

ECS TODAY



FOSTERING
HEALTH in
mind, body and spirit



2015 - 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Inspiring children. Empowering adults. Transforming communities.

**A message from our Bishop & Board Chairman,
The Rt. Rev. James R. Mathes**



Dearly Beloved,
In the acclaimed musical, Rent, a group of struggling artists hold each other and remain connected through the struggles of life, including poverty, AIDS and death. The second act opens with the signature song, Seasons of Love:
*525,600 minutes, 525,000 moments so dear.
525,600 minutes - how do you measure, measure a year?
In daylights, in sunsets, in midnights, in cups of coffee.
In inches, in miles, in laughter, in strife.
In 525,600 minutes - how do you measure a year in the life?
How about love? How about love? How about love? Measure in love.
Seasons of love.*

How do you measure a year in the life of this community, Episcopal Community Services? This Annual Report offers one measure with numbers and fiscal review, which is to be sure important and a part of our covenant and accountability to those whom we serve and those who make grants and gifts to support our shared work. It is also measured in our particular appreciation for our donors who make so much possible. Perhaps, it should also be measured in smiles and laughter at our Head Start centers. Or tears of joy shed in gratitude and hope at Friend to Friend when a dear one served is guided to a new future.

Indeed, I would offer that for Episcopal Community Services the measure of this year is in love. Thank you to all for the love that has poured out to so many of God's children, in giving and time, for those who join in service to God by serving those in need. You have made this another season of love.

Blessings and peace be with you,

James R. Mathes

The Rt. Rev. James R. Mathes
Bishop of San Diego

A message from CEO Leslie Keller

Dear Friends,

How do you promote good health? At ECS we have a number of ways because helping people reach their full potential is our mission. For those living on the streets of San Diego with a mental health disorder, the path to better health might be getting connected to physical and mental health care providers, finding food and housing, joining a supportive community, and meeting with employment and benefits specialists. At ECS Safe Havens and Friend to Friend we help 1,000 people a year do these things. This year we grew our Friend to Friend staff by 60% with an expanded range and emphasis on homeless veterans.

Someone battling a substance abuse disorder might be one of the 4,500 people who benefit from our ECS ACCORD program each year. The program provides educational and counseling services designed to foster better life choices and lead to improved individual and family health and a safer community.

A pre-school aged child starting life in extreme poverty may need the additional boost of a quality Head Start program to provide confidence, life skills and a solid educational footing to foster success in school. Over 2,000 children receive that from ECS each year. A pre-school aged child who is suffering the negative effects from exposure to complex trauma would benefit from ECS Para Las Familias. We know that there are lifelong consequences for children who don't receive help with behavioral and emotional problems caused by traumatic experiences. As one of only five early childhood behavioral health programs in San Diego County, we can help with that. Over 200 families a year benefit from this bilingual program. PLF has grown over the past year, moving into an expanded space and providing additional case management and referral services.

It is also important for our agency to be healthy. We are proud of seven straight years of clean financial audits and strong relationships with our funders. On-going facilities improvements keep our sites clean and safe. And I am especially proud of the well-trained, professional staff found throughout our agency. Please help us continue to promote wellness with your donations of time and resources. Working together we can help over 8,000 people each year reach their potential and enjoy a healthier San Diego.

Thank you!

Leslie Keller

Leslie Keller
ECS Executive Director

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ECS CLIENT VOICES

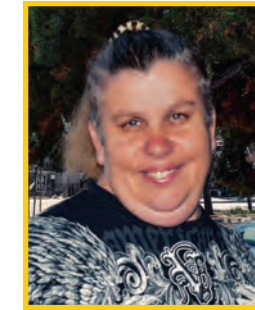
Hearing from some of our Friend to Friend clients and Safe Haven residents...



