



Mission Statement

Responding to Christ's message to love our neighbors as ourselves, Catholic Community Services offers immediate help by providing food and other assistance to anyone in need and seeks to instill hope by helping Lane County families take positive steps to move out of poverty.

Service Center Hours

M/T/W/Fri 8am-4pm
Th 9am-4pm

Food Pantry Hours

M/W/F 8am-12pm

Clothing Room

Mon- Fri 9am-12pm

**Your Gift Keeps our Programs Fertilized!
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June 2023 "Gardening" at CCS

"You're closer to God's heart in a garden than any place else on earth."

-Dorothy Frances Gurney




Hello Friends of CCS!

The last time I wrote was in March for our Lent/Easter edition. It was, of course, raining then but here we are today in the most spectacular season of floral paradise and sunny skies. We are truly blessed to live in this beautiful place and tend to God's many "gardens" here on Earth!

Let's catch up!

Seeds planted, soil tilled, compost added, and, after seven years, our **Refugee & Immigrant Services Program (RISP)** is growing exponentially and bearing great fruit. In less than a year, the RISP team has added seven new positions and has applied to become a full affiliate reception and placement site through the USCCB, with expectations to welcome 50 new refugees in the upcoming year. RISP has outgrown its current space at the Springfield Community Services Center and will be relocating to a new location in downtown Eugene this fall. We are so excited for the future of this wonderful program.

Want to learn more about RISP's work? Don't miss our celebration of **World Refugee Day** on **Tuesday, June 20th 6:00pm at First United Methodist Church** in Eugene. We will highlight stories from our recent Afghan refugees who have resettled here and celebrate with music, food and traditional décor. This is an ideal opportunity to learn more about our work and our new neighbors who add beautiful culture and diversity to our community.



World Refugee Day – June 20, 2023

Refugees are not a world away.

Event Information & Registration

“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.”

-Audrey Hepburn

In the last five months, our small but mighty social services and community center teams have received a super crop of neighbors needing assistance, and the yields have been record-breaking for our Agency. In just five months, from January 1st through May 31st, Catholic Community Services:

- Helped 554 households avoid homelessness by providing over **\$2.1 million in rent assistance**
- Ensured 2,517 households maintained their utilities by providing **\$1.4 million in energy assistance**
- Distributed nearly **15,000 food boxes** at our two pantries in Eugene and Springfield

“We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses.”

-Abraham Lincoln

We're thrilled to welcome new roses to CCS! Our new volunteers include Laurie Swanson (RISP), Dristen Kaminski (food pantry) and Jeff Baumgart (food pantry). Linda Thomas-Bush and Scott Nelson have recently joined our Board of Directors and our Development & Communications team has added two new enthusiastic staff shown in the photo below:

Dylan Nicholls, Communications Coordinator- DNicholls@ccslc.org (541) 345-3628 ext. 313

Dylan is a relative newcomer to the Eugene area, embarking on the 3,000-mile move from his home in Virginia back in 2021. He comes to us with a diverse background in media—since graduating from James Madison University in 2017 he's worked as a producer in an independent film studio, the news director of a radio station, and a reporter and co-host for a politics podcast. Excited to join the CCS team, Dylan says he's eager to bring what he's learned in communications to a nonprofit role where his work will benefit others in need.

Barb Roos-Franklin, Development Assistant- BRoosFranklin@ccslc.org (541) 345-3628 ext. 317

Barb was born in Salt Lake City, Utah and moved to Eugene with her family as a little girl. She went on to live in Spokane and Seattle before settling back in the community in 1990. She raised her two sons, Austin and Alex, in Creswell where she taught at a private school for 15 years. After leaving her career in education for health reasons, Barb reinvented herself, spending several years as an office manager and an executive assistant. She stepped into her first nonprofit role five years ago, joining the domestic violence prevention nonprofit Hope & Safety Alliance as a Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator before becoming their Development Manager. She feels her soul has found a home in the nonprofit world, helping those in need.



