



Serving Christ by Serving Others
Episcopal Diocese of
Community Northern
Services California

Episcopal Community Services Newsletter Fall 2021



RECENT NEWS

Thank you for your financial support. This year we were able to fully fund all of our grant requests which totaled \$27,500. We also are very excited to announce a new award. The Episcopal Community Services' Bishop Megan's Transformer Award will honor congregations that are working to transform their communities for Christ. This award is given to a congregation that, despite its size, is able to be visible in their community. We will make the award at this year's convention.

The ECS Board of Directors would like to thank our donors for remembering ECS in their wills. Recently, ECS received a generous bequest to the Missionary Development Fund from Rev. David Cavanagh's estate. These large bequests allow the mission of outreach to the less fortunate in our parish communities to continue far into the future.

We are here to help! ECS board members are available as consultants or will help find consultants as you reach out to your community. We can put you in touch with people who started up projects much like you are thinking about. Do contact one of our Board members.

Check us out on our website at norcalecs.org and/or like us on Facebook at Episcopal Community Services of Northern California.

REFUGEE GARDEN BEDS

St. Andrews, Antelope, has eight substantial raised beds which they offer free of charge. In partnership with World Relief, a local refugee resettlement agency, the garden space is offered to resettling refugees to have plots in raised beds to grow healthy food for their families. St. Andrews was granted a \$3,000 Ministry Development Grant for refurbishing the beds, soil amendment, and irrigation.

HOPE'S SPACE AT ST. PAULS IN SACRAMENTO

offers spiritual care, companionship, and complementary forms of healing to persons receiving medical care from local healthcare providers. This ministry builds bridges of relationship with local healthcare systems and providers who want support in meeting the needs of their patients to integrate spirituality into their care. In the near future they will specifically offer spiritual support and programming to restore hope for local healthcare providers struggling after an extended period of prolonged stress due to COVID 19. Hope's Space was granted \$5,000 in year one of the three year Warren Dunning Memorial Social Justice Grant.

PROSPER PLACER, HELPING NEEDY FAMILIES SUCCEED

St. Lukes, Auburn was awarded a \$4,000 in their second year of the Warren Dunning Grant. Prosper Place served 26 families in 2020 and 18 in 2021 and hope to add 10 more families by the end of the year. They added a tutoring service for the children because they noticed the children were falling behind in school due to COVID restrictions. They also provide a module about Healthy Eating, Employment and Education. Each module is supported by speakers so the families receive practical help. For example, every participant will have a resume and a cover letter at the end of the Employment module.

For their Latino cohort they have developed an entrepreneurship module that meets their individual needs and offers them a perspective to gain economic stability despite their legal status.

In partnership with Faith Lutheran Church in Meadow Vista and Gracepoint in Rocklin, they also supported families with fresh food boxes and precooked dinners.

CAMP LIVING WATERS

A week-long overnight camp for kids 9-15; youth 16-18 serve as counselors and receive leadership training. The camp serves underprivileged youth, including those in foster care, kids with disabilities, and those who simply struggle in a formal academic setting. The grant funds will be used to purchase 4 new inflatable kayaks. St. Albans, Arcata, received \$800 from the Ministry Development Fund.

HEART AND HANDS PRESCHOOL

Heart and Hands Preschool, St. Luke's, Calistoga received a \$5,000 Ministry Development Grant to help provide bilingual teachers to work with Spanish-speaking children and their families. They must have a bilingual teacher present at the beginning of the day to communicate with parents, to talk with the children when they are new to the program (some come speaking only Spanish), and be present at the end of the day, as children are picked up by parents and grandparents. Fluent Spanish speakers are also necessary for parent conferences and/or telephone calls. There are newsletters and bulletins which must always be translated and presented in both English and Spanish.

ST. ANDREW'S LIGHTS

St. Andrews received a \$1000 Ministry Development Grant to provide meeting space for AA and NA groups, along with a youth dance group. St. Andrews is the only congregation in Corning that is willing to support these services. The grant also provides partial payment for utilities and building insurance.

LAND-BASED MINISTRY: GROWING A MORE EQUITABLE, PARTICIPATORY AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

The Church of St. Martins, Davis was awarded a \$5,000 Ministry Development grant to empower lay leadership at the church to work in partnership with several local and regional organization in order to learn the history of the land on which they pray, live and work. This project will be a key component of the church's mission of reconciliation and especially of any efforts to advance social justice. They intend to be a model program that other churches can use, with local adaptation, to develop their own land-based ministries. In addition, this program aligns well with two of the primary mission priorities of The Episcopal Church: racial reconciliation and creation care.

SUNDAY OPEN TABLE



The Church Of The Incarnation, Santa Rosa was awarded \$1,000 in the second year of the Barry Beisner Grant. This grant is given to projects that focus on human rights advocacy, human service or health programs, or lay leadership/empowerment programs. Sunday Open Table provides a hot breakfast and brown bag lunch for hungry neighbors at 6:30 am on

Sunday mornings. In the first year of this grant, Incarnation served 50 to 100 persons weekly with just a brown bag lunch because of the pandemic. They also expanded the program by adding clothing and hygiene product distribution.

Many of the volunteers for Sunday Open Table have traditionally been seniors. At the beginning of the pandemic, before vaccines were available, for the health of senior volunteers who needed to avoid large groups, a call went out for younger volunteers. Now there are more volunteers readily available for Sundays and the younger people of the church are enthusiastically involved. This year they are going to upgrade their equipment by adding sneeze guards and a long wished-for new reffridgerator.

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

All donations go directly to grants

Mail your donation to:

Episcopal Community Services
350 University Avenue, Suite 280
Sacramento, CA 95825

Or online at norcalecs.org/give

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