"I come to Friend to Friend every day and have been coming here for 20 years. They help me with my mental health and take me to the doctor each week. They are the only family I have."
-Evelyn



"I came to Friend to Friend so I could get my license back at homeless court. I've done this and so much more. I've made a crisis plan, which is important, and I get my mail here. The staff helps me stay committed to pushing forward and drives me to do better."
-Torlann



"ECS helped me get disability income, and I take almost every class offered here. I recently enrolled in culinary school, a dream for me. The Friend to Friend and Safe Haven staff are so warm, friendly, and helpful. I love to be here. It's my place of peace."
-Sam



"I recently came back to Friend to Friend. As a veteran, I have a Section 8 housing voucher. I am living at Safe Haven, saving money, and utilizing the services here so I'm in a better place when I move into permanent housing. ECS is the rock I need in the storm of life."
-Kenneth



"I am so truly blessed to have found ECS and for all of the assistance I've received. I moved into my beautiful new apartment two months ago, and while my life still has its everyday problems, I'm happier than I've ever been in my life. I can't get over how happy I am."
-Sally

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



**ECS Nutrition Services
Delivers Thousands of Meals
Each Month**

Funding from the San Diego County Neighborhood Reinvestment Program provided ECS Nutrition Services with a new delivery van. Each month Nutrition Services prepares and delivers 4,380 meals to our two Safe Haven transitional homes and approximately 31,400 meals to our 15 Head Start programs.



Celebrating Peter! After 16 years serving as the Director of Nutrition Services, Peter Denlea is retiring. Thank you, Peter, for your many years of leadership and service to ECS!

The Joy of Giving

ECS Safe Haven residents may be going through a tough time, but that doesn't stop them from giving back to their community. This year, several residents started making sack lunches and passing them out to the homeless men and women on the streets of East Village. As one resident said, "I remember what it was like to be there. Those times when someone gave me something to eat, those were the times I was most grateful and more hopeful because it showed me somebody still cared". ECS Safe Haven staff and residents have also hosted community ice cream socials and BBQs, helping to break down the stereotypes about homelessness. Through this work, Uptown Safe Haven received a Community Improvement Award from The Bankers Hill Community Group in May. Congratulations to Uptown Safe Haven and their work to build relationships with their neighbors. We are proud to be recognized as an asset in the community!

GIVING BACK

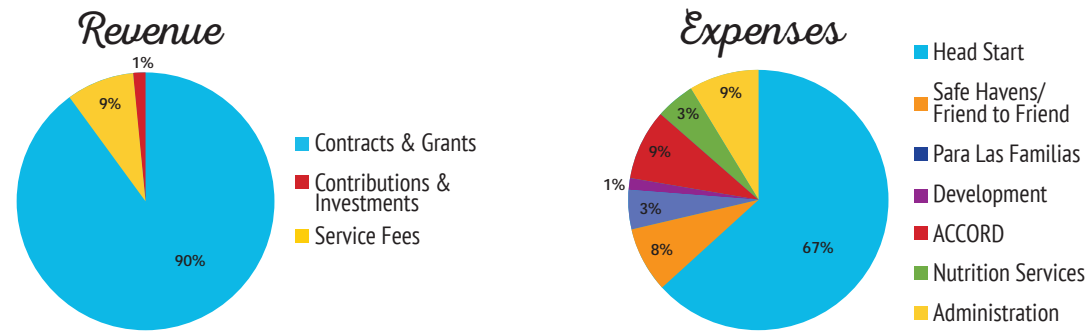


**ECS Head Start Provides
Support for Children with
Special Needs**

During the 2015-2016 program year, ECS Head Start and Early Head Start served 315 children with special needs, including speech delays, autism, and visual and motor impairments. All children enrolled receive developmental screenings and are referred to special education as needed. More than 100 children were referred to special services this year. ECS teachers and parents report that children with a range of disabilities are thriving alongside their peers thanks to these referrals.



