



ANNUAL REPORT 2018



St. Francis
community services

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MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

When Jesus Christ described the Final Judgment, He left no doubt about how all of us will be held accountable before God. "For I was hungry, and you gave me food...a stranger and you welcomed me..." (Matthew 25:35:40).

There are no asterisks. No fine print. No hints that some people in need are less worthy than others because of their circumstances.

At St. Francis Community Services, we strive to live up to the teachings of Jesus. If someone needs assistance – whether he or she is grappling with a legal problem, suffering from an emotional scar, or struggling to pay the rent – we do our best to respond. We embrace people who often are scorned because they have little education, never held a job, or do not speak English.

With our guidance, over time, many of our clients build upon their considerable inner

strengths to achieve a better life. Their stories and our work are documented in this report.



**AT ST. FRANCIS
COMMUNITY SERVICES,
WE STRIVE TO LIVE UP
TO THE TEACHINGS OF
JESUS.**

Moreover, this document testifies to the inspiring support we have received from you and others in helping "the least of our brothers." With humble hearts, we sincerely thank you for recognizing Jesus in the people we serve and blessing them with your compassion!



Karen Wallensak
Executive Director

Karen Wallensak



Marina A. Cahill
Board President

Marina A. Cahill

SUPPORTING HOLISTIC CHANGE

When Pathways to Progress member, "Judy," first enrolled, she was working a patchwork of temporary jobs, yet still couldn't afford the cost of housing, utilities, food, and essentials for her children. Our staff worked with her on job skills, budgeting and goal setting. Last Spring, Judy secured a full-time position at a local hospital, where she is learning new skills and earns a living wage – one that can stretch to cover her expenses. In addition, she has new-found confidence and improved self-esteem. Best of all, Judy and the children were able to move into better housing and are working toward a brighter future.



50
families were
enrolled in north
county initiative,
Pathways to Progress

89.6%
households enrolled in
Pathways to Progress
maintained or improved their
socioeconomic stability

140
households received
long-term assistance
to recover from
flooding and
tornados

The flood waters came quickly. But for elderly couple "Jesse and Marian," recovering from the damage was a long, slow process. In the Spring of 2017, nearly four feet of water filled their home, and forced them to move into their car on higher ground for several days until relatives took them in. After a month with relatives, Jesse and Marian settled into an apartment. But, apartment living was not for them; they longed for home. So, Jesse began to clean and gut their house for reconstruction. Then more bad news: Jesse was diagnosed with stomach cancer, and he couldn't continue the reconstruction on his own. Despite lots of red tape, our Disaster Case Manager was able to secure not only funding for the work, but also a team of volunteers to help. This senior couple moved back in this summer. As Jesse recovers from a recent surgery, he is finding comfort in being able to recuperate at home.

Financials

Unaudited financial statements as of June 30, 2018
July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

INCOME* \$2,655,028

25% FOUNDATIONS
20% CONTRIBUTIONS
18% ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS
17% CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF ST. LOUIS
9% GOVERNMENT
5% UNITED WAY
4% CATHOLIC CHARITIES USA
2% FEES/SERVICES/OTHER

EXPENSES** \$2,494,416

90%
COMMUNITY
PROGRAMS

10% MANAGEMENT
+ FUNDRAISING

*Excludes non-cash gains from forgiveness of debt **Excludes gains from collecting overdue receivables

3,395

**Thanks to your help,
St. Francis Community Services
served 3,395 direct clients this year!**

HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE

"Diego" came to our bilingual tutoring program as a struggling reader. His parents spoke very little English, and couldn't help Diego with his homework. His academic struggles made him feel embarrassed, and he hated attending school. The youth program staff at St. Francis were patient and understanding. Soon, they saw Diego's passion for art, and restructured his lessons. Time to draw and color after each lesson not only motivated him, but also helped him concentrate. By the end of the school year, Diego had increased his reading level, his confidence, and his interest in learning. He is thriving in our program and at school!



