



CHILDREN OF THE IMMACULATE HEART



Hearts of The Holy Family by Natalia Zieba-Busconi

June 2021 Newsletter

Dear Friends in Christ,

Sex trafficking is the second largest illegal industry worldwide and the fastest growing. Here in the United States, the average age of entry into “the life”, as it is often called by those in it, is 14-16 years of age. Traffickers prey on young girls who are starving for love, who have often suffered childhood abuse or familial neglect. Because of their unmet need for love and affection, these girls can become easy targets for men who provide shelter, shower them with gifts, give the girls complements, and pay attention to them in so many other ways. This grooming process enables them to forge disordered bonds before taking advantage of them.

Sadly, these children are on the receiving end of so many of the evils of our society. The rise in sex trafficking is directly linked and dependent upon the abortion industry, the widespread acceptance of contraception, pornography, and the breakdown of the family, to name a few. Pope St. John Paul II when he was Bishop of Krakow, wrote a philosophical work called *Love and Responsibility* in which he wrote that the opposite of love, when it comes to the relationship between man and woman, is not hatred, but use. We clearly see this corrupted behavior in sex trafficking – the victim is used by the trafficker for money and by the buyer for a moment of fleeting pleasure.

The damage this use does, especially over a long period of time, is substantial and consequential.

Here at Children of the Immaculate Heart, we place the person at the core of our programs in the effort to restore a sense of self-worth and dignity to those who come to us. All we do is centered around the central purpose of helping them to believe in love – and ultimately in the love of the Eternal Father for each one of them. Thank you for helping us make this work possible!

Yours in Christ,



Grace Williams
Executive Director/ President

A Light in the Darkness

Dear CIH Community,

With so much darkness in the world, I have been reassured time and time again by God's grace. Through His providence, He has brought light into the lives of those entrusted into our care.

After seeking an opportunity to work at a local charity, my friend Madeleine Trissell invited me to volunteer at CIH's 2020 Annual Gala. As the expression goes, the rest is history.

I have witnessed supporters be moved here and around the world by our mission and the work we are doing. Since last May, the Minors Program secured its provisional license, completed staff training, and has been serving youth survivors since September. For the St. Bakhita's Adult Program, the women have made tremendous strides in many arenas. Seeing our supporters' prayers and contributions bear fruit for the ladies and girls has been awe inspiring.

To see donations come in from all over the country, and even in the United Kingdom, Australia, and Canada has been a source of light for our apostolate. Watching people give to the first phase of the Keep The Refuge Capital Campaign that raised \$140k to close escrow, securing the property title and the loan to finance the purchase come together, was an act of God. With uncertainty looming in the shadows, I am hopeful that through Christ, our programs may continue to be a source of light to those who have suffered in the darkness.

God Bless,

Cody Thompson

Development Associate/Office Manager



CIH 2021 SUMMER BARBECUE



Event Highlights:

Recreation- Soccer, Ultimate Frisbee, Volleyball, Corn Hole, and More
Talks- Program Updates/
Spiritual Talk
Food & Drink- Catered Meal & Bar
Prayer- Walking Rosary

When: Saturday, June 26th
12pm-4pm

Where: Private Field
10011 Pino Drive
Lakeside, CA 92040

Ticket 0-3 Free

Price: 4-15 Years Old \$10
16 & Above \$30

Ticket Purchase

Website: www.ciheart.org/events

QR Code: Scan Below





St. Bakhita's Survivors

Get to know the women in our
Adult Program!

Name: Christina*

What is your dream job?

To become a child case worker for children who come from a background like me.

Do you have any kids?

Yes I have three children. My oldest son will be eleven this month. He's such a great kid, very outgoing, and he helps me so much with his younger siblings. I also have a seven year old that loves doing hair and make up. My last child is five and he has such a sweet personality.

Explain where you are in life right now.

Right now in life I've learned it's okay to speak up. I've had problems with that for so long. I've been silent due to my past. Not anymore, I'm not scared to let my story be known. I'm now in therapy and am also going to school, where I plan to graduate this November.

How have you benefitted by being in the Adult Program?

I learned that it's okay to be me. I'm not afraid to talk about my past and I have a voice now thanks to CIH. I'm also getting the help I need.

What inspires you most?

My children inspire me to become a better person.

*For privacy of survivor's identity, her name has been changed.

A Holistic Approach to Healing: The Five Pillars of The Adult Program

Physical
Health

Mental
Health

Survivor

Education

Finance

Spiritual
Health
(Optional)



Summer Volunteer Opportunities



Minors Program at The Refuge

Tentative Home Maintenance Dates

June 5th, June 19th, July 10th, July 24th, August 14th, and August 28th

Dates will be confirmed at the end of the prior month.

Please visit our social media pages or www.ciheart.org/volunteer.

Want to volunteer with us?

We invite you to complete our Volunteer Survey, which you will find linked below.

Upon completion of the Volunteer Survey, Sarah Beveridge, our Volunteer Coordinator, will contact you to match your talents with our needs, and keep you apprised of ongoing volunteer opportunities.

www.ciheart.org/volunteer

Feast of The Sacred Heart Novena



Starting on June 2nd, we will be sending out daily emails with reflections for The Sacred Heart Novena.

If you are interested in praying with us, please email us at info@ciheart.org.

Interested in Donating?

Scan the QR codes below and help us in our ministry!

Or visit our website at www.ciheart.org/donate.



St. Bakhita's Adult Program



**Keep The Refuge
Capital Campaign**



General Donations

Contact Information

General Queries

info@ciheart.org

619-431-5537

Social Media

Instagram: @childrenoftheimmaculateheart

Facebook: Children of The Immaculate Heart

Mailing Address

Children of the Immaculate Heart

P.O. Box 13954

San Diego, CA 92170