2016-2017 Annual Budget: \$25.7 million



ECS PROGRAMS

ECS Friend to Friend Outreach Program serves homeless adults with mental health disorders, helping them become independent and improve their quality of life. We offer community, life skills classes, computer access, and a network of resources related to health, income, employment, housing, and social services. Friend to Friend provided on-going services to nearly 550 clients last year as well as one-time assistance to an additional 950 adults.

ECS Uptown and Downtown Safe Havens provide transitional housing for homeless adults with mental health disorders. Residents benefit from housing, food, community, and supportive services in a safe environment. Our Safe Havens have 47 beds, with 10 reserved for veterans. Safe Havens are a first step toward stability where residents can work on goals, such as sobriety and permanent housing. ECS Safe Havens served more than 100 adults last year.

ECS ACCORD DUI Program serves adults who have been arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Working to reduce DUIs, ACCORD focuses on the whole person by providing treatment and counseling services to promote positive lifestyle choices. ECS ACCORD DUI served over 4,500 adults last year.

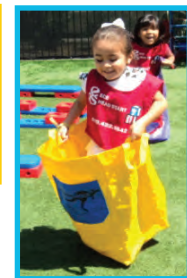
ECS Head Start & Early Head Start serve low-income children from birth to age five and their families. High-quality, early education focused on literacy, parent engagement, nutrition, and holistic development prepares children for success in kindergarten and beyond. ECS Head Start served over 2,000 children and their families last year.

ECS Para Las Familias (PLF) serves preschool children who have behavioral challenges due to experiences of trauma or severe stress. Therapeutic sessions focused on building trust allow children and their caregivers to form a healthy bond and heal from trauma. PLF served nearly 300 children and their families last year.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Program Expansions

This year both Friend to Friend and Para Las Familias received additional funding to expand their work. Four new outreach workers and a full time data analyst will allow Friend to Friend to serve 200 additional homeless clients with the ultimate goal of getting them off the street. Para Las Familias became a Full Service Provider, and with the addition of a case manager and a move to a larger facility, will be able to serve even more children and families.



"Sprout a Healthy Start" Funded By Kaiser Foundation Hospitals

Thanks to a grant from Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, San Ysidro Head Start was the site of "Sprout a Healthy Start", an exciting pilot program focused on improving student health by increasing physical activity and improving nutrition education for parents and children. Through this six-week program, 25 parents/caregivers participated in cooking demonstrations, a grocery store field trip, individualized nutrition counseling, and Zumba classes. In the classroom, children learned about choosing healthy foods, planted their own garden, and participated in lots of movement including dancing, hula hooping, and relays. Everyone learned a lot and loved the program!



CURSILLO CHRISTMAS PARTY



SAFE HAVEN PARTIES WITH THE BISHOP'S SCHOOL CHOIR



VALENTINE'S PARTY WITH THE CATHEDRAL



FRIEND TO FRIEND CHRISTMAS PARTY



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FRIEND TO FRIEND LIFE CELEBRATIONS



ART WORKSHOPS



VOLUNTEER and COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT highlights

To learn more about becoming a volunteer or in-kind donor, visit ecscalifornia.org.



2015-2016
ECS Events

Day of Play
Holy Smoke
Team ECS in Rock N Roll 5K

Thank You TO OUR FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS!

We are grateful for all of our donors. Donations made to ECS are leveraged to help us receive grants and give us flexible funds to add enhancements to our programs. With your help, thousands are receiving the individualized support and tools they need to face significant challenges and reach their potential. Thank you!

Love

\$10,000+

Christ Episcopal Thrift Shop
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The Hermann Foundation
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Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, San Diego
Neighborhood Reinvestment Program - County of San Diego
Estate of Leopold Schmidt

Grace

\$5,000 - \$9,999

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The Rt. Rev. & Mrs. James R. Mathes
Marie Tuthill

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\$2,500 - \$4,999

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WD-40 Company Foundation at the San Diego Foundation
Women of St. James



THANKS TO YOU...

- 53% of our Safe Haven residents transitioned to permanent housing once they completed the program last year.
- 84% of residents maintained or increased their income over the past year.



