



Fall 2019



With a limited income and caring for her husband and adult daughter, Donna struggled to pay her bills. But thanks to you, she can now keep her lights on.

You Helped a Senior Keep the Lights On

Donna didn't expect to spend her golden years worrying about her utility bills and having a secure place to live.

Donna is the primary caregiver not only for her adult daughter, but also her husband who suffered a severe stroke. Her daughter is financially dependent on Donna because she struggles to find employment due to mental illness.

On top of that, Donna recently needed medical treatment for an ulcer. With limited income, she had to choose between paying for doctor visits or her utility bills. She soon fell behind.

But because of your generous support, Catholic Charities' Senior Program was able to help Donna. She received financial assistance to help her catch up on her utility bills. Staff helped locate affordable housing and advocated for her to receive benefits to help care for her daughter and husband.

Donna often struggled to stretch her limited income, but thanks to you, Catholic Charities was able to find resources to help her manage her budget. Now, she is working on keeping up with her expenses while continuing to provide care to her family.

Thank you for helping seniors like Donna live better lives!

Compassionate Volunteers Helped Us Respond to Tropical Storm Imelda



Thanks to our volunteer army, Catholic Charities was able to respond quickly after Tropical Storm Imelda dumped more than 40 inches of rain, much of it in neighborhoods that are still recovering from Hurricane Harvey.

Nearly 100 volunteers of all ages helped package and distribute food to those impacted by the storm. With their help, Catholic Charities opened our three largest food pantries the day after floodwaters receded.

Flood survivors came for emergency food supplies at the Lowenstein Pan de Vida Food Pantry at the Guadalupe Center in central Houston, Trini's Market at the Mamie George Community Center in Fort Bend County, and the Beacon of Hope Center in Galveston.

Continued Help for Flooded Families

Because you support our work, Catholic Charities has been able to continue disaster relief in the weeks following Imelda.

We supplied food for distribution through St. Martha Catholic Church in Kingwood and St. Phillip the Apostle Catholic Church in Huffman – both in areas where Imelda did her worst. With your generous gifts, Catholic Charities can help flooded families who are grateful to return their lives to normal after Imelda.

You Help Preserve Dignity and Bring Comfort for the Golden Years



Dear Friends,

Until your old age I shall be the same, until your hair is grey I shall carry you." Isaiah 46:4

What a comfort to know that our gracious Father will love us and be with us from birth through the completion of our life's journey! With your generous support, Catholic Charities makes the journey a little easier for those who have been on the road the longest.

Our Senior Program provides loving attention to those who are often forgotten, contending in their later years with loneliness and limited resources.

Senior Program staff believe their clients should remain as independent as possible, while living in a safe environment. With your help, we provide financial assistance to our clients, connect them to resources and the community, and do everything we can to protect their dignity.

Thank you for your kind gifts that enable Catholic Charities to offer a listening ear, practical help and warm reassurance to low income seniors.

In the peace of Christ,

Cynthia N. Colbert, MSW
President and CEO

Volunteer Spotlight



Thanks to Sysco for not only bringing their team to volunteer at our Guadalupe Center Food Fair, but for bringing along their families to serve too!

Program Feature

You Help Seniors Live Independently and With Dignity

Our Senior Program provides support and resources to help seniors



Catholic Charities' Senior Program supports older adults so they can live independently and with dignity. Many seniors are lonely, so we also create opportunities for fellowship.

Your gifts to Catholic Charities allow us to preserve dignity for low income seniors to maintain their independence. With your support, we pay a senior's utility bill so they can keep their lights burning or heat their homes. Thanks to your kindness, a senior can afford the medication they need to avoid life-threatening medical conditions. Seniors don't have to experience hunger because your gifts provide enough nutritious food to eat.

All these good works are made possible through our Senior Program, which serves seniors throughout Harris, Fort Bend and Galveston counties. Senior Program staff visit clients in their homes to see firsthand the conditions in which they're living. It's not uncommon for us to find clients living in unsafe or unhealthy situations, because they can't afford to fix them. With your contributions, we're often able to get simple repairs done or take other measures to correct problems.

