



Catholic Charities Hosts 14th Annual Golf Tournament



On the left, Harold Greene, retired news anchor and a member of Catholic Charities Board of Trustees, served as Master of Ceremonies for the reception. He is pictured with Monsignor Cox, Catholic Charities' Executive Director.

Under sunny skies, nearly 100 golfers supported Catholic Charities' community centers at the agency's Fourteenth Annual Golf Tournament held at Lakeside Golf Club.

Tournament Sponsors included: Maude & Richard M. Ferry; Marcia & Stan Hayden and Family; Kathy & Vincent F. Martin, Jr.; and Western Asset Management Company.

Gold Sponsors included: Avery Dennison; Bingham McCutchen LLP & William M. Wardlaw, Esq.; Helen & William M. Close; Deloitte & Touche LLP; Dole Food Company; Latham & Watkins LLP & Paul D. Tosetti, Esq.; Leonard Green & Partners, LLP; Stephen McDonald; Peter W. Mullin; Mutual of America; Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church & Monsignor Paul Montoya; Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP; The Sage Group, LLC; and Paul D. Tosetti, Esq. (two Gold Sponsorships).

To see photos and identification of tournament winners, please visit www.CatholicCharitiesLA.org ❖

Long Beach Community Center Salutes Two Special Volunteers

When Mary Robertson called the Long Beach Community Center, in Catholic Charities' San Pedro Region, many years ago, she just wanted to know how to make a donation. Before she knew it, Mary was coming to the center as a regular volunteer. Carol Green has a similar story. She called the community center to donate clothing and the manager of the center asked her if she would come in to help.

"I have been here ever since," says Carol.

Neither woman can remember exactly when they got involved, but both women distinctly remember the feeling they had when they came to the center for the first time and saw the suffering in the center's clients. It was that feeling that inspired their dedication.

Carol and Mary have been as faithful to their jobs as if they were paid employees. As times have changed, their jobs have evolved. But offering help with basic needs and providing emergency assistance has been a mainstay in their work throughout the years.

"I remember the days when seeing 30 people a day was a load," said Mary. "Today, food is distributed more easily and, thus, more come for help."



Mary Robertson and Carol Green, also known as "the twins," are dedicated volunteers at the Long Beach Community Center.

"Why, last Tuesday morning, we distributed food to close to 300 people," exclaimed Carol.

Carol goes further and says that people in the food line often stop to tell their stories, sometimes in tears. "It is painful to hear, but gratifying to know we are helping them in their most desperate hours."

When asked what keeps them coming back, both women said that it is Catholic Charities' need for help.

"I just want to be of service," said Mary. Carol nodded in agreement.

To find out how you can volunteer in the San Pedro Region of Catholic Charities, please call Ms. Anna Totta, Regional Director, at (562) 591-1641. ❖

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Message from the Executive Director, Monsignor Gregory A. Cox

Recent economic news has painted a bleak picture for a rebound in the U.S. economy. A report by the Labor Department stated that employers cut 125,000 jobs last month. The unemployment figure dropped to 9.5% because more than 650,000 people gave up looking for jobs and left the labor force. People who are no longer looking for work aren't counted as unemployed.

Catholic Charities' statistics verify the current economic data. We have served 11% more clients after the first 10 months of this fiscal year than we did over a 12 month period last year. Our services include shelter, food, job skills training, after-school childcare, psychological services, and other supportive services.

Non-profit agencies, like Catholic Charities, have struggled to meet the increasing demands for services because of the decrease in their funding. Catholic Charities has been able to accommodate the growing needs with our limited financial resources because of the generosity of our volunteers. Additional volunteers have come forward to help us reach out to those in need. They are an infusion of new life into our organization. They not only serve our clients but also inspire our staff.

