



Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc.

The Sage

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San Gabriel Region Client Success Story

A homeless single mother was living on the side of the 60 freeway while her children spent every night at their paternal grandmother's house. An employee of Catholic Charities' San Juan Diego Community Services Center in El Monte realized that this woman was in desperate need of assistance, including training in parenting skills.

The homeless woman was referred to San Gabriel Region's McGill Street House, which provides transitional housing for homeless women with children, in collaboration with the city of Covina. She was able to obtain full time employment within two months of her stay at McGill House. The woman has learned important parenting skills and now ensures that her children are safe and have reliable child care. She is assisted through the GAIN Program in conjunction with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, which adopted this client and provides extra funds for her to hire an Uber driver when she works late at night. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul also provides diapers for her children. The client's goal is to obtain permanent housing, which she is one step away from acquiring. ❀

Children Treated To Back to School Haircuts, Backpacks and Supplies

In August, a long line of families waited outside Catholic Charities' San Juan Diego Center in El Monte for the gates to open at 9:00 in the morning. Many of the children had eagerly anticipated this day when they would get a free haircut plus new backpacks with school supplies.

Among the youngsters was Juan, along with his two brothers, Victor and Eric, who walked all the way from, and then back to, the El Monte Bus Terminal, accompanied by their grandmother. It was a hot summer day, but that did not discourage them from taking the long walk because the day at San Juan Diego Center was worth even more than they had expected. Happiness and contentment were evident on their faces, especially on the face of little Juan who shyly said "Gracias!" after receiving the nice haircut, the new backpack and the delicious snacks.

One mother of four children expressed gratitude for the event: "I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart! Times are tough and money is scarce. My husband is only working part time. So all the help



A young boy gets ready for his first day at school.

we are receiving today is a blessing. I wish all the people here today, who are giving their time away, the best in life. God bless you all!"

Mary Romero, Catholic Charities' San Gabriel Regional Director, and Sister Marjorie Guingona, the region's SNAP-Ed Program Nutrition Educator, thank the Professional Institute of Beauty, Macy's Logistics & Operations, Elizabeth Fan and St. Denis Catholic Community for graciously and generously helping out twenty-six families at the event. ❀

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Daniel Grimm Appointed New Santa Barbara Regional Director

On September 1, 2016, Daniel J. Grimm, J.D., M.A., MFT, assumed the role of Director of the Santa Barbara Region of Catholic Charities. With extensive experience in law, development for non-profits, and psychological therapy, Grimm also brings a lifetime of faith in the Catholic Church.

Dan was born the sixth of 17 children, all born at Providence St. Joseph Hospital in Burbank. His family moved to Pasadena and Dan attended St. Philip the Apostle Catholic School. He and his siblings were very involved in the choir program at St. Philip's, directed by Primo Puccinelli. Soon, they put together their own family choir.

After three years at Loyola High School, Dan attended newly-opened Thomas Aquinas College. There he met his future wife, Rose, a graduate of Stanford University who was pursuing another Bachelor's degree at Thomas Aquinas College. After graduation, the couple were married.

Dan attended University of the Pacific's McGeorge Law School in Sacramento, worked as a Litigation Associate at a law firm in Sacramento and later as legislative aide and Chief of Staff for a State Senator in Sacramento.

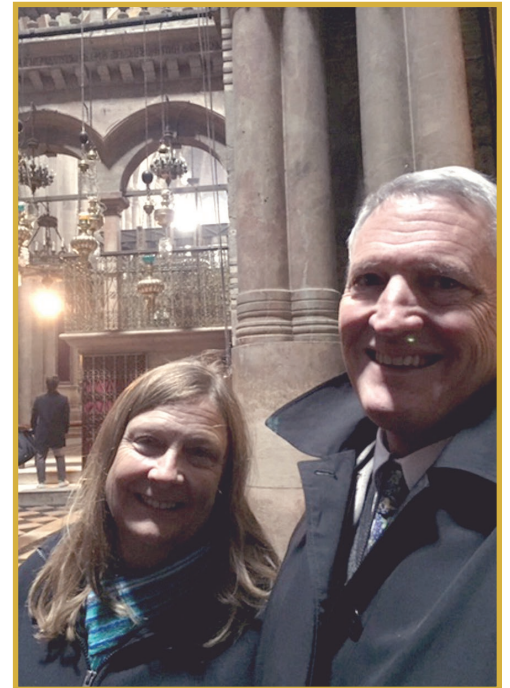
A "Renaissance man," Dan took a break from law to pursue a singing career, performing in operas in San Francisco and the Bay Area, and studying voice in New York City. Finally, facing the reality of raising a family of (then) six children, he took a job at Thomas Aquinas College as Director of Development in 1993, later becoming Vice President of Development and General Counsel.

