

# NEWS & NOTES

A monthly newsletter to keep you informed.



*Martha's Way instructor Yngrid Rincon explains how attending Martha's Way helped her become more successful in her housekeeping business.*

## Martha's Way Teaches Vital Business Skills

Christian Community Service Center's Martha's Way program not only teaches students the most efficient and effective strategies for cleaning a home, it also equips participants with the skills they need to run a successful business.

Martha's Way begins with a unit on professional development. During this unit students develop

their own mission statement based on their core values. This mission statement helps guide participants as they set professional goals and plan for their businesses. An example statement from a recent student: "My mission is to advance, work hard and deliver with honesty, dignity and respect in order to support myself and my children."

Other topics covered in the Professional Development Skills Unit include time management, ethics and business communication. After completing Professional Development, students attend the Business Skills Unit during which they learn about setting up their business, balancing finances, negotiating prices, tracking inventory, and other topics.

For more information on the Martha's Way program contact Ana at [training@ccschouston.org](mailto:training@ccschouston.org)

## Longtime CCSC Volunteer Makes a Difference

Christian Community Service Center is blessed by the many committed volunteers who have dedicated years of service

to its programs. One such volunteer is John Reynolds, who began serving as a JobNet coach in 2001, assisting clients with resume writing and interview preparation.



*CCSC volunteer John Reynolds, left, coaching for the JobNet employment program.*

In 2013 John retired and began teaching Excel to JobNet clients and then vocational English as a Second Language to Martha's Way students. He continued teaching vocational ESL for six years. When speaking with John about his experiences volunteering for CCSC it's clear he has a special gift for noticing people's capabilities and building them up to help client's achieve their goals. John speaks very highly of his fellow volunteers and his students. He notes that over the 11-week course some Martha's Way students progress from knowing only a few words of English to conversing in full sentences.

John was excited to learn how to make pupusas from a student from El Salvador and enjoyed tasting foods his students made from their home countries. He describes Martha's Way students as "ambitious, committed, and appreciative."

This summer John returned to volunteering at JobNet, providing computer tutoring in Excel and other applications. He even noticed that some of JobNet's laptops needed updating and dropped by JobNet one Friday afternoon recently with two brand new laptops to donate.

John's talents extend beyond teaching and tutoring. He is a talented photographer and often takes photos at CCSC events. CCSC is fortunate to have many caring, faithful volunteers like John. Without volunteers, CCSC could not achieve its mission of helping those in need in the community.

For more information on volunteering with CCSC, please contact Erin at [volunteer@ccschouston.org](mailto:volunteer@ccschouston.org).



*Emergency Services rent aid is designed to keep clients from homelessness.*

## **Emergency Services, a Road to Recovery**

Patty first entered the doors at Emergency Services-Southwest in January 2018 after Hurricane Harvey.

Patty was a self-sufficient independent Yellow Cab driver with her own cab that was flooded in the storm. After losing her professional income source and

incurring unexpected car repair expenses, she was behind in paying rent and utilities. At that initial visit, Christian Community Service Center helped pay a portion of Patty's rent, ensuring she would continue to have a secure place to live.

When Patty came back to Emergency Services-Southwest a year later (January 2019), she was still feeling the effects of Hurricane Harvey. Patty had incurred new medical bills due to the stress of that life-changing crisis, had continuous expenses for car repairs, and she had not been able to secure other full-time employment. Once again, CCSC helped pay a portion of Patty's rent while also providing additional resources for her job search.

CCSC contacted Patty in June to see how she was doing. Patty was proud to report that she had obtained another car to resume her employment with Yellow Cab and was finally feeling like stability was real. "I'm grateful for the help I received from CCSC," Patty said. "You made the process easy and your services were excellent!"

Some "storms" in CCSC clients' lives last much longer than anticipated. Our ministry is fortunate to have the resources to assist people like Patty on their road to recovery—even when it takes more than one visit.

For more information on CCSC's Emergency Services contact Nolonda at [emergency\\_1@ccschouston.org](mailto:emergency_1@ccschouston.org) or Pat at [emergency\\_SW@ccschouston.org](mailto:emergency_SW@ccschouston.org)



### **Shop the Sunshine Sales**

Christian Community Service Center's Sunshine Resale Shop will be closing in September and storewide clearance has begun. Stop in to take advantage of all the great discounts!

The Shop is accepting donations of clothing and some furniture (call Manager Yolanda Gaxiola at 713-665-4000 to discuss furniture donations before bringing them to the shop).

Thank you to all who have volunteered, donated and shopped at Sunshine over its 35 years in the community. CCSC appreciates the support you gave to its mission to serve our neighbors in need.

The Sunshine Shop is located at 5413 Bellaire Blvd. 77401 and is open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## **Donate to the Grow, Gather & Give! 2019 Silent Auction**

This year's Grow, Gather & Give! "Around the World" event will be Saturday, November 9th from 6-8 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church's Hauser Hall.

Grow, Gather & Give! is always fun and this year's committee has some great ideas to add to the merrymaking!

To donate an item to the event's silent auction please contact Erin at [volunteer@ccschouston.org](mailto:volunteer@ccschouston.org)



## **Job Opening for Part-Time Accounts Payable Clerk**

Christian Community Service Center, an award-winning, community-based non-profit organization serving the inner-city Houston community is looking for a part-time accounts payable clerk to join its team.

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

CCSC was incorporated in 1980 and since that time has grown to encompass a coalition of 40 churches united in service. Its offices are located in the Greenway Plaza area.

The Accounts Payable Clerk position is 18 hours per week and reports to CCSC's Finance Director. Responsibilities include all aspect of accounts payable, the weekly check run, entering shop sales, Exceed software reports, entering weekly deposits, clerical duties, and assisting the director with other accounting tasks.

Applicants should have a minimum of two years experience in Accounts

Payable, and:

- Attention to detail
- Understanding of basic accounting concepts
- Proficiency in Excel, knowledge of Word and other Office products; knowledge of Sage software would be helpful
- Ability to work with minimal supervision
- Good communication skills

Please send your resume to [jkochenower@ccschouston.org](mailto:jkochenower@ccschouston.org)

## Shop and Support Christian Community Service Center



Please remember when doing your family's back-to-school (or everyday) shopping you can support CCSC every time you order online at

Amazon through their program called "Amazon Smile."

Just Google "Amazon Smile," sign in with your Amazon credentials, and select Christian Community Service Center as your designated charity. Then shop as usual with one very big difference: Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases directly to CCSC!

## Kroger Share Card Community Rewards Program

Shopping at Kroger can also raise funds for CCSC. If your Kroger Share Card is already connected to CCSC - GREAT! However, you must reconnect it each year after August 1st.



Follow these steps to connect or reconnect your Kroger Share Card with CCSC.

To reconnect your card, go to Kroger's website at:  
[www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com](http://www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com)

- If you have an account, sign in, you will need your email address and account password. If you do not have an account, create one following the online directions
- On the "Find Your Organization" page type in Christian Community Service Center or enter 80790
- Click the link to Christian Community Service Center, then click "Enroll"

Anytime enrolled supporters shop at Kroger using their Kroger Plus Card, they will be accumulating monetary rewards for CCSC!

# Randall's Good Neighbor Program



Don't forget to link CCSC's Good Neighbor Number (#1439) to your Remarkable Card and help us raise funds the easy way!

*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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