Inspiration

\$500 - \$999

Judith Anderson
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Susan & Sam Ward



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Justice

\$100 - \$499

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Bethany & Lee Derrough
John Dobyne

THANKS TO YOU...

- 78% of our ACCORD DUI clients experienced improved happiness and well-being after participating in the program.
- 97% said the program helped them modify their future drinking/drug use in high risk situations such as driving.



Catherine & Philip Elsbree
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ECS is excited to have been chosen as a **Major Beneficiary** for the **Las Patronas 2016 Jewel Ball**. ECS will be awarded a grant in 2017 to purchase a van for our homeless programs!

3 Great Ways TO SUPPORT ECS PROGRAMS



Give Monthly

Monthly giving is the easiest and most convenient way to sustain ECS programs throughout the year. Your gift of any size will make a difference — join us today!
ecscalifornia.org

For more information about giving to ECS, please contact Sarah at 619.228.2828 or swilkins@ecscalifornia.org.



Leave a Legacy

Make a lasting impact with a planned gift to ECS. To learn more about leaving your legacy, visit our Planned Giving website at
ecscalifornia.giftlegacy.com.



Donate your vehicle

— Receive a tax deduction —

Donate a Vehicle

Donate your unwanted car, boat, or other vehicle to ECS, and the proceeds will support our mission. Learn more at
ecscalifornia.careasy.org.

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This is a list of donors from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. We apologize if we have inadvertently omitted any names.

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MAAC
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Grace Episcopal, San Marcos
St. David's Episcopal, Clairemont
St. James by-the-Sea Episcopal, La Jolla
St. John's Episcopal, Chula Vista
St. Mary's in-the-Valley Episcopal, Ramona
St. Paul's Cathedral, San Diego
St. Philip the Apostle Episcopal, Lemon Grove
The Walking Group

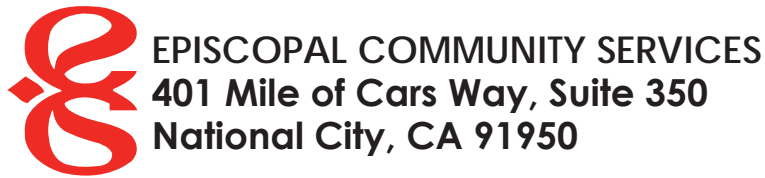


Upper Left Photo: Head Start staff pose with a playhouse donated by Habitat for Humanity.
Bottom Right Photo: Macy's and Reading is Fundamental donated 700 books to ECS Head Start last year.

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Young Mother Expresses Gratitude for Victoria School



High school is hard. It's even harder for a young mother. It's nearly impossible for a young mother of two. At just 18 years old, Jocelyne was struggling to finish high school while caring for her two daughters. Until she found Victoria School, an alternative education program for pregnant and parenting teens in San Ysidro. At Victoria, ECS runs an Early Head Start center for the infants and toddlers of the teen parents. Students can focus on their studies knowing their children are benefiting from a caring and supportive learning environment during the day.

"I LOVE EVERYTHING ABOUT VICTORIA!"

Jocelyne immediately felt comfortable at Victoria. It was academically challenging, her daughters' classrooms were next to hers, and her schedule was flexible. She was able to breastfeed during the day and attend music class with her daughters. Her girls quickly connected with their Head Start teachers who read and sang to them. Jocelyne and Luis were thrilled to watch their daughters' language skills improve, and as a family they benefitted from counseling and

parenting classes. They even received donations of clothes and formula.

Jocelyne graduated from Victoria in June. She starts classes at Southwestern College in the fall, with the goal of pursuing a career in medicine, and has been offered a position as a teacher's assistant at Victoria. Jocelyne and Luis are both grateful for Victoria School and Head Start. "I love everything about Victoria!" Jocelyne shared. "I could finally concentrate on my school work knowing that my girls were being loved and cared for while I was studying."



To learn more about ECS, visit ecscalifornia.org.