



# The Catalyst

The Newsletter for  
Catholic Charities  
of Santa Barbara County

Summer 2012

## Reducing Hunger & Homelessness

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

### WE GET BY WITH A LOT OF HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

#### Community Service Centers



Frank Bogner  
Regional Director

There are moments of inspiration even as unemployment figures remain high and the recession continues its hold on families throughout Santa Barbara County. The inspiration for me comes from witnessing first-hand a community throughout the county, rallying to help families stabilize and ride out this economic downturn. This issue of *The Catalyst* will share some of those stories.

I'm inspired by the compassion of the staff of the C.A.R.E.4 PAWS organization which is working tirelessly to help for the care of pets, and I'm pleased that we can partner with them to provide additional care for our senior clients at our

community centers in Santa Barbara, Santa Maria and Lompoc. I've been inspired by the efforts of ten young Capuchin Franciscan Friars who, for many months, rolled up their sleeves to work in all three of our community centers. I'm inspired by the volunteers organized by the Santa Maria Rotary who took paintbrush in hand and completely repainted the lobby and exterior of our building in Santa Maria. The result is that people who need services now have a bright, attractive and cheerful environment in which to seek and receive assistance.

I was inspired at a recent Partnership in Service Annual Awards banquet, pastors from throughout the county spoke with great pride of the selfless work that parishioners are doing for their neighbors. Some visit individuals who are home-bound; some will take their neighbors for a medical check up. Some distribute food and some will

stop by just for a visit. These wonderful people of all age and sizes – single adults to eight member families – some in grade and high school, and others in their seventies make small but continuous sacrifices that make a huge difference in the community's quality of life. All seemed to enjoy the recognition they so rightfully deserve, all would shun further fanfare, and all go on to continue doing what they do so well.

I, again, was inspired when, under extremely difficult county budget deliberations, the Board of Supervisors voted to both fund this year's Human Services Commission's requested allocation and restore future permanent line item funding. This courageous action demonstrates that the public/private sectors can come together for the common good and well-being of thousands of persons in need of critical programs and services delivered by the County's

non-profits.

I'm honored that our Advisory Board members from Santa Maria, Lompoc and Santa Barbara continue to step up, take active roles, and keep us on mission - steering the Catholic Charities ship through these very challenging waters.

Likewise, I am honored to work with a staff that seeks creative solutions to sustain our programs' service delivery, and our Silent Angel donors whose generosity has no bounds when it comes to assuring that families will stay together through the continuing economic storm.

I hope this issue of *The Catalyst* will provide you with an idea of how people are working for the betterment of their neighbors.

Have a wonderful summer and be mindful, please, of our upcoming Silent Angel Match Campaign that will begin in the fall!

941 Walnut St.  
Carpinteria, CA 93013  
805-684-8621

903 E. Chestnut  
Lompoc, CA 93436  
805-736-6226

609 E. Haley St.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93103  
805-965-7045

607 W. Main St.  
Santa Maria, CA 93454  
805-922-2059

#### Mobile Food Distribution Sites

4681 11th St.  
Guadalupe, CA 93434  
805-922-2059

6647 El Colegio Road  
Isla Vista, CA 93117  
805-965-7045

4711 Hwy. 166  
New Cuyama, CA 93254  
805-922-2059

Benjamin Foxen Elementary School  
4949 Foxen Canyon Road  
Sisquoc, CA 93454  
805-922-2059

#### Thrifty Shoppers

[thriftyshopper.org](http://thriftyshopper.org)

609 E. Haley St.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93103  
805-965-9659

607 W. Main St.  
Santa Maria, CA 93454  
805-922-4174

## THE GREAT SANTA MARIA PAINT-OUT



The Future Leaders of America and the Santa Maria Rotary South, under the direction of Gail Pratt, gathered on May 5th to honor a commitment made to Catholic Charities' Beatrix Sanchez, Resource Client Coordinator, who originated the collaboration.

Arrangements were made weeks earlier for the necessary paint and painting gear and, when the crew showed up, they brought the final supply of light-hearted camaraderie. In 10 hours of well-focused time, the once dark and uninviting waiting room was transformed into a light, bright, and most welcoming work space. The building's repainted façade is clearly visible to foot and street traffic. (It also helps that our adjacent Thrifty Shopper store will benefit directly from this new grooming.)

Great job all around and we want to thank the Future Leaders for their time and talents for bringing our Santa Maria community service center back to life.

