

Hope Through Empowerment



Press Kit



President & CEO of St. Joseph Center



Hope Through Empowerment represents the heart of what we do every day at St. Joseph Center.

Hope is a small word, but a mighty concept. It's the belief that something good can happen. Connecting with a sense of hope can be very hard for a person challenged by homelessness, poverty, and unemployment. The mere act of hoping for a better future can seem unthinkable. But this is at the core of our work: We give people who are struggling hope. We do this through empowerment, by providing the tools they need to get back on their feet. St. Joseph Center offers a lifeline so people can start to rebuild their lives.

We accomplish this through four pillars of service that create a web of support. There's Outreach and Engagement where multidisciplinary teams fan out across Los Angeles to engage with people experiencing homelessness and provide links to services such as showers, mail, housing, and hunger relief. Our Housing Services are a fundamental part of our work and provide solutions from short term rental assistance to permanent housing for the most vulnerable living on our streets – chronically homeless individuals with mental health diagnoses, physical impairments, substance abuse challenges, and longstanding unemployment.

Because trauma is a consequence of homelessness and poverty, our Mental Health services are a critical part of the puzzle. And finally, hope and empowerment are the product of our Education and Vocational programs, where homeless and recently housed people get the skills and support needed for gainful employment. St. Joseph Center programs are designed to preserve dignity, an important part of delivering successful and compassionate services. All this adds up to a place where people, no matter how discouraged they have been in the past, can flourish.

We can't do this alone. We rely on your support, generosity, and advocacy to help us do this important work. Together, in 2019 we helped record numbers: we reached 9,936 low-income and homeless individuals and families through our comprehensive programs and services. We also have exciting developments on the horizon that will expand our impact, such as developing a new family resource center and bridge housing through a historic grant from the Jeff Bezos Day 1 Families Fund.

With your support, we are growing into a mighty, county-wide force for change. Together, we are working to make our city a place where everyone can thrive.

Thank you so much for your generosity and commitment!

Va Lecia Adams Kellum, Ph.D.
President & CEO



Executive Team



LaCheryl Porter,
Chief Operating Officer



Daniel Braun, VP of
Finance & Administration



Tifara Monroe,
VP of Operations



Keith Anyon,
VP of Administration



Evie Shapiro,
VP of Development & Communications

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Carondelet

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Ashland Hill

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The California Endowment



Board of Directors (Continued)

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Corporation For Supportive
Housing

Kimberly Wilson
Vice President of Marketing
Disney

Diana Cardenas
Vice President
US Bancorp Community
Development Corporation

Ashley Fumiko Dominguez
Associate Director of
Federal Relations
UCLA

ST. JOSEPH CENTER ACCELERATES BOARD DIVERSITY AND APPOINTS FOUR ESTEEMED WOMEN OF COLOR

**New representatives include LaRae Cantley, Diana Cárdenas,
Ashely Fumiko Dominguez, and Kimberly Wilson**

St. Joseph Center – a Los Angeles non-profit dedicated to serving people dealing with poverty, homelessness, and health insecurities – announces four new members to its Board of Directors. St. Joseph Center is leading the charge to increase diversity and equity amongst its advisory board, including members with lived experience in navigating the social services system for homeless programs. The newly elected members are esteemed women of diverse backgrounds and professions that will help St. Joseph Center make a positive difference into 2021 and beyond.

New board members include LaRae Cantley, Co-founder of the Housing Justice-LA Podcast, Diana Cárdenas, Vice President and Senior Project Manager in Affordable Housing at U.S. Bancorp Community Development Corporation (USBCDC), Ashley Fumiko Dominguez, Associate Director of Federal Relations within UCLA's Government & Community Relations, and Kimberly Wilson, 20-year media and entertainment veteran as well as the Vice President of Multi-Platform Marketing for Disney.

“It’s well documented that non-profit boards of directors have been historically homogenous. We’re excited to join the movement to restructure boards across the country and give opportunities for diverse perspectives to be heard at tables where important decisions are made,” says Dr. Va Lecia Adams Kellum, President and CEO of St. Joseph Center. [Click to Read More](#)



Our Mission

St. Joseph Center's mission is to provide working poor families, as well as homeless individuals and children, with the inner resources and tools to become productive, stable and self-supporting members of the community.

Who We Are

In July 1976, two Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, together with a few volunteers, began providing advocacy and referrals and assisting families with such basic needs as food, clothing, and job readiness in a small storefront on Rose Avenue in Venice.

St. Joseph Center is now a 501(c)(3) organization—and home to over 300 full-time diverse and committed professionals. Our agency is particularly proud of our work to promote racial equity, not only among the people we serve, but among our staff as well.

Diversity is reflected in our staff, and also in our leadership. Between 2014 and 2018, management positions held by persons of color grew from 40% to 60%.

