



Children of the Immaculate Heart

Restore All Things in Christ - Serving Survivors of Human Trafficking

Message from the President

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Blessed Lent! What a Lent it has been for us here at Children of the Immaculate Heart. Many of you have followed the progress of our lawsuit with great interest, which has been a real consolation to us, knowing how many people really desire to see The Refuge open and commercially sexually exploited children served in a residential program that upholds the dignity of the human person and that will be a place of healing for youth who are much in need of a place to grow and heal.

Just yesterday, we went with our attorneys from the Freedom of Conscience Defense Fund – Paul Jonna, Jeffrey Trissell, and Daniel Piedra – to mediation with the State to try to work through the issues with the help of Hon. Irma Gonzalez, retired United States federal judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of California. Mediation is cloaked in privilege, so we have to keep the proceedings of the day confidential; however, we are very happy to announce that we made progress towards resolving the issues in a way that makes us very hopeful about the future of The Refuge! Please join us in giving thanks to God for His abundant goodness. This morning all I could think was, “What shall I return to the LORD for all his bounty to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD, I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people” (Psalm 116:12-14). It seems there is nothing I can do to thank either our attorneys, Hon. Gonzalez, or our Blessed Lord enough, so I can only offer God to God, the Eternal Son to the Eternal Father!

May all things continue to proceed in accordance with His perfect will, who also wills our struggle in order to bestow on us a greater glory...



*CIH Staff on Mediation Day
(Grace Williams, Christian Lovetere, Jenna Christakis and Amy Sorensen)*

March 2020

In the meantime, things continue to grow with our program for women with children coming out of sex trafficking – St. Bakhita’s Program. 2019 was full of growth and success amid the struggles for the beautiful women we have the privilege of assisting:

- 4 clients and their children moved into new apartments and in stable housing
- 3 major surgeries/hospitalizations/ medical expenses covered
- 1 client received her US citizenship
- 6 out of 7 clients are now working or in school full or part-time
- 1 client was able to reunify with her child
- 3 clients working on vacating their past records
- 3 clients obtained valid driver’s licenses/permits

Thank you for all you do to help make this possible! We certainly could not do it without your support. In April we will be getting a new client with a three-month old baby and one of our current clients just gave birth last week, so we appreciate your support as the CIH family continues to grow! To God be the glory!

Yours in Christ,

Grace Williams

President of Children of the Immaculate Heart

2020 GALA RESULTS



Thank you to all who attended our 7th Annual Charity Gala & Silent Auction! The event was a great success, and we enjoyed hosting such a wonderful group of family and friends. Thanks to your generosity, we were able raise:

— \$28,500 —

for survivors of human-trafficking! It was our most successful Gala to-date, and it would not have been possible without you all. May God reward you for your kindness!

A big thank you must be given to our guest speakers: Paul Jonna, our attorney from the FCDF, Cy Kellet as our Master of Ceremonies, and Chris Check, President of Catholic Answers, as our keynote speaker. If you could not attend our gala or if you did attend, but would like a video of Chris' talk, a copy is available for those who donated at the Gala or for those who donate \$50 after the fact. You can also become a monthly donor! If you send in a donation of at least \$50 or become a monthly donor via the response card in this newsletter and include your email, we will send you a link to the talk.



Needed In-Kind Donations

Adult Program

- Space heaters (4)
- Dressers
- Pull out couch
- Gift cards
- Hygiene products
- Diapers: Newborn
- Real estate
- 8 seat car for a client
- 5 seat car for a client
- Cleaning products
- Household supplies
- Furniture
- School supplies
- Laptops
- Non-perishable food

Minor's Program

- Real estate
- Alarm clocks (3)
- White board cleaner
- Microfiber towels
- Laundry detergent
- Dish soap
- Duffel bags (5)
- DVD Player



CHILDREN OF THE IMMACULATE HEART
Presents



Spring

Wine & Beer Tasting

Fundraiser

Support Victims of Human Trafficking

Saturday

May 16, 2020

6:30PM ~ 9:00PM

\$50

Admission

Hosted By

Claire Reiss

at her residence in La Jolla

www.childrenoftheimmaculateheart.org

RSVP through Eventbrite Today!

<https://cihspring.eventbrite.com>

Or call our office at (619) 431-5537

Little House in the Parish Coin Drive



If you participated in our coin drive and would like to return your blue house, please do so at your parish office or at St. Anne's Parish office at 2337 Irving Ave. , San Diego CA 92113

Interested in having CIH come do our coin drive at your parish? Contact our office for more info!



Children of the Immaculate Heart has a meal train for our weekly women's group. We hold a support/development group for our clients every week, giving them the opportunity to be together, support each other, and grow in their personal development. If you are interested in cooking for our ladies, please visit this link!

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/q3nk71>

Car Donation Program

Please consider donating your vehicle to CIH! *Car Easy* will come pick up your car, boat, or trailer whether it is running or not!

Cars can be donated from anywhere in the country. To start the process just call

855-500-7433 or type

<http://careasy.org/details?4567>

into your web browser. Proceeds go to support our programs!

Contact Information

Officemanager.cih@gmail.com

www.childrenoftheimmaculateheart.org

facebook.com/childrenoftheimmaculate

P.O. Box 13954

San Diego, CA 92170

619-431-5537

