

## We Are Blessed



The SJS Family kicked off the holiday season in great cheer with our 13th Annual Fall Festival. Bredemann Lexus and Ford was packed with close friends, including eight Daughters of Charity from near and far and a wonderful turnout from what I like to call our sister ministries, Marillac St. Vincent Family Services and Marillac High School Alumnae. It was especially nice to see past board members, board chairs, and executive directors there with our current staff and board members.

I know that this large showing was a reflection of everyone's appreciation for our work. But I also know that most people in the room were simply not going to miss the chance to honor the first ever recipient of the Lee McDonnell Transform a Life Award, Lisa Sand Sullivan.

When Lee McDonnell died this past April, we lost a great friend and passionate supporter. There could be no one else after whom to name our highest honor. Similarly, Lisa Sullivan was the most fitting person to receive the first Lee McDonnell Transform a Life Award. She took the Daughters' vision for SJS and the foundation built by Sister Renee and Sister Theresa and expanded it greatly. Most importantly, and most impressively, Lisa solidified a mission-first culture. She continues in her Vincentian ways, volunteering and bringing people together to make a difference.

Truly, the reason for the success of St. Joseph Services is the continued generosity of spirit, support, and inspiration offered by our past leaders. Valuing the past and the present is the best strategy for looking to the future. We are blessed!

**Fondly, Heather**

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## Successful Adult Programming Enrollment

St. Joseph Services kicked off the new Adult Programming year with an incredible class registration that signed up 165 English as a Second Language (ESL), 60 Computer Literacy, and 34 Citizenship participants, all increases over last year. This successful recruitment utilized various strategies including personal referrals (34%), media (34%), and flyers (29%).

Our ESL participants come from six native language backgrounds (Spanish, Ukrainian, French, Polish, Arabic, Chinese) and range from no formal education to a master's degree. ESL evening classes and Computer Literacy classes in Humboldt Park are at capacity and have waiting lists. We opened up a third advanced level ESL class on weekday mornings to accommodate growing needs. The 34 Citizenship participants are served across four classes, and we opened a second class at our Humboldt Park site on Thursday evenings due to demand. SJS is very excited to serve this increase in participants and we look forward to an awesome year!



Adult Programming participants making use of the recently upgraded computer lab in Humboldt Park

## Developing Youth



Daniel Felipe finishing homework during the After School Program

### Classroom Leadership

Daniel has been in the Humboldt Park After School Program since 2014. Now an eighth grader, he has big ambitions for high school. Daniel has shown improved study habits and has excellent school progress reports this year. He is now in his second year of the SJS Leadership Group class and it is showing! He assists in making sure that his classroom is clean, organized, and ready for the next group. Daniel is the first one to help and the last one to leave, while making sure that everyone collaborates to work effectively.

When it comes to the gym, he is a soccer pro. Daniel enjoys playing in the game but also becomes a referee when there is a disagreement on the field. Originally Daniel joined the After School Program for the tutoring but has since immersed himself in all aspects of programming. We could not be more proud of how he has grown into a leader!

## Educating Adults



Natividad Marchan (left), her sister Margarita Rojas (center), and her daughter Monserrat Marchan (right)

### Adult Programming for the Whole Family

Natividad is a dedicated Adult Programming student having taken classes at SJS for six years, including all three classes offered (ESL, Computer Literacy, and Citizenship). She gets up early every morning to do her homework before helping her child get ready for school. Natividad noted, "How lucky we are these services are available in our neighborhood." She tried taking classes in Mexico, but found they were very expensive.

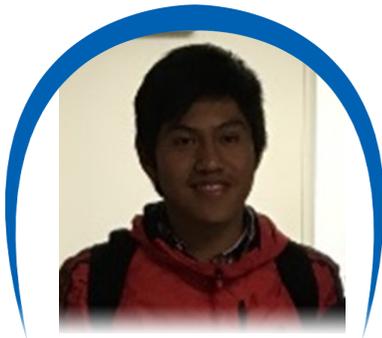
Margarita, Natividad's sister, is taking classes while visiting from Mexico. She is a former math teacher and principal and is helping students at SJS with math.

