

A Commitment to Helping
Hollywood's Needy Since 1999



BLESSED SACRAMENT SOCIAL SERVICES

6636 Selma Avenue
Hollywood, CA 90028
Tel.: (323) 871-8042
Fax: (323) 464-7796

Hours:
Open every day
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
(closed Wed. and Sun.)



Yolanda Lichtman
Executive Director

Fr. Mike Mandala, S.J.
Pastor
Blessed Sacrament Church

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH

WHAT WE DO

- Our shower and clean clothing program, the most extensive in Hollywood, serves some 50 men and women each day.
- Free breakfast, snacks and hot lunch are served every day. Special Holiday meals serve over 120 poor and homeless people.
- Emergency rent and utility assistance is available for parish residents.
- Travel vouchers are provided in cases of genuine need.
- Household items, furniture and clothing are distributed to needy families.
- Annual Blanket Drives and Toy Drives serve the homeless and low-income families.
- Our monthly legal clinic provides free advice, especially on immigration and housing problems.
- ESL Classes for parents dropping off children at the parish and public schools take place twice weekly.
- Counseling is provided once a week by a volunteer psychologist.
- The LA Commission on Assaults against Women provides bilingual support at the Center for women in abusive relationships.

BLESSED SACRAMENT OFFICE OF SOCIAL SERVICES, Blessed Sacrament Church
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(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____ Last _____ First _____ MI _____

Address _____ Street _____ Apt. # _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Tel. No. _____ Cell/Pager: _____ E mail: _____

- Yes, I would like to help Blessed Sacrament Social Services continue helping the poor and disadvantaged. My donation is:
- \$ 5.00 \$10.00 \$20.00 \$50.00 \$100.00 Other: \$ _____
- Yes, I am interested in volunteering my skills in the following areas: _____
- Yes, I would like to donate the following items: _____

WHO WE ARE

Blessed Sacrament Social Services was set up in 1999 to serve the increasing needs of Hollywood's poor and homeless. Our aims are simple: to be part of the solution of helping the most vulnerable in our locale, in whatever ways we can, regardless of their religion or immigration status.

Blessed Sacrament Social Services has one full-time Director, three part-time employees, but is served mostly by volunteer time and labor. A rich mix of volunteers includes parishioners, school and college students, youth employment program members and people sent by the courts for community service and some of our homeless clients.

Hollywood is the third poorest area in LA County. Many of the people we serve are recent immigrants. Housing is expensive, often beyond the reach of people working in service industries. We try to alleviate their hardship through a range of services, aiming always at keeping people off the streets.

The area has one of the city's highest populations of homeless men, women, young people and families. A conservative estimate is that over the last year,



Conference room where ESL classes and other meetings are held.

more than 10,000 people spent some time living on Hollywood's streets. Drawn there because of downtown crime, the homeless feel more secure in a faith-based environment. Frequently only after they have begun to feel comfortable with us can we gain their confidence and begin to address their long-term needs.

There are success stories - people we have helped re-establish their lives - but in all cases we aim to help restore some dignity to these fragile lives.

WHAT WE NEED

Blessed Sacrament Social Services receives major support from Blessed Sacrament Parish, but in order to meet our budget we need to fund-raise constantly - by in-house fundraisers, by making grant applications, and seeking individual benefactors.

Our no-frills operation costs \$1800 each week. The real costs, taking into account donations of goods, time and labor and utility bills would be much higher. We try to keep expenses to a minimum by soliciting donations. A current wish list includes

- Good quality clothing - especially men's, and underwear and warm jackets for men and women
- Socks
- Toothbrushes and mouthwash
- Pampers
- New toys for Christmas
- Paper plates
- A freezer
- Plastic bins and storage
- Office and cleaning supplies

We also need to expand and upgrade our services, by...

- Upgrading our showers and install two new women's showers. **\$3000**
- Re-carpeting the facility throughout and replacing kitchen floor. **\$6000**
- Increasing our emergency rent and utilities assistance program. **\$2500** per month
- Repainting our Center, inside and out. **\$10,000**
- Upgrading the clients' waiting and eating area, providing better shelter and seating. **\$1900**

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Donate items
- Become a Blessed Sacrament Volunteer. We need regular weekly help, occasional volunteers for our fundraising events, but especially people who can offer us professional expertise
- Be a regular benefactor
- Help us with our plans for upgrading and expansion



Patio at the Center where clients