The Senior Program monitors the wellbeing of each client to provide ongoing support. In addition to providing services directly from Catholic Charities, we also connect them with other resources in the community that can improve quality of life.

Your support is allowing us to expand our services. We are beginning to counsel seniors on the benefits they already receive, such as social security, and benefits to which they may be entitled, like SNAP, formerly known as food stamps.

Thank you for putting compassion in action to make life easier for one of our most vulnerable populations.

Mission Moment

Now Collecting Toys and Gifts for Children and Families in Need!



With your help, Catholic Charities' Share Your Blessings campaign provided Christmas gifts to more than 6,000 people last year throughout the Archdiocese.

Because of you, the annual Share Your Blessings campaign hosted by Catholic Charities provides gifts to local children and families in need, no matter what faith tradition. Last year, you shared the joy of Christmas with more than 6,000 people!

There are still many families who continue to struggle to afford basic needs such as housing and food. And for those families, affording Christmas gifts is nearly impossible.

But with your support, we can share the spirit of the season with even more children and families this year. Your gift helps provide the joy of

Christmas to families who otherwise would not be able to afford gifts for their children.

There are many ways you can help. Please visit our website at CatholicCharities.org/syb to learn more about how to donate, volunteer or arrange a toy drive.

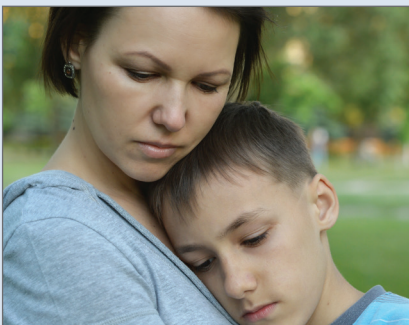
For more information about participating in our Share Your Blessings campaign, please contact Karina Hernandez at 713.874.6645 or KHernandez@CatholicCharities.org.

Thank You For Shining a Light on Hope for Mamie George in Fort Bend

Generous Fort Bend County supporters helped raise more than \$180,000 for Catholic Charities' services at the Mamie George Community Center at the sixth annual Mission of Love event on September 12, 2019 at the Safari Texas Ranch in Richmond. The annual dinner honored long-time Fort Bend County resident and former County Commissioner James Patterson for his dedication and impact on the community. Thank you for Shining a Light on Hope to help families in Fort Bend!



(From left) Event co-chair Shanda Conroy and chair Jan Bethancourt honored former Fort Bend County Commissioner James Patterson at the Mission of Love gala benefitting the Mamie George Community Center, with center Executive Director Gladys Brumfield James.



Thank you for helping Catholic Charities serve more than 85,000 people in need every year!

✓ Yes, I support Catholic Charities!

Enclosed is my donation for Catholic Charities in the amount of:

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Make your tax-deductible donation payable to: Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Return this coupon in the envelope provided to make your gift today.

Get in the Holiday Spirit at the Share Your Blessings Luncheon

Please join us at The Houstonian on November 16, 2019!



The Vujasinovic Family



The Massiatte Family

You're invited! We welcome you and your family to please join us at the inaugural Share Your Blessings luncheon on Saturday, November 16, 2019 at The Houstonian.

Co-Chaired by Veronica and Nick Massiatte, and Ofelia and Vuk Vujasinovic, this event will be a kick-off for the holiday season and teach children about the blessing of sharing what you have with those less fortunate.

Share Your Blessings focuses on the joy of giving, the religious aspects of Thanksgiving, and helps to raise funds for our annual Christmas gift distribution, as well as our programs for children and families.

This event features world famous portrait silhouette artist, Cindi Rose, craft tables, delicious treats and an impactful story time for children to enjoy.

To purchase a table or tickets, please visit CatholicCharities.org/SYBLuncheon, or contact Naibi Rivera at 713-874-6629 or NRivera@CatholicCharities.org.

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