Monserrat, Natividad's daughter, is an advanced ESL student and enjoys helping other students. She loves the flexible times of the classes, and she has even started taking college classes! She said "The flexibility is amazing and is the best thing for moms who want to take classes."

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## Transforming Lives

### The Journey from Participant to Staff



New After School Program Youth Instructor  
Danny Cuevas

Danny has worked as a member of the Youth Leadership group in the SJS internship program since 2015. This group is comprised of local high school and college students working in SJS seasonal camps (winter, spring, summer) who are provided classes on improving personal and work skills, in addition to paid camp hours working with youth.

This past summer SJS had to combine our two summer camps due to construction in Austin. The enrollment for the summer camp in Humboldt Park nearly tripled, increasing the demands of the Camp Instructors. The Youth Cohort stepped up and met this challenge by helping create lesson plans and assisting the Camp Instructors during classroom time. SJS was impressed with Danny's work ethic, and he was recently hired as a Youth Instructor for the After School Program in Humboldt Park.

# 13th Annual Fall Festival

## Celebration and Support for the SJS Mission

This year's Fall Festival was not only a celebration of our former leader Lisa Sullivan, it was an extraordinary event of SJS supporters enjoying a night of fun, food, and music while raising money for SJS programming. We are very fortunate for the support of the Daughters of Charity and so many invaluable individuals who provide time and resources to ensure the SJS mission continues to be carried out for those in need.



## Thank You Committee, Staff, Volunteers, and Bredemann Family!



**Pictured: Fall Festival Committee members (from left): Jeremy McKenzie, Nancy Pins, Pam Fitzell, Mary Ann Kenesey, Heather Sattler, Vice Chairs Vicki McMannon and Sandra Wisniewski, Sheli and Peter Sullivan, Sarah Lane Hill, and Jack Kenesey, (Not pictured: Carmel Cowan, Mary Morley, Katie McKenzie, Lisa Sullivan, and Arlene Tengel)**



**St. Joseph Services Volunteers**



**Marty Bredemann**



**St. Joseph Services Staff Members**



St. Joseph Services  
 1501 N. Oakley Blvd.  
 Chicago, IL 60622  
[www.stjosephservices.org](http://www.stjosephservices.org)

*The gift of education lasts a lifetime!  
 Participate in #GivingTuesday  
 November 28th thru December 31st  
 at [www.stjosephservices.org](http://www.stjosephservices.org).*

*Save the Date!*

## SJS Trivia Night in Hinsdale

**Saturday, April 28, 2018**  
 Come join us for fun and trivia at  
 The Community House  
 415 W. Eighth St. in Hinsdale, IL



## SJS Trivia Night in Chicago

**Saturday, May 5, 2018**  
 Come join us for fun and trivia at  
 The Monsignor Thiele Center  
 1510 N. Claremont Ave. in Chicago, IL



### Program Locations

**St. Joseph Services  
 Administrative Office**  
 1501 N. Oakley Blvd.  
 Chicago, IL 60622  
 (773) 278-0484  
 (at Josephinum  
 Academy)

**Austin**  
 1322 N. Massasoit Ave.  
 Chicago, IL 60651  
 (at St. Angela School)

**Austin**  
 501 N. Central Ave.  
 Chicago, IL 60651  
 (at Austin Community  
 Family Center)

**Humboldt Park**  
 1510 N. Claremont Ave.  
 Chicago, IL 60622  
 (at St. Aloysius Parish  
 Monsignor Thiele  
 Center)

**Avondale**  
 3043 N. Francisco Ave.  
 Chicago, IL 60618  
 (at Resurrection Parish)

**Glenview**  
 3535 Thornwood Ave.  
 Glenview, IL 60026  
 (at St. Catherine  
 Laboure Parish)

