



Tamara E. visited CCSC's Emergency Services-Southwest food pantry for the first time after being laid off from one of her two jobs working as a caregiver.

CCSC Clients Feeling Bite of Inflation

Tamara E. is stuck in the middle. Prices at the store and the pump are going up as her hours at work are going down.

Tamara worked full-time at a senior citizen home until she could no longer lift her patients. At that point, she had to find a less physical job. She began working for two group homes for the mentally disabled for \$9/hour. Tamara worked all week and on weekends. Then one of the group homes closed.

"My rent is going up, the price of gas and food is going up, and I have a car payment I need to make," Tamara said. "I thought, 'How will I cope?' and then I heard about CCSC.

"This will go a long way for me," she said of the food she received at CCSC's Emergency-Services Southwest food pantry. "The money I pinch out from my pay stub for food can go to gas now. I'm grateful to CCSC."

While at CCSC Tamara, who sends money to her wheelchair-bound daughter, also received information about rent and utility bill assistance.

"I feel like we are helping people together," Tamara said. "I help the sick and disabled, and you help me."

To help CCSC to help Tamara and others, please donate on our secure website at <https://ccschouston.org/give/>

We Can't Do It Without You!

Next week is Volunteer Appreciation Week and we can't say enough about how dedicated and wonderful

our volunteer team is. Volunteers power CCSC. We could not make the mission happen without our volunteers.

If you would like to join our volunteer team, please contact Volunteer Manager Keli Luce at volunteer@ccschouston.org.

Bilingual volunteers or translators are especially needed.

YOU ARE AN
ESSENTIAL
PIECE
OF OUR TEAM

Martha's Way Helps Graduates Build English Skills

Last fall, as vaccination rates increased and CCSC's employment programs transitioned toward more in-person services, Martha's Way recommenced in-person English for Housekeeping classes.

While many organizations in the community offer comprehensive English as Second Language programs, CCSC's class focuses on conversation practice and vocabulary related to communicating about housekeeping services. These classes are targeted toward Martha's Way graduates who would like to improve their confidence in communicating with their clients in English.

This year, Martha's Way is offering two English for Housekeeping classes on Tuesday mornings at Sharpstown Baptist Church. Both classes are taught by volunteer Georganne Mansour. Georganne began volunteering with CCSC in 2021.

"I was looking for a place to volunteer since I am now retired, and a friend told me about this program and the outreach of CCSC," Georganne said. "I have personally benefited in many ways and find it very satisfying to see how this program provides



Volunteer Georganne Mansour, second from left, practices English for Housekeeping phrases with Martha's Way graduates Milagro Martinez, far left, Ricardo Cuellar and Nahara Lopez, far right.

a way to help others as well as seeing how graduates of this program provide an excellent service to our community. It has been my pleasure to volunteer and to assist participants to develop their English-speaking skills."

In 2021, 47 Martha's Way graduates attended English for Housekeeping class. Participant Sandra D. said, "Coming to English classes with Ms. Georganne is helping me better communicate with my clients and maintain fluid conversations."

One of the best ways to support Martha's Way is by hiring a graduate. For more information on how to hire a graduate, please visit our [website](#).

A Blessing of Fresh Fruits, Vegetables

Last Saturday brought wonderful weather and CCSC's first Food Fair of 2022 where 247 families took home over 9,000 pounds of fresh produce and dairy products.

Families received fresh bananas, cabbages, milk, carrots, pineapples, blueberries, and grapefruit juice. "It is always a blessing to have fresh vegetables and fruit to add to meals," said Ms. G.

Thank you to all the volunteers who took time out of their Saturday morning to make this event a success. And thank you to the groups from River Oaks Baptist Church, Saint Paul Presbyterian Church, St. Anne Catholic Community, Bellaire National Honor Society, Rice Temple Baptist Church, Grace United Church of Christ, and St. Luke's United Methodist Church.



Will We See You at Azalea Gala?

Many thanks to our wonderful community of CCSC supporters who have already purchased tables for the 2022 Azalea Gala.

Only a few of the \$2,500 tables remain available for purchase. Let us know right away if you want one. We are looking forward to gathering on Wednesday, September 21, 2022, at the Post Oak at Uptown Houston to celebrate Joan O'Leary and raise much-needed funds for the work of CCSC.



We still have \$5,000+ tables, underwriting opportunities, and tickets available. Reserve your spot today at ccschouston.org/azalea. For additional questions about the event, please reach out to Sara at spybus@ccschouston.org. We hope to see you there!



Career Opportunity

CCSC seeks a full-time professional Program Director who will focus on developing the agency's program offerings in the employment area. This position will oversee CCSC's core employment program, its two vocational training programs, and its coaching services while collaborating with program leadership on projects that intersect all programs.

Candidates must be college-degreed and have a minimum of five years of nonprofit experience with proven program leadership skills. Candidates should be well-organized, possess outstanding oral and written communication skills, be fluent in database and statistics management, and be experienced in managing employees.

To apply send a cover letter and resume to: jobs@ccschouston.org

Our mission is to serve the poor, hungry, disabled, and otherwise needy while respecting their religious, ethnic or cultural differences.



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