Making A Difference

Dear Friend of Catholic Community Services of Utah,

June marks the end of our fiscal year and we wanted to thank you for making the following incredible accomplishments possible! Through our 10 life-sustaining services, we provided 15,367 hungry youth with roughly 160,700 pounds of food through our Bridging the Gap program, placed 87 unaccompanied refugee minors with loving foster families in our Refugee Foster Care program, resettled 571 refugee families and provided them with case management as they navigate their new life in America through our Refugee Resettlement program, assisted 8,034 homeless clients by offering day shelter, case management, and evening services at our Weigand Homeless Resource Center, served 306,268 meals to homeless and low-income families and individuals at our St. Vincent de Paul Dining Hall, treated 490 men and women who suffer from substance abuse issues at our St. Mary’s Center for Recovery, and distributed 2.9 million pounds of food to low-income families and individuals through our Joyce Hansen Hall Food Bank.

While impressive, these numbers alone do not fully capture the deep impact our services have on clients. Our volunteers and employees work tirelessly to better the lives of those in need and the smiling faces of those we see every day are a testament to what we accomplish together.

To the poor, the hungry and the homeless, we are help and hope. To the refugee, we are safety and the promise of a brighter tomorrow. To the immigrant, we are a path to acceptance and participation. To the person immobilized by addictions, we are a road to recovery. To every one we help, and to our organization, volunteers are what make the difference between providing these services and closing our doors.

Let me close with a special thank you to the 19,669 volunteers who contributed over 76,400 hours of service to CCS. These 76,400 hours are the equivalent to 27 full-time employees! Your volunteerism and generosity are the fueling force for the help and hope we are able to offer to those most in need each day.

Respectfully,

Bradford R. Drake
Executive Director

Donor Spotlight: You Make It Possible

Catholic Community Services would like to take a moment to thank the many people who donated to us recently. Without the support of so many in the community we wouldn’t be able to impact the lives of so many vulnerable people each year.

Donors to our Refugee Resettlement department include American Express, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Utah Bar Foundation, and Marcia Andriano Pilz. Their generosity helped our Refugee Resettlement, Refugee Foster Care, and Immigration programs provide resettlement services and legal assistance to refugees, asylees and immigrants.

Our Homeless Services department was supported by the Catholic Foundation of Utah, CIT Bank, Huntsman International LLC, Marriner S. Eccles Foundation, Miller Family Philanthropy, St. Martin de Porres, UBS Bank, William McCullough, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Raucci, Mr. and Albert Vitale. With this funding the St. Vincent de Paul Dining Hall provided daily lunches, Dinner at Vinny’s served supper each night, and the Weigand Homeless Resource Center was able to offer day shelter, case management, and other essential services.

Many in the community provided general agency support, helping us deliver much-needed assistance to thousands through our 10 distinct programs. These donors include the Achelis Foundation, the American Express Employee Gift Matching program, the Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Foundation, the Combined Federal Campaign, the R. Harold Burton Foundation, Questar Corporation, the Wheeler Foundation, Dr. and Mrs. Dominic Albo, Mr. Drew W. Browning and Mrs. Jady Brady, Paul Burdiss, Patrick David Dean, John T. Dushinsky, Nathan Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. John Harrington, Luke Hoffman, Karl V. Lins, Janet Louie, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas K. McCarthey, Mr. and Mrs. Edward W. Schmidt, and Bonita W. Wyse. In addition to the services listed above, their generosity also helped CCS provide substance abuse treatment at the St. Mary’s Center for Recovery and deliver food assistance at the Joyce Hansen Hall Food Bank in Ogden.

Finally, we would like to say “thank you!” to the many others who donated recently. We simply don’t have space to list all our generous friends, but wanted to let you know your support means everything to us.

