



A Message from our Executive Director, Beth Stokes

The November holidays remind us of the importance of giving back, modeled by members of San Francisco's Interfaith Council. Every November for the past 29 years ECS has partnered with the San Francisco Interfaith Council to launch the Interfaith Winter Shelter, in which local congregations open their doors to provide nightly shelter and meals to roughly 650 homeless men from late November until the end of March.

Beginning with the National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week (Nov. 10-18), San Franciscan congregations, including the First Unitarian Universalist Church, St. Boniface Catholic Church, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, and St. Mary's Cathedral, will open their doors to provide several weeks of nightly shelter in their facilities. Also displaying a spirit of giving back, 50 congregations and community groups will show up with 2,340 home-cooked dinners for highly vulnerable people who would otherwise face hunger, exposure to cold or rainy weather, and increased risk of illness or death.

ECS is grateful to the hosting congregations, the SF Interfaith Council, and the hundreds of community members who volunteer their time, skills and resources to assist those struggling to stay warm, dry, and fed during San Francisco's rainy months. Their help—and yours—is needed to shelter 4,350 individuals exposed to the elements because they lack sufficient shelter and resources.

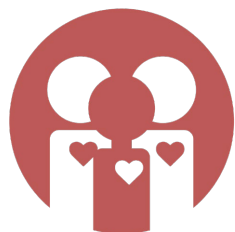
If you would like to help, please contact the SF Interfaith Winter Shelter: <https://sites.google.com/site/shelterworkingsite/>. You can also help serve holiday meals on Thanksgiving or Christmas Day at ECS's Next Door and Sanctuary Shelters by contacting volunteer@ecs-sf.org.

In gratitude,

Executive Director



Volunteer Spotlight



Holiday Volunteer Opportunities

As we enter into the Holiday Season, ECS is seeking additional volunteers for both the Friendsgiving Day and Christmas Day meal services at our shelters. This is a wonderful opportunity for you and your friends and family to make an impact in the lives of those with lived experience of homelessness this holiday season.

Friendsgiving Day: November 22

10 volunteers needed at the ECS Next Door Shelter to serve women's meal (arrive no later than 3 pm) – 1 hour time commitment

10 Volunteers needed at the ECS Next Door Shelter to serve men's meal (arrive no later than 4:30 pm) – 1 hour time commitment

6 Volunteers at the ECS Sanctuary Shelter to serve women's meal (arrive no later than 3 pm) – 1 hour time commitment

6 Volunteers at the ECS Sanctuary Shelter to serve men's meal (arrive no later than 4:30 pm) – 1 hour time commitment

Time slots that are identical to those listed above are also available on Christmas Day, December 25th. To sign up and serve a meal this holiday season, please email Volunteer@ecs-sf.org.



Joint Worship Service

On October 7, Beth Stokes, Executive Director of Episcopal Community Services, was the guest speaker at the joint worship service of Christ Episcopal Church Sei Ko Kai, Christ United Presbyterian Church, and Pine United Methodist Church. These three Japanese American congregations gather together each year on World Communion Sunday, which is on the first Sunday in October.

This year nearly 80 worshipers heard about the work ECS continues to do in providing services throughout the year to thousands of individuals with lived experience of homelessness in San Francisco. In appreciation and support of ECS's valuable work, the total plate donation from the World Communion Sunday service was donated to ECS.

If your congregation or corporation would like ECS Executive Director, Beth Stokes to speak to your group about ECS's programs, services or impact, please send an email request to info@ecs-sf.org.

Program Spotlight



Beth Stokes, Executive Director, Episcopal Community Services

Staff Spotlight



Amar Al Hosani

ECS's volunteer program is thriving. In the last year, ECS engaged over 2,200 volunteers last year, giving 25,000 hours of service. For nonprofits with limited resources, volunteers form the backbone of programs by augmenting the capacity of staff to deliver critical services to individuals in need.

Heading up the volunteer effort at ECS is Amar Al Hosani. For Amar, volunteering provides a sense of belonging not only for the isolated homeless population that ECS serves, but for the corporate and community partners seeking to make a tangible difference in their local community. **"We all have a stake in a future where all individuals are able to reach their full potential and thrive in an equitable and inclusive San Francisco."** In this way, ECS's volunteer program helps to bridge the gap between San Francisco's diverse communities.

Amar is spearheading ECS's holiday drive. This annual event is an opportunity for ECS to celebrate with those who may not have a loved one nearby during the holiday season. In total, ECS hopes to distribute close to 2,500 presents to ECS residents. Depending on the current housing situation of individuals and families, gifts will include coats and jackets for senior center participants, bath towels and comforter sets for those in permanent supportive housing, and personal care items like toothbrushes and shampoo for guests in shelters and navigation centers.



Amar Al Hosani

Local 21 Members Volunteer at Next Door and Participate in Holiday Drive

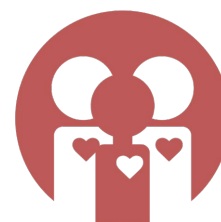
Union group members of IFPTE Local 21 (Health Care Professionals Chapter) volunteered to serve dinner at the ECS Next Door Shelter. In two days, with nearly 40 volunteers, the group served 1,500 meals. In addition, they collected much needed personal care items for shelter and navigation center guests as part of ECS's holiday drive.

IFPTE Local 21 member Michelle Pollard, Healthcare Professionals Chapter Vice President, states, "As public servants, we can learn more about the communities we serve and what is really needed. This volunteer action is not just about serving food, it is about getting to know people while giving back."



Local 21 team members

Volunteer Spotlight



Grant Spotlight



Joseph L. Barbonchielli Foundation and Evelyn & Walter Haas Jr. Fund

ECS applauds the Joseph L. Barbonchielli Foundation for its \$30,000 grant, a substantial increase over its annual gift in fiscal year 2018. The Foundation's increased support for ECS's senior services will enable us to extend the best practices of our Canon Kip Senior Center to other extremely low-income seniors in our housing and shelter sites.

We are also grateful for the Evelyn & Walter Haas Jr. Fund's award of a two-year grant totaling \$25,000 for our critical needs services in our shelters, Navigation Centers, and other vital programs serving San Franciscans experiencing homelessness.

evelyn & walter
HAAS JR. fund

ADVANCING RIGHTS. CREATING OPPORTUNITIES.

CHEFS Kitchen: Start Planning For The Holidays Today!

The holidays will be here before we know it. CHEFS Kitchen offers all types of catering, including delicious, full **Thanksgiving** and **holiday** meals.

Treat your family, team, partners or your customers to a holiday they will remember catered by our CHEFS Kitchen team. Book early to make sure your date is available.

CHEFS Kitchen is also available to create a custom menu for your guests for your upcoming events, just email us at chefscatering@ecs-sf.org.

Program Spotlight