Who We Serve

We reach 10,000 low-income and homeless clients annually with 20+ programs, organized into four pillars of service:

[Outreach and Engagement](#)

[Housing Services](#)

[Mental Health](#)

[Education and Vocational Training](#)



Robbie once suffered from domestic abuse and lived in a tent. Now, she is permanently housed and ready to cook in her own kitchen.



Press



[St. Joseph Center Accelerate Board Diversity and Appoints Four Esteemed Women of Color](#)

February 4, 2021

New representatives include LaRae Cantley, Diana Cárdenas, Ashely Fumiko Dominguez, and Kimberly Wilson

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[Project Roomkey](#)

August 6, 2020

Thousands of homeless people in LA County are now living in hotel rooms, otherwise empty because of the pandemic. VICE News looks at the program known as Project Roomkey.



[Severity Of The Pandemic In Our Country- CNN](#)

August 18, 2020

President and CEO of St. Joseph Center Dr. Va Lecia Adams Kellum shares on CNN the severity of the pandemic in our country and it's affect on LA County renter households, families and children.



[‘We Will Leave No One Behind’: LA Food Banks Seek Surge In Help](#)

September 23, 2020

Volunteers and donors are stepping up to help fight food insecurity in Venice and across LA County.



[Click Here for More Press Releases](#)

Logo

St. Joseph Center's logo is a blooming tree with roots. It is a visual representation of the hope and empowerment services we value to help our clients grow. This is the preferred logo to use in print, online, or in content when listing St. Joseph Center as a partner or sponsor.

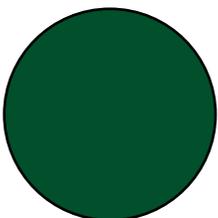


Tagline

Hope Through Empowerment

Brand Color

Our primary brand color is green found in our logo. Black and white logos are provided by request.



PANTONE 7479
CMYK: C=90 M=40 Y=95 K=45
HEX: #215732



Client Testimonials

HOPE is a small word but a mighty concept. The mere act of hoping for a better future can seem unthinkable. But this is at the core of our work: We give people who are struggling hope. Here are a few words of hope from our clients at St. Joseph Center.



"I feel like I have been given a new life. I have been working on the goals I have set for myself-I feel like the program has helped me build a lot of self-confidence, it has helped me build my self-esteem."

– Cecelia

"I went down and through St. Joseph, I lifted myself back up. I want to give back because St. Joseph Center has done so much for me. Give, and give what you can from the heart."

– Ronald



"Everything is going good for me now and I'm on the right track."

– David

Thanks to St. Joseph Center, the simple dream of a roof over our heads became a reality—it's nothing short of a miracle."

– Rebecca and Paul





Staff Testimonials

The “boots on the ground” staff on our team is unmatched. It’s through an understanding of **EMPOWERMENT** that our dedicated team is able to help our clients rebuild their lives with specialized care and dignity. Here are a few testimonials about why people choose to work with St. Joseph Center.

“We want people to know that we are here for you–It doesn’t matter if you have children, if you are an older adult, undocumented, or Spanish speaking. Come in for a hot meal. Let us help you figure it out.”

– Amber, SJC Homeless Service Center Program Manager

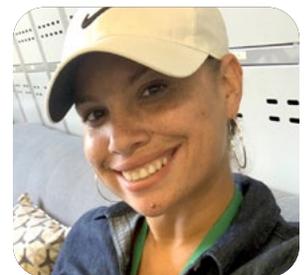


“St. Joseph has been that bright light in a dark moment. Whether they (clients) are African-American, Asian, Native American, or Hispanic, it’s a great pleasure to be of service.”

– Eric, SJC Mental Health Specialist

“I too have faced adversity like may of the people that we serve-and I am here paying it forward. I believe that hope means to never give up. There is always light at the end of the tunnel. Even if there are many clouds you can still make it through.”

– Yolanda, SJC Outreach



“I am so grateful for the doors that Codetalk opened for me. It feels great to be able to stand on my own and support my family.”

– Lima

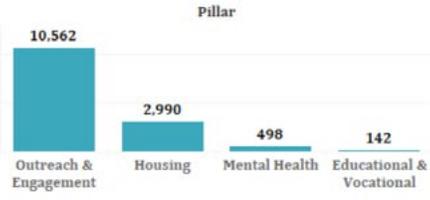
Impact & Outcomes



SJC IMPACT FY2019 - 2020

-  **13,246** Clients Served
-  **1,722** Connected to Housing
-  **946** Newly Housed
-  **8,461** Engaged through Outreach
-  **38,414** Visits to the Food Pantry
-  **24,587** Meals Served
-  **23,504** Mental Health Services Provided
-  **59** Job Training Graduates
-  **51** Early Learning Center Students
-  **33%** Increase in Clients Served Overall

