



St. Francis
community services
SOUTHSIDE CENTER



October 26, 2016

Dear Friend of St. Francis Community Services,

It is with great pleasure that I report that the Southside location of St. Francis Community Services has finally moved in to its new, permanent home! We are still located on the campus of St. John the Baptist, but we are now in a space that allows us to better meet the needs of the hundreds of Spanish- and Vietnamese-speaking immigrant families that we serve each year. We are serving more clients with more services—for example, over 60 children are playing soccer with us after school—which means we have more families than ever that could use your help to feel welcomed as part of the community this holiday season!

St. Francis Community Services invites you to be involved with our families in a variety of ways this year:

- Participate in the Adopt a Family for Christmas program. If you would like to adopt a family at Southside this holiday season, please complete and return the attached Donor Registration Form as soon as possible. Once we hear from you, we will send you information about a specific immigrant family in the community, including their needs as well as their introduction of their family to you.
- Volunteer at our Christmas Party for Southside families on Thursday, December 8th, anytime between 4:00 pm and 7:30 pm. You can run a game or craft booth (we will have activities prepared) or you can help with set-up, serving food, or clean-up. Santa will be greeting children at 6:00 pm. Email me if you would like to sign up. This is a great opportunity to meet and serve St. Francis families.
- Volunteer to distribute Adopt a Family gifts to the families coming to pick up their presents at the agency on December 15th any time between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm and December 16th between 9:00 am and 7:00 pm. If you can carry large bags of gifts up and down stairs and help our families get them into their cars—or maybe you would like to greet people to wish them a happy holiday—contact me for more information.

We are excited to know that we will get to see so many of our regular donors again this year, and we look forward to meeting those donors who are new to our Adopt a Family program. We hope that the volunteer opportunities provide a way for you to feel even more connected to the families and for them to feel connected to you!

Sincerely,

Meredith L. Rataj
Site Director