



Exchange Hotline

Exchange Club of
Sugar Land Newsletter
Aug 1st, 2020

The Exchange Club of Sugar Land

4800 Sugar Grove Blvd. Suite 100
Stafford, TX 77477
www.ecsl.org

Weekly "Zoom" Meetings

Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m. on-line

Formally at:
Sweetwater Country Club
Palm Royale Blvd.
Sugar Land, Texas

Officers 2020-2021

President:
Paul Barnett

President Elect:
Rick Bell

Secretary:
Vita Goodell

Treasurer:
Brad Porter

Immediate Past President:
Vernon Hunt

Board of Directors

Jeff Dodson
Leslie Woods
Brad Porter
Thad Olive
Chanel Bermudez
John Heinemann
Jennifer Boley
Lori Bisewski
Sue Sanchez

Spaghetti Chair 2020
Rick Bell

Webmaster:
Charlie Braun
www.ecsl.org

Newsletter Editor:
newsletter@ecsl.org

Dear Exchange Members,

One last "hurrah" for our Past President Vernon Hunt!

He received the Distinguished Club President Award from National Exchange for his contribution as President of Exchange Club of Sugar Land for 2019-2020. For historical significance this award was achieved through the start of a normal year to a year end with the "Great Pandemic of 2020". The whole world almost came to a stop. WE MADE IT!

Welcome to "Zoom" as another way to stay in touch with our members! And now as your new President I have taken the baton in hand and WE ARE... **CLEARED FOR TAKE OFF!** Remember to wash your hands and stay six feet away from your computer during our Zoom meetings. Hopefully, some day soon, we will be back to our normal breakfast meetings. Congratulations Vernon!

Paul



Past President Vernon Hunt receives the 2020 Berkey award from National! A little celebration here!

“Zoom” Speaker of the Week!

07/15/2020



Ruthanne Mefford arranged a “virtual tour” of Child Advocates new center. We were led by Karen Jordin, CASA Program Assistant and CASA

Volunteer Advocate. Alexis Jackson, CASA Volunteer Advocate, shared her testimonial about her volunteer work and her case work that ended on National Adoption Day.



Ruthanne Mefford
Chief Executive Officer
5403 Avenue N, Rosenberg, TX 77471
p 281.344.5103 c 832.326.3128 e rmefford@cafb.org

Across all demographics, income levels and regions a child is abused every 10 minutes in this country. One in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys have been sexually abused by the age of 18 years old. It is far more pervasive than anyone realizes.

Child Advocates of Fort Bend (CAFB) is a nonprofit agency whose mission is to provide a voice, heal the hurt and break the cycle of abuse and neglect for children. For 29 years, the agency has successfully worked on behalf of child abuse victims (birth to 18 years of age) through two, core advocacy programs: Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) and Children’s Advocacy Center (CAC). Over this time, we have served 17,000 children and the numbers of children served has grown 53% of the past 5 years.

Child Advocates of Fort Bend is deemed “essential workers” and we partner with over 30 agencies who are “first responders” in the field of child welfare, law enforcement, children’s protective services, the legal system, the courts, school districts, foster care providers and child placement agencies and others. We operate under a Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) model with these first responders. The Child Abuse Divisions of many of these professionals are co-housed in our building alongside our internal teams: detectives from the Fort Bend County Sheriff’s Office, prosecutors from the District Attorney’s Office, civil attorneys from the County Attorney’s Office and investigators and conservatorship workers from Children’s Protective Services. All partners work in a collaborative model for the “best interests” of the children.

The CASA Program serves children in state foster care who have been physically abused or neglected. The agency recruits and trains community volunteers called CASA Advocates who are appointed by a judge to 100% of children in foster care and ensure the best interests of the child are met while they are in the foster care system – attending to their emotional, physical, educational, medical and placement needs.

The Children’s Advocacy Center (CAC) provides direct clinical services on-site to child victims who have been sexually abused (80%) or who have suffered severe physical abuse (criminal cases) to move these victims to survivors. Many children receive multiple services and may be regular clients at the CAC for 2-3 years while their healing occurs, and their cases are in the criminal court system awaiting trial. Services include: Forensic Interviews, Therapy and Mental Health Services, Sexual Assault Exam referrals, Clinical Family Advocacy, Case Management, Criminal Court Advocacy.



Dana Mersiovsky
Development Officer
5403 Avenue N, Rosenberg, TX 77471
p 281.344.5106 c 281.344.7253 e dmersiovsky@cafb.org



Continued

Child Advocates-continued

Though CAFB serves children from all backgrounds and incomes, the reality is more than 80% of clients would not be able to afford quality mental healthcare or other advocacy services on their own. Offering all services free of charge, CAFB remains a critical resource for children and families who have experienced sexual abuse, severe physical abuse, neglect and more. All services are available in English and in Spanish.

