription medications.
\$200.00	Provides 10 JobNet computer students appropriate supplies.
\$1,350.00	Provides 30 students with school supplies and uniform.



When you are Christmas shopping online it is easy to give to CCSC every time you order through Amazon by using the Amazon Smile program. Just Google "Amazon Smile" and sign in with your Amazon credentials and then shop as usual with one very BIG difference-Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to CCSC!



Do you want to make a year-end gift to CCSC but don't want to deplete your cash holdings? Please consider transferring appreciated securities to support CCSC.

Individuals may directly transfer appreciated securities to CCSC as a charitable gift and eliminate the payment of capital gains tax incurred at the time of sale.

Contact Finance Director Judie Kochenower at 713-961-3993 or jkochenower@ccschouston.org to find out more about this simple gifting opportunity.

Many wishes for a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from your CCSC family!



CCSC Employment Opportunity

Christian Community Service Center is seeking a full-time Office Manager primarily responsible for various database activities and administration, overseeing facilities and equipment, bookkeeping duties, human resource functions and general office management.

Requirements include database management experience, attention to detail, capability of multi-tasking, solid organizational skills, excellent written and interpersonal skills, and a genuine interest in assisting with the mission of CCSC.

To apply please send a cover letter and resume to jobs@ccschouston.org

The mission of the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) is to serve the poor, hungry, disabled, and otherwise needy while respecting their religious, ethnic or cultural differences.



Stay Connected



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