NEW LIFE & A HOPEFUL FUTURE

94.6%

of clients rated
SFCS services as
satisfactory

927

area children were
served through
SFCS programs

1,422

Hispanic/Latino
individuals received
help from SFCS

62.7%

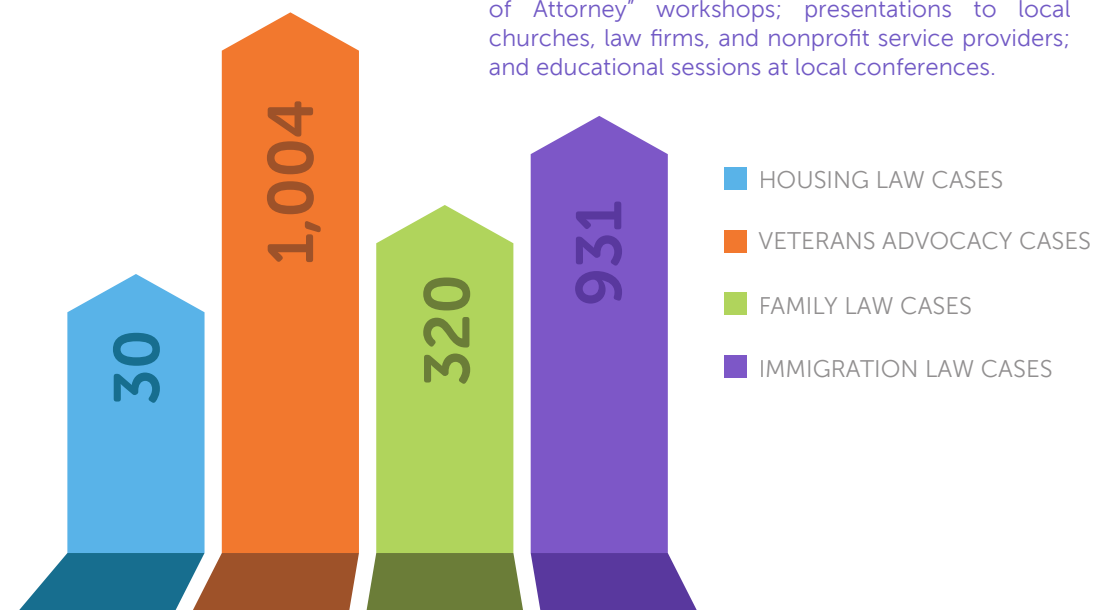
of SFCS clients
were living below
the poverty level

"Denise," an Army Veteran, had a plan for her future. She was putting herself through school to become an electrician when abuse in her home escalated. The downward spiral that followed included homelessness, job loss, traffic tickets she couldn't pay, warrants, and a suspended driver's license. Her future looked bleak. She was referred to the Veterans Advocacy Project at our Legal Assistance Ministry location for help. Our attorneys worked to have the warrants recalled, her license reinstated, and her court cases disposed. This cleared the way for her to finish her training, obtain stable housing, and begin a job as an electrician.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Staff attorneys represented clients in a total of **2,285** court cases.

Program staff within immigration law and immigrant services increased their impact with a total of 24 community outreach sessions throughout the year. Among these, they conducted legal clinics for potential clients; "Know Your Rights" and "Power of Attorney" workshops; presentations to local churches, law firms, and nonprofit service providers; and educational sessions at local conferences.



- HOUSING LAW CASES
- VETERANS ADVOCACY CASES
- FAMILY LAW CASES
- IMMIGRATION LAW CASES



The Immigrant Youth Program at our Southside location reached an all-time high in enrollment at 145 children. The program introduced some exciting new components during the year, including an upgraded iPad-based tutoring curriculum and classes in computer coding and bicycle building.

IMMIGRANT YOUTH PROGRAM



Immigration attorneys represented clients in 931 cases last year. They worked in areas such as DACA renewal, asylum, naturalization, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, and applications for victims of crimes and trafficking.

IMMIGRATION LAW



Bilingual staff therapists provided mental health counseling to 99 children and 46 adults during a total of 991 sessions. They worked primarily with Latino/a clients, most of whom have experienced significant trauma before, during, and after their journeys to the United States.

BILINGUAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING



The Vietnamese Health Clinic saw 107 patients in the past year. This initiative, a partnership with Institute for Family Medicine, provides primary care and case management. Many of the patients who call our clinic home are elderly, have chronic conditions, and require assistance navigating language and cultural barriers.

