

Dear Friends of the SA Catholic Worker House



By Faith Fisher. CWH volunteer

This year has really flown by! CWH is still alive and well and serving 3 meals per day to about 120 guests in strong partnership with Traveling Loaves and Fishes (St. Marks the Evangelist). TLF has been coming to CWH faithfully every weekday without fail...for the past 12 years!!! ...always bearing gifts of food for breakfasts and lunches and then they also serve hot suppers under the bridge. We are also so appreciative of our ongoing donors and providers of meals (Augie's BBQ, Whole Foods, Trader Joe's, HEB, San Antonio Academy, and many others). Also thanks to Mary, Marilyn, Dee (SA-CWH Founder), Leslie and Darci who continue to cook side dishes every week for us so that our guests have a well rounded meal with lots of healthy veggies. And many thanks to long standing resident volunteers, Robert (7y), Anthony (5y), Neito (~4y), and Ruben (~4y) and our everyday volunteers...Mary (5y) and John Paul (1+y)....Vonnie, Marilyn, Claudia, and Mitchel two day/wk.

This year, due to an out of state donor, we have been able to provide some dental care scholarships. We are deeply grateful for our partners and for our long-time supporters. We couldn't continue to serve without your help! volunteers, and many others who come in for one day each week: Sr Nora, Sr Theresa and Sr Lam, Steve, Hector, Winston, Faith, Anna, and Kevin. Thanks to our ongoing supply donors, especially Donna and Brett who bear many needed supplies every week!!! And many thanks just yesterday, for the HUGE donations from Our Lady of Perpetual Help.....a truck full of all much needed items....blankets, socks, underwear, t-shirts, shampoo, toothbrushes/paste, deodorant....and much more!!! The OLPH Knights also brought us another truck full of jackets and blankets...so we are really ready for cold weather!!!!

We finally were able to re-open re-opened our dining hall after almost 2 years closed due to COVID restrictions...we are showing **The Chosen** on our movie screen. We also are still providing hygiene supplies (and still need those hotel sized items), underwear, socks, gloves, jackets and blankets, free laundry service and we are the "post office" for about 2000 guests who otherwise have no address. New this year, due to an out of state donor, we have been able to provide some dental care scholarships. We are deeply grateful for our partners and for our long-time supporters. We couldn't continue to serve without your help!

Memorial Service
Wednesday, December 21st (Longest Night of the Year)
Milam Park at 7 PM



This is the Memorial Service sponsored by SAMMinistries for those who have died in 2022 while experiencing homelessness. CWH was fortunate this year in that only two of our guests passed unto new life.

Christmas Mass and Brunch



Sunday, December 25th
Mass at 10:00 AM. Brunch afterwards.

We would greatly appreciate ANY food that you might like to donate to make this meal a special one. Some ideas: tamales, cooked hams, turkeys or chicken, any type of casserole or sides, orange juice, chips and dips, pasta dish, or anything that you would like!!! Just remember, we do not have a stove, so please bring only fully cooked items. We do have a great commercial warmer to keep items hot.

A Special Christmas Season Request!!!

The restaurants that we rely on for our main courses and sides will not be able to donate food during the holiday season. Additionally, the wonderful volunteers who have been cooking for us one day per week so that we have a full hot meal every day deserve to take some time off too for travel and family. So we are requesting (begging 😊) entrees, casseroles, and sides (cold ones are good too, like potato salad) that are fully cooked. ANYTHING would be a wonderful blessing. We are hoping that Monday through Thursday for those two weeks will be like a potluck!! If you don't have time to cook, ready to eat (fully cooked) store bought family packages (e.g. lasagna, casseroles, a rotisserie chicken or two, etc.) are great too. We can warm them. Just drop them off (cold or warm) between 7:30 and 11 AM Monday thru Thursday or between 8:30 and 10:30 on Friday. If you want to coordinate, just call or text 210 274 8884.

Ongoing Needs:

If you want to provide some of our ongoing needs:

- gloves
- sugar, creamer,
- individual bags of chips, peanut butter crackers or nuts
- granola bars,
- fruit, juice, yogurt,
- canned or frozen veggies or cooked sides,
- styrofoam coffee cups (sorry Mother Earth) - 10 or 12 oz
- napkins, paper plates.
- men's underwear – especially size medium
- travel size lotion

Towne Twin Village Progress (Photos from the Fall...tiny homes now painted!)

We are excited to report that Towne Twin Village hopes to open its doors to the first residents in early February 2023! Phase 1 includes 36 tiny houses and 24 RV permanent RV trailers. Move in will be in a step-wise fashion and targeting the most vulnerable first. Additionally, three community buildings, the Transportation Hospitality Pavillion, the Chapel-Multipurpose Building and the Laundry are very near completion. Roads, sidewalks and landscaping are in progress. Finally, the new Dorothy Day House of Hospitality at Towne Twin Village has been permitted and ground breaking should take place in late 2022!



Tiny House Clusters
12-14 units/cluster
~ 500 sq ft
ADA bathrooms

Central gazebo
with picnic
tables and grill



Hospitality Pavilion TLF Suppers



Small Kitchen and Serving Counter
Bathrooms and Water Fountains
Perimeter Ba with Charging Stations
Wide Screen TV
Front Shaded Picnic Area for TFL



Outdoor Chapel
with activity wings and
amphitheater



Meet Darci ... our new CWH Guardian Angel



Darci appeared out of nowhere this past year consistently visits us twice a week. She cooks sides for CWH ... her speciality is the delicious cinnamon butter sweet potatoes ... and lots of boiled eggs. She also brings us weekly supplies and lots of chocolate candies for our guest on special holidays.

Surprise Visit....Blast (well TWO blasts) From The Past !!!

Carol Abbado and two extended families from Wisconsin visited CWH on different occasions about a month apart. Their grandparents, Julio & Mary Garcia, lived at 626 Nolan between 1960 and 1980... **before** the original Catholic Worker House opened next door at 622 Nolan in 1985. Their grandmother always had a pot of beans on the stove and made fresh tortillas for those who were homeless and stopped by for a bite to eat. It was her special loving ministry. Her grandchildren pictured below helped her cook and serve when they visited her. They loved going thru the house and reminiscing how the rooms "used to be layed out" when they lived there.



Surprise Visit....The Second Blast From The Past !!!

More relatives.....all with very fond memories of 626 Nolan



SAC students from the Campus Ministry program, headed by Joseph, have been volunteering and serving every other Friday morning. They also decorated our year-around tree with their own art work and sponsor blanket, backpack and goodie bag drives and distribute them monthly to our guests. A very special thank you to Joseph who adopted CH during the summer and made a promise to his Lord that he would bless us every single day....and he did....and oh my, numerous supplies and wonderful homemade food using his grandmother's recipes!!!



Salvador and Sonya and their hard working group from St John Newman Catholic Church came on a Saturday and totally spruced up the CWH courtyard.....sanding and repainting all of the picnic tables, power washing the fiberglass umbrellas and sidewalks and many other things. Everything looked so much brighter and more cheerful.



After gathering for a “Project Complete!!” photo, Salvador and Sonya offered to have their youth group come and volunteer the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. They provided delicious chili-cheese dogs and all the fixins and sides. Sal and Sonya have been consistently doing this several times for many years.



The youth group from St. Mary's Catholic Church volunteer a couple of times each year and bring lots of goodies for the meal. They also packed up bagged lunches for distribution under the bridge.



For years, Karen Pritt and the Women Knights of Columbus from St. Helena's Catholic Church on Labor and Memorial Days provide a hamburger/hot dog cook off and all the fixings ... plus lots of socks and other goodies! They go ALL out for our guests!