



# CHILDREN OF THE IMMACULATE HEART

~ SERVING SURVIVORS OF SEX-TRAFFICKING SINCE 2013 ~

Dear Friends in Christ,

A very happy Thanksgiving to you and all of your loved ones! Please be assured of the prayers and gratitude from all of us at Children of the Immaculate Heart for your support of our work. It is a beautiful time of year to reflect on the many blessings God has given us throughout the last year! To name a few of the many things we are grateful for:

- The Refuge has been open for over a year now.
- We celebrated our 8th anniversary as an organization this past October!
- In the past year, we have served 11 teenage girls at the Refuge, planting seeds in the Lord's vineyard.
- Several of our adult clients are on track to graduate from the program next year.
- Our staff has grown significantly and there are now 25 of us working together for the souls of trafficked teens and women in our community!

As we look forward to 2022, the following passage comes to mind: "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves" (Luke 10:2-3). Despite our growth in staff size, we are still understaffed in both of our programs, and there are so many lost souls right here in our community who need our help! These children are like the people of Nineveh, for whom God expressed his paternal care when he asked Jonah, "And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?" (Jonah 4:11).



# KEEP THE REFUGE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

We want to be God's instruments of mercy for these suffering souls and we are so grateful to you all for making this possible. We cannot do this without our benefactors. As we move into Advent, Christmas, and the New Year, I would like to humbly ask you to consider making a year-end gift to help the trafficking victims we serve. Our Lord once said to St. Teresa of Calcutta, "Come, be my light." When I first heard that, I thought it was Mother Teresa asking Jesus to be her light. You cannot imagine how moved I was when I realized it was Jesus asking her to be His light - to go into places of darkness and despair and to bring His love. I believe this is also what Jesus asks of us at Children of the Immaculate Heart. We strive, despite our weakness and fragility, or more precisely, because of our weakness and smallness, to be a light in the darkness for Him. Will you join us?

Every Wednesday our staff pray the rosary together, remembering especially the needs of all those who support our work. Please pray for us as well!

Yours in Christ,



Grace Williams Lionello  
President/Executive Director

In January 2021, with your generous help, we purchased The Refuge - the property that houses our residential therapeutic program for teenage survivors of sex trafficking.

However, CIH must pay off the mortgage! Our goal for this quarter is to reduce the \$850,000 we still owe on the loan by \$100,000. As an incentive, some of our generous benefactors have pulled their resources together for a matching grant of \$20,000. They will match your fund until November 30th, so **double the impact of your donation today** and Keep The Refuge's future!

To donate towards the Matching Grant,

- Call us: (619)431-5537
- Visit us:  
[ChildrenOfTheImmaculateHeart.org/KeepTheRefuge](https://ChildrenOfTheImmaculateHeart.org/KeepTheRefuge)
- Mail your donation to:  
Children of the Immaculate Heart  
P.O. Box 13954  
San Diego, CA 92170



C.A.R.S. ("Charitable Adults Rides and Services) will accept any car donation.

- Select CIH as the non-profit of choice,
- Call or donate online:
  - (855)500-7433
  - <https://careasy.org/nonprofit/Children-of-the-Immaculate-Heart>.
- Schedule your pick up.



It is of particular benefit to donate appreciated assets (prior to their sale) for your income tax return. CIH partners with the Catholic Community Foundation of San Diego (CCFSD) to accept Stocks, Bonds, Life Insurance, Real Estate, Retirement Accounts and more. The designation at CCFSD for us is "chil". For more details, contact Ryan Douglas of CCFSD, at [rdouglas@ccfsd.org](mailto:rdouglas@ccfsd.org), or by phone at (858) 397-9703. For all other questions, please email Judy at CIH at [cih.bookkeepers@gmail.com](mailto:cih.bookkeepers@gmail.com). Thank you so much!