## PET SERVICES FOR SENIORS – AN UPDATE

Last July we announced that C.A.R.E 4PAWS and Catholic Charities had teamed up to develop a more efficient and compatible service delivery for our low-income older adult clients (age 60+) in need of pet services. Now both agencies are cross-referring suitable clients for immediate help.

A new arrangement with C.A.R.E 4PAWS will permit us to provide our qualifying clients in Lompoc and Santa Maria with no-cost pet food (dog and cat, dry and wet). Our respective Food Pantries will coordinate distribution on site. Contact Jeannie Begley in Lompoc or David Coelho in Santa Maria to learn more about this opportunity.

Our *Wagging Dog Tales* project, under newly secured funding from the Hildegard H. Balin Trust, can continue to provide financial assistance to resident Santa Barbara qualifying low-income seniors (age 60+) in need of dog-only emergency medical veterinary assistance. We partner with White's Pet Hospital and other local vets to better coordinate these services on a case-by-case basis. Contact Brian Clark in Santa Barbara for details.

C.A.R.E.4PAWS is expanding its range of services as it promotes responsible pet ownership and animal welfare throughout the county. The goal is to work to lower the number of animals that enter shelters and rescue groups and to boost adoption rates. Offering a series of pet-related early education and bilingual/bicultural community outreach to children and adults (including a new mobile spay and neuter service), C.A.R.E 4PAWS' commitments extend to changing the future for animals in our communities and beyond.

For more information, please contact Isabelle Gullo at (805) 968-2273.



The San Lorenzo Seminary, neatly tucked away in the hills at the east end of the Santa Ynez Valley, serves as a training ground for new members joining the Capuchin Franciscan Order.

We were most fortunate to forge a relationship with Father Robert Barbato and want to especially acknowledge the contributions made by the ten new novitiates (all from various nationalities and backgrounds) who began their volunteer service at Catholic Charities last September and just recently ended in mid-June 2012.



In Lompoc, from left: Brian (America) & Alex ( from Puerto Rico)

Every Friday these Friars-in-learning were providing their help in our Food Pantries in Lompoc, Santa Maria and Santa Barbara. Their weekly presence helped not only with the tasks at hand but likewise gave us an opportunity to observe the many positive and generous interactions with our food distribution clients and fellow volunteers and staff.

While this dedicated group has moved on to further studies (most of our new friends have relocated to attend George Washington University in Washington, D.C.), a new group forms this September, and we can only hope to repeat another joint opportunity to be in service.



In Santa Maria: Brian (Guam), Obiama (Nigeria), Edwin (Columbia), David (Puerto Rico)



In Santa Barbara: Ernesto (Columbia), Andrew (America), Trevor (America), Atola (Nigeria)

We are exceedingly glad to have been a part of this modest yet meaningful experience and continue to note the many ways we all can come together in community, each of us contributing for the collective good.



The newsletter for Catholic Charities  
of Santa Barbara County

Catholic Charities Main Office  
609 East Haley Street  
Santa Barbara CA 93103

Phone: 805-965-7045  
Fax: 805-963-2978  
Email: info@ccsbca.org  
Federal ID #95-1690973

Serving the following communities:



Member Agency



United Way of Santa Barbara  
Central Coast United Way

Non-Profit Organization  
US POSTAGE PAID  
SANTA BARBARA, CA  
Permit #930

**Reducing Hunger & Homelessness**



**THRIFTY SHOPPER  
SANTA BARBARA**

The store will be closed for inventory August 2, 3, 4, 5 during Fiesta Celebrations.

We re-open August 6th with an **all new look** and **new value pricing** on all items.

**Silent Angel Match Campaign 2012**

**October 15, 2012 through December 31, 2012.**

**Every dollar raised will be matched dollar-for-dollar!**

This is the only direct fundraising appeal we will make this entire year and your donation will double the amount of help we can provide to families and individuals most in need of our programs.

You will be able to designate which of our local communities you wish to support and donate online at:

[CatholicCharitiesSB.org](http://CatholicCharitiesSB.org)

**2012**

**Save the Date!**

**2012**

September 22	Agency Retreat	Region-wide
October 15	Silent Angel Match Campaign Opens	Region-wide
November	Holiday Turkey Drives	Region-wide
December 1 <i>Saturday!</i>	Mistletoe Ball	Santa Barbara
December 31	Silent Angel Match Campaign Closes	Region-wide

For more information, please call your local office listed on page one.