

Upcoming Event at St. Mary's Interfaith

Join us for **St. Mary's Interfaith Community Services 2012 Super Bowl Appreciation Luncheon** which supports our services and programs for some of Stockton's most vulnerable residents.

Thursday, January 12, 2012 | Noon-1pm
St. Mary's Interfaith Community Services - Dining Room
545 W. Sonora Street, Stockton, CA 95203

Lunch provided by ANGELINA's

RSVP at (209) 467-0703 to attend this event!

Super Bowl Champion Sponsors

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ST. MARY'S INTERFAITH COMMUNITY SERVICES

DECEMBER | WINTER | 2011

Fr. Alan McCoy, O.F.M. Dining Room
Virgil Gianelli M.D. Medical Clinic
St. Raphael's Dental Clinic
Kara Brewer Family Clothing & Hygiene Center
Head Start Pre-School Program
Social Services

COMMUNITY FOCUS

To serve the needs of financially burdened men, women and children by nurturing self-reliance by offering food, clothing, medical and dental care, educational programs, and general assistance, all leading to a hopeful future.

St. Mary's Changes Lives

"I wouldn't be where I am today if not for the staff and volunteers at St. Mary's Interfaith."



The work we do at St. Mary's Interfaith is driven by the generosity of our donors, volunteers and clients. Each of you is a constant reminder of why we work tirelessly for the mission of St. Mary's Interfaith- serving the needs of financially burdened men, women and children.

Sometimes reminders come in the form of letters, notes or cards. Other times it's a simple thank you said to a staff member. We wanted to share some of those moments to remind us all why our community gives to St. Mary's Interfaith, why you support our clients and why we all work so hard to better the lives of those in our community.

"I wouldn't be where I am today if not for the staff and volunteers at St. Mary's Interfaith." - John, St. Mary's Client

"I had a job, a home and I was doing pretty well. Then I got sick and the medical bills started coming in, bills I couldn't keep up

with and couldn't pay. After a while I ended up here. It's hard, but it would sure be a lot harder and a heck of a lot less hopeful if you all weren't around." - Susan, St. Mary's Client

"I appreciate what you have done for me and my family. One day I will help you when you need help." - Lisa, age 7, St. Mary's Client

The issues of homelessness, poverty, food and financial insecurity loom large, no doubt, but we have the voices of John, Susan, Lisa and many others to argue against the idea that they are insurmountable. We know this campus is a breeding ground for joy, achievement, self-worth, learning, and self-sufficiency.

We also know that it will take time to overcome the tremendous issues facing our community today, these things do not happen overnight, but they do happen. Each time we are able to support someone back to living rather than just surviving, we push back the negative forces that much farther.

We are a better community than the issues that plague us and those who come to St. Mary's Interfaith, whether as clients, staff, volunteers or donors, are proof of what the power of the human spirit has within it to achieve.





Community Services

Administrative Services

(209) 467-0703

Fax: (209) 467-7795

Mailing Address

545 W. Sonora St.
Stockton, CA 95203

Donations Drop Off

545 W. Sonora St.
Stockton, CA 95203

MONDAY-FRIDAY
7:30am-3:30pm

RSVP for a Tour

(209) 467-0703x3121

Request a Speaker

(209) 467-0703x3121

For more information regarding our services and programs, please visit our website at:
www.stmarysinterfaith.org
or email us at:
info@stmarysinterfaith.org

stmarysinterfaith.org

Many Thanks for Thanksgiving



St. Mary's Interfaith Community Services would like to thank all of the amazing donors, vendors and volunteers who helped to make our 56th annual Thanksgiving meal a tremendous success!

- 200 Thanksgiving Day Volunteers
- 50 Turkeys Carved
- 250 Pounds of Mashed Potatoes
- 800 Clients Served Thanksgiving Dinner

TOTAL IMPACT= 1,000 SMILING FACES

AND

FULL BELLIES BECAUSE OF YOUR CONTRIBUTION!



More Than Meals Tour

We invite you to join us for our More Than Just Meals Tour!

Experience and understand our mission first hand by visiting our programs and services. Tours are scheduled for the 2nd Thursday of every month from 11am-12pm.

This is purely an informational tour so please leave your checkbooks at home.

To RSVP for our next tour, please contact Selina Carreon, Director of Development, at (209) 467-0703 or SCarreon@stmarysinterfaith.org.

Reflections and New Beginnings

"Every new beginning comes from some other beginnings end." - Seneca

The end of a year and the beginning of a new one is always a chance for reflection and contemplation of our struggles, our triumphs, what we have done and what we still have left to accomplish. It was a difficult year for many in our community. We have continued to see the struggle of the unemployed, the toll of medical care on a family's finances and increasing difficulty of a person's ability to keep themselves out of hardship. We have seen the portrait of poverty change over the year to include the faces of children and families.

However in this year we have seen other things too; the small miracles that speak to the power of what a community can create when it comes together. We have seen the completion of our new warehouse, a building which allows us to store, keep and extend the life of donated food product, including produce and meat. This means we can offer a healthy meal to our clients while keeping our food costs low and offering our restaurant and food distributor donors' greater confidence that their donation will be utilized for the greatest good. We have had the opportunity to bring on more staff members which means that we are better able to provide our services and bring a more focused and individualized concept of care to our clients. We have also been blessed by the continued support of our donors who give generously and allow us to move forward in our mission and offer services and programs to an increasing number of people each year.

Whatever the highs and lows this next year will bring, we are confident that we will be able to better organize for it. We will continue to work with our community to support the needs of the homeless and working poor; men, women and children. Work for the self-sufficiency and empowerment of all the individuals and families who are in need of our services.

New Year's Resolutions

You have the opportunity to help change the world, starting right here in your own community. Call it a New Year's resolution, call it something to keep you busy on your day off, or call it a reason to improve your life. When you start making positive changes in your own life, it begins to ripple out in the community around you.

Here at St. Mary's Interfaith those ripple effects have the power to eradicate hunger, poverty and homelessness. When you starting making your New Year's resolutions list, keep in mind the opportunities to help right here in your own community at St. Mary's Interfaith.

We need your help in the following ways:

- Preparation, cooking, and serving of meals in our dining room
- Spanish speaking translators to work in our Social Services Program
- Medical professionals to staff our Dental and Medical Clinics
- Donations of clothes, socks, towels and blankets to our Clothing and Hygiene Center
- Our full needs list is posted online
- Your own unique service or talent that could support our clients and mission

Support the mission of St. Mary's Interfaith Community Services and you offer the chance to help change our community.



BECOME A VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Art Ramirez to learn more
ARamirez@stmarysinterfaith.org or 209-467-0703

Supporting Our Mission



Yes, I want to financially support St. Mary's Interfaith Community Services' mission to serve the needs of monetarily burdened men, women and children by offering food, clothing, medical and dental care, educational programs and general assistance.

For your convenience we have included an envelope to include your gift of choice.

You can also go online at www.stmarysinterfaith.org or call us at (209) 467-0703 to make a gift. With your support we can continue to provide and expand care for those in need in our community.

Thank you and Happy Holidays.



YOUR GIFT WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE FOLLOWING WAY:

- **\$250** assists a client find housing and job placement through our social services program.
- **\$500** helps 4 clients receive life changing dental procedures in our clinic.
- **\$100** gives 2 clients a pair of eyeglasses through our medical clinic.
- **\$50** provides 10 clients with essential winter time coats.
- **\$25** serves 18 clients a hot meal for breakfast or lunch.
- **Other:** Your gift of any amount makes an impact on the clients we serve and our community!