For over 200 years, the United States has been engaged in a bold experiment in democracy. The founders of the nation set out to establish justice, promote the general welfare, and secure blessings of liberty for themselves and their posterity. During difficult times, team work is needed. A renewed commitment to the common good, by all, can deal creatively with the reality of financial hardships in our domestic economy. The nation's monetary strength is not only based upon healthy competition in the marketplace but also on the virtues of productive participation by its citizens. Catholic Charities is grateful for the creative assistance of our volunteers. ❀

Announcement



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Joseph W. Paulicivic, Jr.,
Catholic Charities' Human
Resources Director, retired
on July 9 after seven years
of service to the agency.

*Best wishes for a great
retirement, Joe!*

A Family Finds Support at Community Center

Recently, the Baez family packed up and moved. Unlike many stories today, they didn't move due to eviction or foreclosure. The family moved so they could be closer to Catholic Charities' Guadalupe Community Center in Canoga Park.

"There hasn't been a day when my kids don't want to go the center," said Joel Baez, father of three. "They want to be there all the time."

For the Baez family, Guadalupe Center is a vital source of support and enrichment. Through the center's after school programs, the children take dance, basketball, and art classes and receive tutoring at Guadalupe's Neighborhood Learning Center designed and operated by former teachers. "My kids are doing a lot better in school now," explained Mr. Baez.

The family is active in the center's health programs which are operated by Providence Health and Services. In *Healthy Kids*, children engage in aerobic exercise followed by a healthy



Guadalupe Center in Canoga Park offers Adeste after-school child care and a variety of programs for the whole family.

snack from the center's food pantry. Mrs. Baez participates in a similar program called *Healthy Moms* where she walks with other mothers and learns healthy recipes and cooking tips.

Guadalupe Community Center has also provided much needed referrals and advice to the family. When they were moving, the landlord attempted to retain their security deposit, claiming damage to the property. Since there was no such damage, Guadalupe Center helped Mr.

Baez find legal services to get his deposit back in full.

This family's story is one of many that show the importance of the transformative services at Guadalupe Center. Mr. Baez is sure of the center's impact on his family. "I believe Guadalupe Community Center has changed our lives."

For more information, please contact Catholic Charities San Fernando Regional Director, Mr. Moed Khan, at (818) 883-6015. ❀



Catholic Charities' Clients Receive Diapers for Babies

LA Diaper Drive and CVS Drug Store teamed up recently to host a diaper drive that benefitted Catholic Charities' San Pedro and San Gabriel Regions. Two bus loads of families and children were transported to the event, which included diaper distribution, games and kid-friendly party food.

Although cloth diapers and diaper service may be in vogue among more affluent parents, disposable diapers are typically chosen by low-income families. Infants usually need 12 diaper changes everyday. But parents who are struggling to survive will often use just one diaper for a whole day, which presents a significant risk of infection.

Caroline Kunitz founded LA Diaper Drive in 2005 with a partner to combat this epidemic health concern. The nonprofit organization is staffed exclusively by volunteers and is supported entirely by donations.

"When I learned that some families have to choose between food for their children or diapers, I was aware that something needed to be done to relieve the financial pressure for parents," said Ms. Kunitz. Since its inception, LA Diaper Drive has given away 1.8 million diapers.

LA Diaper Drive encourages its partner non-profits to use diapers as incentives for parents who are attending classes at the agencies. Free diapers are part of the package to prompt clients to participate in parenting and life skills classes at community centers in the San Pedro and San Gabriel Regions of Catholic Charities. Seeing pain in the eyes of a baby suffering with diaper rash is motivation enough to continue the diaper handouts, according to staff members.

Catholic Charities is thankful to the volunteers for seeing the diaper needs of thousands of families and, more importantly, for doing something about it. For more information about the diaper program, contact Ms. Anna Totta, Catholic Charities' San Pedro Regional Director, at (562) 591-1641, or Mrs. Mary Romero, Catholic Charities' San Gabriel Regional Director, at (323) 266-3130. ❀



LA Diaper Drive Founder Carolyn Kunitz hands out diapers to Catholic Charities' clients who have babies.

