

St. Charles Borromeo Holy Family Service Center
Lankershim Blvd at Moorpark St., North Hollywood, CA (818) 985-7365

MISSION STATEMENT

The St. Charles Borromeo Service Center, following the command of the gospel, is committed to serve, with compassion and care, the unemployed, low income, and homeless in our community

History & Organization

The Center opened its doors in 1984 and is fully operated by over 50 dedicated volunteers, many with bilingual skills. St. Charles Borromeo Church provides the wheelchair accessible site and pays for the utilities and building maintenance. Service is provided free of discriminations, including those based on race, political or religious beliefs. Clients must provide identification for themselves and their children and proof of address within the service area of Laurel Canyon on the west, Oxnard Boulevard on the north, Hollywood Way on the east, and Mulholland Drive on the south. This area includes many pockets of low-income housing and parks with homeless populations. Out of area requests are served once and referred to a center closer to their residence.

Service

Volunteers provide service on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 9:00 — 11:45 A.M. Eligible clients receive free food, clothing, toiletries, books, toys, furniture, and other household items. Pregnant women are provided layettes and other available infant care items.

The Center distributes a balanced selection of food including eggs, which are rarely offered by other food banks. Food is donated by parishioners, parish organizations, the Postal Workers' Collection, and the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank. Additional food required to meet clients' nutritional needs is purchased using contributions from parishioners, parish organizations, Lenten Soup Night donations, and the Thanksgiving collection.

Funding

The Center relies on the hard work and dedication of volunteers, contributions from parishioners, parish organizations like the Italian Catholic Federation, Lenten Soup Night donations, the Thanksgiving collection, the annual Postal Workers' Collection and other friends. USDA free and low cost food from the Regional Food Bank is the Center's only government support.

Evaluation

While the transient nature of our clientele makes evaluation difficult, a liaison in the area keeps contact with the clients and referrals are given on request. The volunteers have developed relationships with some of the families and inquire about their progress and needs. The feedback is used to evaluate, update and improve the Center's services whenever possible. Many clients express their sincere thanks and appreciation giving the volunteers a sense of satisfaction for their service.

How Can You Serve

Volunteer your time. Contribute clothing and foodstuffs. Financial assistance is always welcome.