VIETNAMESE HEALTH CLINIC



In February 2018, St. Francis staff therapists began seeing clients on a weekly basis at a new site—partner organization Casa de Salud's Mental Health Collaborative. In addition to this location, they continued to provide bilingual counseling to clients on-site and at schools and churches throughout St. Louis.

NEW COLLABORATIONS

SPOTLIGHT ON IMMIGRANT SERVICES

ST. FRANCIS CONTINUED TO OFFER LIFE-CHANGING BILINGUAL SERVICES FOR IMMIGRANT CHILDREN & ADULTS.

We first represented "Tomás" in 2013-2014 in removal proceedings, where he was granted asylum. The next step for him was legal permanent residency, for which he could file as early as 2015. But Tomás was waylaid by a serious injury. He was unable to get to our offices, and, even worse, he was out of work and facing surgeries. Our staff worked with him through all of his difficulties, and, finally, in April 2018, we helped him obtain permanent residency. Recently, our legal staff helped him bring his wife to the U.S. from his home country. Even more good news: Tomás will be eligible to file for citizenship in 2022. Already, he's begun studying for the civics test!

Thanks to generous funding from the William T. Kemper Foundation, SFCS was able to install a central AC system for the 2nd floor classrooms at the Southside Center in Spring 2018. This allows for year-round use of this space and more services to the immigrant population.



seeds of HOPE

SEEDS OF HOPE 2018

We've found that early June is a great time to plant Seeds of Hope. Our third annual summer gala was the most successful yet, with more than 350 guests, 26 sponsors, and more than \$105,000 (net) raised for the thousands of poor and marginalized men, women and children served by St. Francis Community Services.

The memorable evening, hosted by Chester Lampkin, of the KSDK weather team, featured auctions, raffles, cocktails and dinner, special entertainment from the Our Lady of Guadalupe Dancers, the debut of a brief video about SFCS, and presentation of the Instrument of Peace Award to Fr. Christopher Collins, S.J. of Saint Louis University. It was a fun and profitable event!

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 8, 2019

THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 GALA SPONSORS!

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THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

JULY 1, 2017 TO JUNE 30, 2018

\$25,000 & OVER

Archdiocese of St. Louis
Berges Family Foundation
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Daughters of Charity
Foundation of St. Louis
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Lutheran Foundation of St. Louis
Saint Louis Mental Health Board
St. Louis County Children's Service Fund
The Tilles Foundation
United Way of Greater St. Louis
William T. Kemper Foundation

\$10,000 TO \$24,999

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\$5,000 TO \$9,999

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\$2,500 TO \$4,999

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2018 ANNUAL REPORT ♦ www.sfcstl.org

JOIN OUR MISSION!

Thousands of vulnerable and marginalized individuals seek help from SFCS each year. Your support provides them hope for achieving a better tomorrow. Your fully tax-deductible gift can be made with the attached envelope or online at: sfcstl.org/donate

OUR SITES

CATHOLIC LEGAL ASSISTANCE MINISTRY

Providing legal aid, advocacy, outreach, and equal access to justice for the vulnerable and marginalized.

100 N. Tucker Blvd, Ste. 726
St. Louis, MO 63101

SOUTHSIDE CENTER

Supporting and strengthening immigrant families throughout the region by addressing immediate needs and systemic issues.

4222 Delor St.
St. Louis, MO 63116

LONG-TERM DISASTER RECOVERY

Assisting survivors of natural disaster in returning their lives to normal through long-term case management.

4445 Lindell Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63108

PATHWAYS TO PROGRESS

Educating and empowering families in North St. Louis County through long-term case management, asset building, and resource coordination.

(St. Francis acts as lead agency in this Catholic Charities initiative)

10235 Ashbrook Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63137

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

4445 Lindell Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63108
sfcs@ccstl.org
www.sfcsstl.org



St. Francis

community services

4445 Lindell Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63108

Proud member of



St. Louis County
Children's Service Fund
Keeping Kids First



OUR MISSION

Practicing the teaching, compassion and love of Jesus Christ, St. Francis Community Services walks with our vulnerable neighbors to create opportunities, to build resiliency and to advocate for justice.

OUR VISION

St. Francis Community Services seeks to create an empowering community where everyone is valued.

OUR VALUES

Accountability
Courage
Diversity
Respect
Trust



Save the Date for next year's
St. Francis Community Services Gala

JUNE 8, 2019
Clayton Plaza Hotel