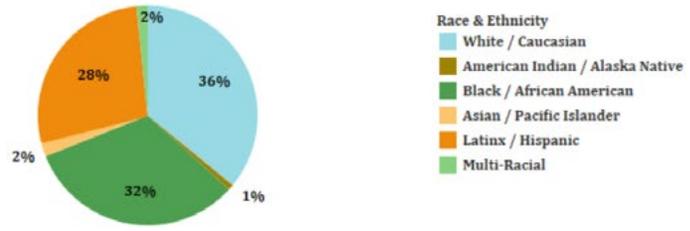
SERVED BY PILLAR



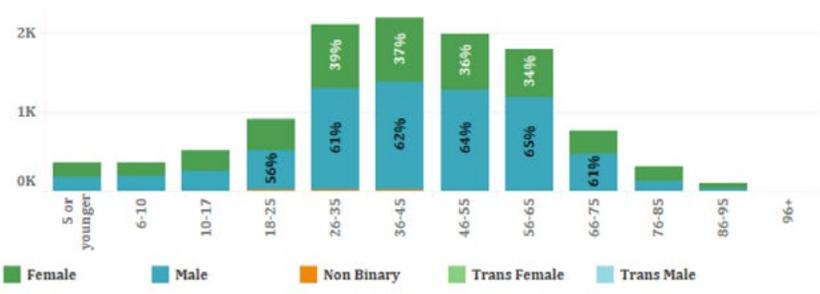
SERVED BY SPA



RACE & ETHNICITY



AGE & GENDER





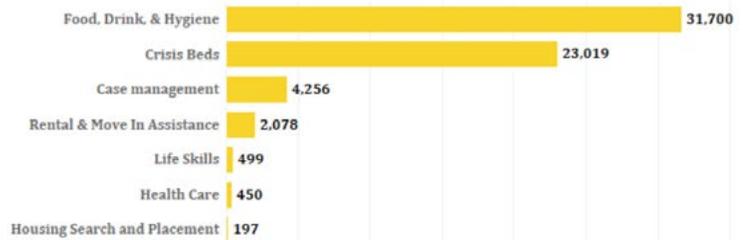
Impact & Outcomes

Elton struggled with mental and physical health. After two years of St. Joseph Center's support, he is now stable and permanently housed.

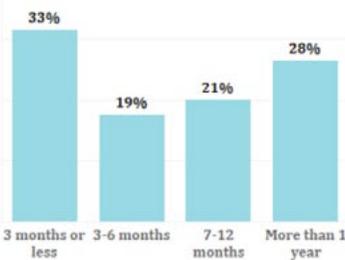
HOUSING IMPACT FY2019 - 2020



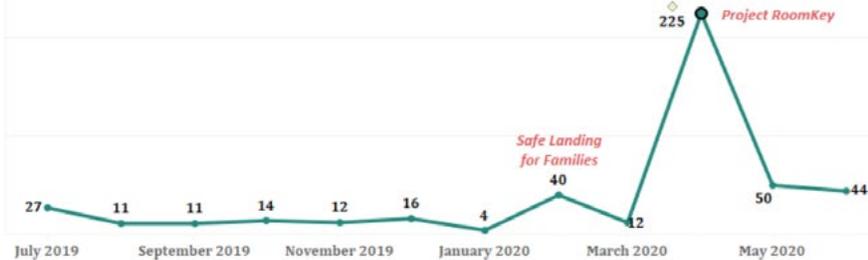
TOP SERVICES



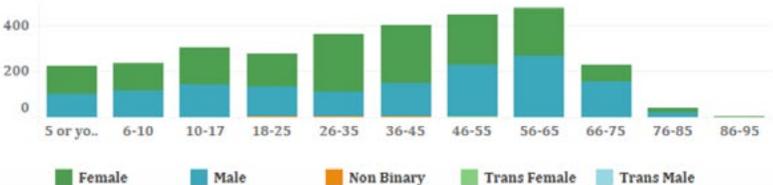
DAYS TO MOVE IN



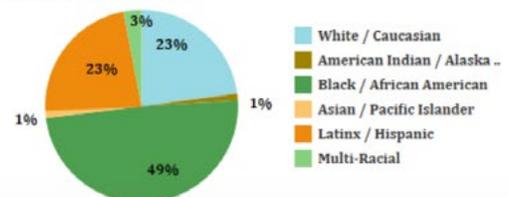
CRISIS HOUSING ENROLLMENTS



AGE & GENDER



RACE & ETHNICITY



Contact Us



St. Joseph Center provides services at multiple locations around Los Angeles County. We have major service centers in Venice, South LA, and Downtown Los Angeles along with program offices in Santa Monica, Mar Vista, Palms, and Whittier.

[Click Here for a list of all locations](#)

St. Joseph Center

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stjosephcenter.org

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YouTube Channel: [StJosephCtrLA](#)

#teamhope
#hopethroughempowerment



I've worked at a lot of places and this is one of the top agencies where they treat everybody like their own, like family. – Vincent

Contact Us



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