

**Christian Community Service Center
Council of Church Representatives Presentation
March 5, 2019**



CCSC Client Myths vs. Facts from 2018:

Myth: "Most CCSC clients are homeless."

Fact: **Less than 2% of clients helped at Emergency Services were homeless.**

Myth: "Only adults receive help at the CCSC food pantries."

Fact: **Two out of every five persons helped at Emergency Services sites were age 17 and younger.**

Myth: "CCSC clients are not trying to provide for themselves."

Facts: **CCSC's employment programs worked with nearly 700 unemployed and underemployed persons seeking to be self-sufficient.**

Of all households helped through Emergency Services, 38% included at least one working adult.

Myth: "Clients don't achieve lasting, positive change through CCSC programs."

Facts: **Despite some notable employment barriers, 30% of JobNet clients reported finding work last year.**

Clients provided financial assistance through Emergency Services typically maintain residential stability: four months after receiving help, 86% of those given rent payments were still living in the same homes; 97% given utility payments had maintained their electricity, water or natural gas connections.

Ways to Share More Information about CCSC Clients with Your Church

1. Submit CCSC client-related articles to your newsletters/church publications
2. Visit classes and group gatherings to give brief presentations—including client stories and facts
3. Ask your pastor to share a client story from the pulpit
4. Invite a CCSC speaker to give a "moment for mission" at your worship services
5. Tell people you know about your personal encounters with clients at Jingle Bell Express, Back To School or other CCSC programs
6. Write down your other ideas here:



Who Needs Help From CCSC?

Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) is a partner organization of our church. Designed to help our neighbors in need, CCSC provides services throughout the year to address daily living necessities (food, clothing, hygiene items, etc.) and employment needs. Through seasonal events like the Back To School program, CCSC also focuses on helping children/youth.



But who might need CCSC's help? Our neighbors facing a variety of crisis situations, including:

- Job loss or reduced hours/wages at work

- A medical emergency that drains savings

- An unexpected expense for someone living on a fixed income (a retired senior, for example)

- Homelessness

CCSC helped thousands of persons in 2018, and each one of them has a unique story. To find out more, please call 713-961-3993 or visit the agency's website: <https://www.ccschouston.org>

CCSC – One Client's Story (Emergency Services)

Sheila found Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) in early 2019 through a partner church, where she had initially turned for help. Sheila had recently moved to Houston from another state to flee a domestic abuse situation and had no local support system to rely upon. The 34-year-old employed healthcare assistant and her two young children were homeless—living in their car.

The church and CCSC worked together to help Sheila's family find safe housing. CCSC also provided food packages, hygiene items, diapers and baby wipes. Sheila was so grateful for the ministry's kindness that she showed up a few weeks later to donate two large bags of children's clothing that no longer fit her kids.

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CCSC – One Client's Story (JobNet)

Joyce is a hard worker. For 10 years, she was employed by a security company, working her way up from entry-level positions to training roles. This job wasn't her dream, however: her goal was to work in the medical field. She became a Certified Nursing Assistant and found a job in a senior care facility, where she compassionately tended to patients with dementia. Joyce knew she needed better wages, though, and found the resources to complete training in phlebotomy—a position that can earn \$15-20 per hour.

Joyce came to Christian Community Service Center's JobNet program in May of 2018 for skill-building that would complement her newly acquired technical skills. She accessed several services including coaching sessions, computer lab use and cover letter/application techniques. She started to gain confidence and truly believe that her experience and strengths would be advantageous in her newly chosen field.

Just a few months later, CCSC heard this news from Joyce: "I'm proud to say that I have been working as a phlebotomist for a little over a month now. This career is a blessing to me because it's in a field that I love. It's exciting and challenging and I'm going to grow as a person and as a medical professional. I thank your organization for helping get to this point in my life."

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