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At this year's Volunteer Recognition Dinner, the San Gabriel Region of Catholic Charities honored 198 dedicated parish volunteers and three Spirit of Caring awardees for their efforts to create vibrant, caring parish communities. Pictured above are Spirit of Caring award winners Gary and Marjorie Krauss (center) with San Gabriel Region advisory board president, John White, (left) and Bishop Gabino Zavala, San Gabriel Pastoral Region Auxiliary Bishop (right). The Krausses' ministry includes founding a non-profit, called Ascending Lights Leadership Network, for nurturing young Christian leaders from under-privileged communities.

There's a gift hiding in the back of your drawer!

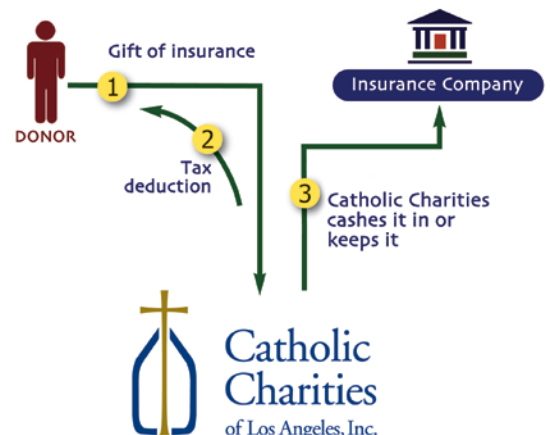
You may have a "hidden asset" that can make you a significant donor to Catholic Charities.

If you are maintaining life insurance coverage that your family no longer needs, consider giving the (paid up) policy to Catholic Charities. You'll receive an immediate charitable deduction and deliver a substantial gift to Catholic Charities, without affecting your investment portfolio or your cash flow.

Simply contact your life insurance company and request a "Change of Beneficiary/Ownership" form. Designate Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc. as the new owner and beneficiary of your policy.

If you give your policy to Catholic Charities while you are still alive, you will receive an immediate income tax deduction for the current value of the policy. If you pay any future premiums to keep the policy active, these payments are also tax deductible. If you retain ownership of the policy, benefits payable to Catholic Charities at death can save federal and state estate taxes, depending upon the size of your estate and your state of domicile. Any death benefits passing to heirs will not be subject to income or inheritance taxes, but may be subject to federal and state estate taxes.

To learn more, please contact Alexandria Arnold, Director of Resource Development, at sarnold@CatholicCharitiesLA.org or (213) 251-3495.



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Guadalupe Center Selected for ARRA Food Kit Project

In Catholic Charities' San Fernando Region, Guadalupe Community Center's Loaves and Fishes food pantry will serve as a distribution site for free food provided through a grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The pantry is among a select group of 60 food pantries out of 900 in Los Angeles County chosen by the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank to participate in the program.

Guadalupe Center distributes food kits to eligible families once per month. Recipient families must meet the following requirements: 1) proof of at least one child under 18; 2) proof of at least one U.S. Citizen or Legal Permanent Resident; and 3) proof of income at 200% of the federal poverty level. The program's income requirements extend eligibility to middle class families who may be in need of supplemental food due to unemployment or other family hardships.



A volunteer at the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry packs grocery bags with milk, tuna, and other nutritious foods to help families in need.

Each food kit includes oatmeal, milk, tuna, pinto beans, fruit punch, peanut butter, mixed vegetables, and fruit cocktail, weighing up to a total of 30 pounds.

"We are very proud that the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank selected us as a participant in this worthwhile program," said Margaret Pontius, Guadalupe Center Director. "It addresses the center's growing need to keep the pantry stocked and is a huge help to the families we serve."

Catholic Charities' St. Mary's Center, in Los Angeles, and St. Margaret's Center, in Lennox, both in Catholic Charities' Our Lady of the Angels Region, were also selected to distribute food kits through this program. For information about the program at these centers, contact Mr. Hector Briones, Our Lady of the Angeles Regional Director, at (310) 392-8701. ❖



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Address Service Requested



Parenting classes for mothers and fathers are offered at many of Catholic Charities' 24 community centers.