Catholic Community Services is an equal opportunity provider.

www.ccsutah.org
Current Donation Needs and Volunteer Opportunities

**Donation Needs**
- Backpacks & School Supplies: pencils, pens, notebooks, paper, etc.
- Clothing: Light clothing for men, women and children including T-shirt, shorts, pants, underwear, shoes, and socks
- Food: Non-perishable food items.
- Hygiene Products: Toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, lotion, soap, tooth brushes, small wash clothes, razors, sanitation pads, diapers (all sizes)
- Furniture: beds, desks, tables, chairs, couches

**Volunteer Opportunities**
- Refugee Resettlement
- St. Vincent de Paul Dining Hall
- Joyce Hansen Hall Food Bank

To volunteer, please contact Janet Healy at 801-428-1242 or jhealy@ccsutah.org.

Visit our website at: www.ccsutah.org or like us on facebook www.facebook.com/catholiccommunityservice-sofutah

**Contact Information**
- 437 W 200 S, SLC or 745 East 300 South SLC, UT 84102

By: Danielle Stamos

---

**Empty Bowls:**
**Fighting Hunger Through Art**

Each year we partner with Clay Arts, Utah to fight hunger through art. And this year, with the support of the community, we were able to raise $10,000 to continue feeding low-income and homeless individuals and families at our St. Vincent de Paul Dining Hall.

Clay Arts, Utah’s wonderful group of artisans handcrafted over 800 bowls to raise funds for our services so that we may continue helping those in need. But it isn’t only experienced artists who wanted in on the action, as art students from Wasatch Elementary School also made over 100 pinch pots to be sold at their school fundraiser, benefitting CCS and our Empty Bowls event.

“What a great way to educate children on the need in our community, while teaching them how to express their emotion through art,” says Director of Homeless Services for CCS, Dennis Kelsch, “unfortunately, ours services continue to be in high demand and we will continue to help our homeless friends until that need no longer exists. Having the community involved, especially the next generation, helps raise awareness of the struggles homeless people face each day and let’s our clients know that they are cared for.”

Did you miss the 2015 Empty Bowls event? Don’t worry we already have the 2016 event scheduled for Saturday, May 7, 2016. Stay tuned for more information to come!

---

**Backpack Bonanza**

By: Danielle Stamos

Can you believe we are officially in collection mode for backpacks and school supplies? Well it’s true, as we are asking for donations of new backpacks and school supplies for our annual Backpack Bonanza event on Friday August 14th. Our goal this year is to distribute over 4,000 backpacks stuffed with additional school items, to low-income, homeless, and refugee children in the Salt Lake and Ogden communities.

If you are interested in donating, you can drop items off at any CCS location. We also accept monetary donations. Donation needs include backpacks, pencil boxes, pens, notebooks, binders, glue sticks, rulers, markers, colored pencils, crayons, and other supplies.

If you know a school-age child who may qualify to receive a backpack, please contact CCS at 801-363-7710 to sign-up prior to August 12th (Children will be assigned to their nearest distribution center).

---

**Foster Care Refugees**

**Thrive with Love**

Unaccompanied refugee minors come into our care for many different reasons. Some have been orphaned by war, some have been trafficked, and others have fled unsafe situations; but all have one thing in common- the need for a loving and safe home. At Catholic Community Services of Utah we place refugee youth into loving Utah homes and watch them thrive from the care and support they receive.

Two such children are Awet and Salih, who both fled the oppressive military regime in Eritrea. Although they were strangers when they left their homeland, they became brothers living in the same foster home in Utah.

Both experienced a long harrowing journey before finding safety in Salt Lake City. At just eleven years old, Salih fled to escape conscription into the military, where he would have been a child soldier. Like many others from Eritrea he sought help in Ethiopia’s Mai Aini Refugee Camp, but instead of salvation and safety he was met with over 1,000 other unaccompanied refugee minors living in deplorable conditions. Luckily USCCB was able to advocate for his safe passage to America.

Awet also fled child military conscription, but instead of finding help, he was captured and tortured for months before being released after his ransom was paid. Alone and injured, Awet was taken in by UNHCR staff who arranged for him to be resettled by CCS.

Today, Salih and Awet are normal teenage boys living and thriving with love and support from their foster family. After experiencing so much trauma in the past, both are excited to build a brighter and happier future.