

January, 2015

National Migration Week

National Migration Week was established by the U.S. Bishops over twenty-five years ago, recognizing the wide diversity of the church and its ministries. The week serves as a time for prayer, reflection, and action, recognizing the strength of migrants, understanding more about their reality and walking with them to overcome the challenges they encounter.

The 2015 National Migration Week took place from January 4th - 10th, with the theme "*We are One Family Under God.*"

Catholic Charities has been of service to immigrants since our inception over 97 years ago. "*Welcome, respect, and love are things that Catholic Charities is truly blessed to provide thousands of immigrants who seek our help each year,*" writes our President Monsignor Michael Boland in his Voice of Catholic Charities column. We invite you read his column in its entirety at [The Voice of Catholic Charities](http://www.catholiccharities.net/latinoaffairs) (www.catholiccharities.net/latinoaffairs).

Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass

On December 12th, members of the Catholic Charities Latino Advisory Committee welcomed Bishop Alberto Rojas to our St. Louise de Marillac Chapel to celebrate mass honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Patroness of Americas. Reverend Gerard Kelly, C.M. and Reverend Robert Perez, Associate Administrators with Catholic Charities concelebrated the Mass.

As part of our annual celebration, over 20 students from Our Lady of Charity School at Cicero, join the attendees in singing The Mañanitas to the Virgin. We are grateful for their presence. We are also grateful to Lucy Gamboa and her father, who each year serve as our music ministers.



Bishop Alberto Rojas at Our St. Louise de Marillac Chapel

Did you know?

Every Catholic Charities touches the lives of nearly 230,000 Latinos living in Cook and Lake Counties each year.

Catholic Charities Immigration and Naturalization program assists more than 3200 individuals and families through the complex legal immigration process each year.

Each year, Catholic Charities Child Care Centers prepare over 1000 pre-schoolers for kindergarten.

In 2014, our five Summer Health Fairs served over 600 individuals, 77% were Latino.

92 cents of every dollar donated to Catholic Charities is directed to our programs serving the poor.

To learn more about all of our Catholic Charities programs, please visit:
www.catholiccharities.net

Immigration Administrative Relief

On November 20th, President Obama announced Administrative Relief which will impact certain immigrants living in the United States.

Catholic Charities has set up a special number to learn more about this action: 312-655-7699.

Additional resources are also available on our website:
www.catholiccharities.net

Iberoamericana University Students

On December 4th, we bid farewell to Regina Mulas, Alejandra Lugo, Stephanie Koenig and Sharon Cassab, our four talented students from Iberoamericana University, Mexico City who shared their knowledge, providing bilingual and bicultural services to our program participants of Latino origin.



Ibero Fall Group: Sharon, Alejandra, Regina and Stephanie

This year marks the 8th Anniversary of our Catholic Charities partnership with Iberoamericana and Loyola Universities, whose students provide more than 6,000 volunteer hours to our programs every year.

As we begin the Spring Semester, we welcome three new Iberoamericana students: Hospitality major Sofia Gutierrez and Psychology majors Valeria De La Rosa and Anette Worthalter. We look forward to their service with our Immigration Program, Casa Catalina Basic Needs Center, our City Southwest Regional Office and our St. Mary of Celle Family Strengthening Center in Berwyn.



Sofia, Anette and Valeria, our newest Ibero Spring Group

We extend a thank you to all our *Ibero interns* over the year; for sharing their experiences and for choosing Catholic Charities as their social service placement!

We need you!

We invite you to join our Catholic Charities team. There are many ways for getting involved!

Bilingual staff, interns and volunteers are strongly needed, click on the links to find opportunities.

[Jobs](#)
[Internships](#)
[Volunteer Bridge](#)

City Southwest Regional Office Open House!

We cordially invite you to a
**Mass of Celebration and
Dedication of the Southwest
City
Regional Office**

**Sunday, February 1, 2015
Mass of Celebration
at 10:30 a.m.**

**St. Gall Parish
5500 South Kedzie Ave
Chicago, Illinois**

**Dedication and Open House
immediately following mass at
the Southwest City Regional
Office**

**5533 South Sawyer Avenue
Refreshments will be served**

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Connect with us

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