In 2001, Dan organized a U.S.-based supporting foundation for the International Theological Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family, a Papal institute in Austria.

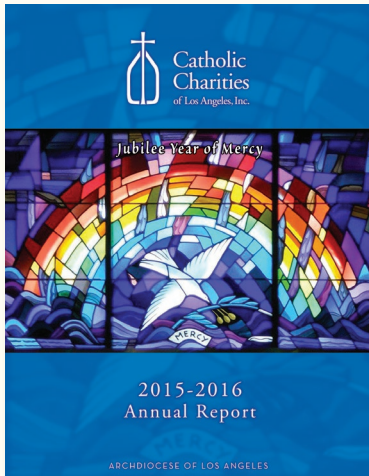
Since receiving a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology from Pepperdine University in 2006, Dan has worked as a therapist, interning at Stillpoint Family Resources, Help of Ojai, and Ventura County Behavioral Health, and in private practice in South Pasadena and Ventura.

Dan served on the Board of Governors of Thomas Aquinas College from 1998-2001, on the Board of Trustees of St. Joseph Health and Retirement Center in Ojai, from 2015 to 2016, and is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre. For nearly twenty years he has directed the Thomas Aquinas College Choir

In addition to their seven children, Dan and Rose now have seventeen grandchildren. Dan is looking forward to working with our boards, volunteers and benefactors to advance the work of Catholic Charities in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, to bring the healing love of God to those in need. ❀



Dan and Rose Grimm visited the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem earlier this year.



See the CCLA
2015-2016
Annual Report
on our website at
www.CatholicCharitiesLA.org

Catholic Charities

Golf Tournament

**Watch for
Date and Venue!**

**21st Annual
Catholic Charities
Golf Tournament**

Proceeds from this event will feed,
house and assist our clients who
are poor and homeless.

For updated information,
check our website at
www.CatholicCharitiesLA.org;
or phone or email
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Address Service Requested



Photo: Catholic Charities USA

Every December, Catholic Charities hosts festive Christmas parties for disadvantaged families at most of our community centers.



Please, like us on the CCLA Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Catholic.Charities.LA>

Letter From A Grateful Client

Dear Catholic Charities,

I am writing this letter to thank you for all the help that you provided for me and my family.

I want to tell you a little bit about myself and my husband. We are both veterans. I was in the Navy for six months but was injured and had to separate with an Honorable Discharge. My husband, Antonio, was in the Army 82nd Airborne Division as an Administration Specialist.

We found ourselves behind on our rent. The owner of the property sold the apartment complex and wouldn't accept a partial payment. At that time, we were spending 90% of our household funds on rent alone. Due to these unfortunate circumstances, we were evicted and found ourselves homeless.

With the help of Darlene at Catholic Charities' Pomona Community Services Center, we were provided with a motel voucher and a Thanksgiving Basket. Catholic Charities then put us into their Adopt-A-Family program and we received Christmas gifts. My kids were so happy. We wouldn't have had a Thanksgiving or Christmas without the help from your center.

I was given an address to go to so I could get free clothes for my kids. I also went to a Stress Management class provided by Catholic Charities at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Pomona.



Anna Potter, her husband and two children appreciate the help they got from Catholic Charities.

The class gave me lots of tips on how to handle my stressful situation. I am so grateful to Darlene and Catholic Charities, as well as to my faith, to get through that horrible time in my life. Now we do have an apartment and we are in such a better place. Every day the Lord blesses us and I look forward to waking up each day to see what He has in store for us. He blessed us with Catholic Charities and Darlene coming into our lives, just when we needed her. You guys are the best. Please keep blessing families as you have blessed mine. God Bless You!

Sincerely,

Anna Potter and Family