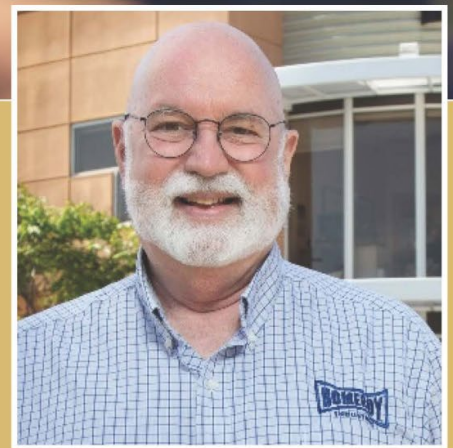
In God's garden of Grace, even broken trees bear fruit."

-Rick Warren

Fr. Greg Boyle will bring grace to Eugene with a **keynote address!** On **June 26th 5:30pm at The Shedd**, our community will have the unique opportunity to hear from a legendary Jesuit, master storyteller, award-winning author, and the founder of Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles. Fr. Greg is sure to stir your soul and inspire compassion and kinship. Come prepared by first enjoying his NY Times bestseller, *Tattoos on the Heart*, available on Amazon.

INCLUDE EVERYONE. LOVE, GOD

Welcome New York Times bestselling author, founder of L.A.'s Homeboy Industries, renowned keynote speaker, and beloved Jesuit, **Greg Boyle, S.J.** who inspires communities to unite in kinship, compassion and tenderness where "There is no us and them, only **us**".



[RSVP for Fr. Greg Boyle here!](#)

"Gardeners know all the dirt."
-Unknown

Heads up! CCS has been chosen as the Beneficiary for Market Fest 2023! The Market Fest celebration takes place Aug. 25-27 at the 5th Street Public Market in Eugene. Join us in a fun weekend filled with music, food, a car show and other entertainment! Also, mark your calendars for our annual Great Hour of Caring breakfast on Thursday, September 21st 8:00 am at Venue 252. More to come on both of these exciting events for Catholic Community Services.

We are beyond grateful for your support, prayers, and interest in our work.

Wishing you a bountiful harvest all summer long.

Peace and blessings,



Lorri Perreault
Executive Director

Client Spotlight: Amy Has Blossomed!



"I am doing better than I ever have been, and I am SO grateful to be free. Thank you, CCS!"

Amy is an amazing mom who has overcome many barriers, including suffering two strokes and a heart attack by the age of 40 and relocating to Oregon to flee domestic violence. Five weeks ago, our case manager (appropriately named Hope) tackled the great feat of getting the Johnson family housed with all the furnishings needed for their new home. Amy's mother passed away a week ago, the same day Amy was released from the hospital after suffering a seizure. Despite the difficulties she's faced, Amy has remained positive with her head held high!

Amy stated how grateful and blessed she is to have all of us at CCS in her life. We feel the same about you, Amy... blessed indeed!

Volunteer Spotlight: Dedicated Julie



Introducing Julie McCauley, one of our devoted volunteers! Julie started volunteering with CCS in February of 2016, and has spent most of her time since then supporting the Development Department. Civic-minded and community oriented, Julie's willingness to take on a wide variety of tasks and her attention to detail make her a true asset. She's appreciated and adored by all our CCS staff and is an indispensable volunteer member of the Development team.

Julie was born at Fort Riley in Kansas and moved around a lot as a military brat. Luckily for CCS she attended the U of O and decided to set down her roots here, embarking on a 30-year teaching career at North Eugene High School. While working as an educator she met and married her husband, Kevin, and together they raised three children. Julie enjoyed her three decades as a teacher, but since retiring she tells us "I don't miss the 60 hour work weeks, and bringing home loads of work!"

It was after retiring in June of 2015 that Julie first volunteered for a CCS Christmas party. She was so impressed with how respectfully CCS staff treated the clients that she decided to fill out a volunteer application. Initially, she started helping in our Energy Assistance Department (where her fluency in Spanish was useful) before landing in Development, where she has been since.

Volunteering at CCS dovetails perfectly with her Catholic faith. Julie is a Secular Franciscan (Lay Order of Franciscans) and adheres to its main tenants of charity, benevolence and selflessness. Apart from volunteering, Julie and Kevin donate to CCS, "because what they do is important and there is a great need in the community. We feel it is important to give back."

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Locations

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Contact Us

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