



St. Francis
community services
SOUTHSIDE CENTER



**Adopt a Family
2019!**

October 25, 2019

Dear Friend,

At St. Francis Community Services, we see the holiday season as a significant opportunity to build relationships between and among community members, especially integrating and connecting the wider community with the immigrant families we serve. This year, we have been heartbroken over the intensity of hatred towards immigrants in our nation while we continue to be encouraged by the kindness and welcome that members of our local community have shown towards our clients. However, we know there is always more to do.

We all have power to honor the dignity of others in ways large and small. One of these ways is through our Adopt a Family for Christmas Program. If you would like to participate by adopting a family at our Southside location this holiday season, please complete and return the attached Donor Registration Form. We will send you information by November 8th about a specific immigrant family in St. Louis, including an introduction to the family, written by the family themselves. Then we will see you in mid-December when you drop off gifts at our site. Like last year, we are also seeking partners this year who will send Schnucks gift cards to provide our Vietnamese Elders with some help for a special holiday dinner. This option works well for those people who cannot adopt a whole family but still want to be involved.

We hope that through St. Francis' Adopt a Family, you will find joy in the experience of joining with another family in spirit during the holiday season. We also hope that this connection will be a stepping stone towards greater involvement with immigrants in our community and protection of immigrant rights, whether that is through our agency or another one of the providers in the greater St. Louis area.

Thank you for being a part of what makes our community so great at the holiday and throughout the rest of the year—coming together to honor the best in each other. We can't wait to meet you or see you again this December!

Sincerely,

Meredith L. Rataj
Site Director