



Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago OFFICE OF LATINO AFFAIRS

November, 2013

Greetings!

As we enter into the Holiday Season, we would like to thank you for your support of our mission. We invite you to share this E-blast with others and to stay connected via our website and social media. Together we positively impact lives!

Saludos,
Dalia Bagdonas Rocotello

EMPOWERING LIVES THROUGH SERVICE

Mariana Carrillo, an Architect student from Iberoamericana University in Mexico City, selected Catholic Charities to complete her required social service this fall. In addition to volunteering with our housing programs, Mariana brought her love of dance to our St. Mary of Celle Family Strengthening Center in Berwyn.

Over the past three months, Mariana has led Zumba, Ballet and Flamenco classes to over 30 women and girls of all ages. Her impact has been powerful. Class participants experienced heightened self-confidence. They also developed new friendships and built a stronger sense of community at the Center. Mariana has been a role model to the young girls, some of who even shared their interest in pursuing a dancing career!

We are grateful to Mariana and all the Iberoamericana students, interns and volunteers who share time and talent with us. Opportunities to serve are always available. We invite you to visit our website or contact us direct to learn more.



Girls from ages three to twelve, attend free ballet classes twice a week at St Mary of Celle Family Strengthening Center, Berwyn

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Celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

On Thursday December 12th, Most Reverend Alberto Rojas Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, will celebrate a special mass honoring our Lady of Guadalupe.

We invite you to join us at noon in our St Louise de Marillac Chapel, located at 721 N. LaSalle in Chicago.



Did you know?

In 2012:

More than 8,000 children living in Cook County were able to unwrap new toys for Christmas in 2012.

Generous donors, including business and parishes, sponsored over 500 families in need with Christmas gifts and meals.

LATINO ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER HIGHLIGHT- GOYA VEGA BYRNES

Our Board of Advisors are one of the many pillars that support the mission of Catholic Charities. Their steady commitment keep our Agency strong. Goya Vega Byrnes, our Latino Advisory Committee Chairperson, is an excellent example of how Board members bring energy and leadership to our work.

Since 2003, Goya has been involved with our Agency at many levels: volunteering, bilingual attorney in our Legal Assistance Program; assisting at our Health Fairs; spending time with young mothers at Our Lady of Tepeyac Head Start program in Little Village; leading fundraising efforts and serving on various Board committees including Legal Advisory, Parish Outreach and our Latino Advisory Committee.

Goya is completing her term as Chairperson for the Latino Advisory Committee this year. Through her leadership we have witnessed strong Committee growth, advocacy and fundraising efforts.

We thank Goya for her leadership and are blessed to have her continued commitment and involvement.



Goya Vega-Byrnes (Center) with Stella Gaytan, Vice-Chair of the Latino Advisory Committee (Left) and Dalia Bagdonas Rocotello, Director, Office of Latino Affairs (Right).

BRING JOY TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



Each year, Catholic Charities coordinates two County-wide toy and gift collections to brighten the lives of children and families in need over the Christmas season. This is truly a community-wide effort that includes individuals, families, parishes, businesses, schools and many other community organizations. We invite you to join our efforts. Here are the details:

Celebration of Giving (Serves Cook County)

Sponsor a Family: Donors receive a family wish list and are asked to purchase the items requested.

Volunteer in our Toy Room: Sort and organize donated toys throughout early December.

Donate: Donate one or as many toys as you wish during our toy drive. Monetary donations are also accepted.

Volunteers in Chicago and suburban Cook County donated 600 hours sorting and packing toys and gifts in for our Celebration of Giving.

The annual Toy Parade, fully organized by Chicago Fire Fighters each December delivers thousands of donated toys to children in need.

The Christmas Gift program in Lake County served more than 14,800 individuals by distributing more than \$740,000 worth of gifts!

Wish List

In addition to our Celebration of Giving, we invite you to consider the following ways to get involved:

Bilingual volunteers are needed and welcomed to help us live our mission. If you are interested and able to share your time and talent with us, please contact Zulma Colon at (312) 655-7323 or via email at: zcolon@catholiccharities.net

The following donations are welcomed:

Arts and Crafts supplies for our Child Care Programs and Family Strengthening Center.

Healthy snacks for our after school programs.

Non-perishable food items for our pantries.

Please contact the Office of Latino Affairs for more information

Contact Us:

Office of Latino Affairs
Dalia Bagdonas Rocotello
Director
721 North LaSalle
Chicago, IL 60654
P: (312) 655-8492

drcotel@catholiccharities.net

For more information please contact:

Lisa Jerzyk-- ljerzyk@catholiccharities.net

Zulma Colon-- zcolon@catholiccharities.net

Celebration of Giving Hotline: (312) 226-0650

Christmas Gift Program (Serves Lake County)

This program provides gifts to families, children, and seniors in need throughout Lake County by matching needs with individuals, churches, schools, corporate and other donor groups.

Bilingual Volunteers are needed to distribute gifts. Please consider a two hour shift on one the following dates:

-Dec. 5 (10 AM - 2 PM)

-Dec. 8 (noon - 3 PM)

-Dec. 12, 13, 14, 16 (9 AM - 5:30 PM)

For more information, please contact: Mayra Ramirez at (847) 782-4122

Connect with us

www.catholiccharities.net/latinoaffairs



Join Our Mailing List!

Catholic Charities fulfills the Church's role in the mission of charity to anyone in need by providing compassionate, competent and professional services that strengthen and support individuals, families and communities based on the value and dignity of human life.

In order to remain faithful to our mission, Catholic Charities is guided by these core values: Respect, Compassion, Competence, and Stewardship.