All services and programs provided by CAFB are dependent on community support and funding to close the gap on the very complex needs of victims. Services work to reduce trauma-related symptoms such as PTSD, improve resiliency and reduce negative, short-and long-term health problems linked to trauma and abuse.



Check presentation by Jim Kij,
Child Abuse Prevention Chair of Exchange Club

EXCHANGE
EXCHANGE CLUB OF SUGAR LAND, TX

DATE JULY 15.2020

PAY TO THE ORDER OF CHILD ADVOCATES FT BEND \$ 5.000

FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00XX DOLLARS

FOR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN #1 *Exchange Club of Sugar Land*

⑆0⑆23456789⑆ ⑆0⑆234567890⑆2⑆ 100⑆

Recording

You are viewing Child Advocates' homepage View Options

CHILD ABUSE: THE SILENT EPIDEMIC

RUTHANNE MEFFORD
Chief Executive Officer

CHILD ADVOCATES OF FORT BEND

Recording

Voices For Children "Behind the Scenes" Tour

Being a Voice for the Most Vulnerable Children in Our Community

ESTABLISHED IN 1981
CHILD ADVOCATES OF FORT BEND



YOUR STATE FARM GUY MAKES A CONTRIBUTION TO CHILD ADVOCATES!

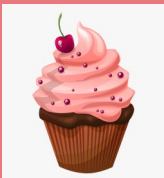


Thad Olive's company **State Farm** was offering grants for worthy charities and he had applied in the name of Exchange for Child Advocates and was awarded the funds. He's leading the way in making a contribution to the Exchange causes from his business. Great work Thad! Your loyalty and passion for Exchange Club and what we support nationally is quite **AWESOME!** (office located at 1716 Dulles Ave Ste. 102, Sugar Land, TX 77478)

	EXCHANGE EXCHANGE CLUB OF SUGAR LAND, TX	DATE <u>JULY 15, 2020</u>
PAY TO THE ORDER OF <u>CHILD ADVOCATES FORT BEND</u>		\$ 500
FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS & 00XX		DOLLARS
FOR <u>CAFB FROM</u>		<i>Exchange Club of Sugar Land</i>
Thad Olive 1716 Dulles Avenue		
⑆0⑆23456789⑆⑆0⑆234567890⑆2⑆⑆00⑆		

MORE BIRTHDAYS!!!

Thad Olive, and Bruce Smith and Roy Cordes!



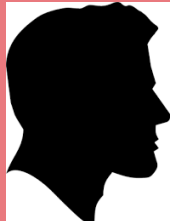
Happy Birthday, Guys!



Thad



Bruce



Roy



"The Four Amigos"
at Catholic Charities event!



+1!

Kevin Barker, Vernon Hunt, David Lanagan and President Paul Barnett! We are on a MISSION Of LOVE!, volunteering at Catholic Charities Mamie George Community Center. **#Exchange Cares**

Handing out Groceries!

During the Exchange National Convention this weekend (07/24- 07/25) that is on "Zoom" for the first time, the Exchange Club of Sugar Land is serving at Catholic Charities to hand out groceries to those in need!

Exchange Members happy to help!



Amigo's



Here are photos of Cookie Joe's "Cookies for Cops" event. Collaboration between American Heritage Girls and Cookie Joe's Dancin' School! Inspired by the Sugar Land Exchange Club!
Thanks, Cookie and her kids!



At Cookie Joe's Dancin' School, we encourage the development of confidence, self-discipline, and community spirit while providing the highest quality of classical and theatrical dance training a wholesome and loving environment.



This little lady stole the page! Just a great picture of Braelyn Fortman...Looking so happy and

American Heritage Girls (AHG) was founded by a group of parents wanting a faith-based, scout-type character development program for their daughters in 1995. The AHG Program is dedicated to the mission of building women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country. AHG girls across the nation and the globe participate in badge programs, service projects, leadership opportunities, and outdoor experiences, all with an emphasis on Christian values and family involvement.

Today there are Troops in every state and in 15 countries around the world through the [Trailblazer](#)

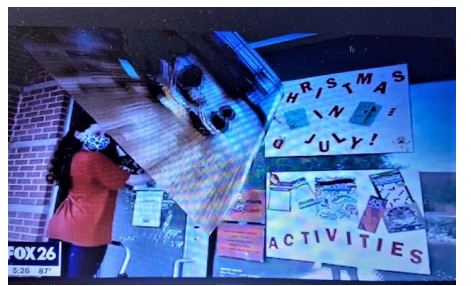
Chief Eric Robins, Ms. Braelyn Fortman



L-R Lt. Marty Morales, Captain Stuart Denton, Chief Eric Robins, Asst. Chief Michelle Allen, Lt Todd Zettlemoyer, Cookie Joe and kids!

Christmas in July W/Cookie Joe!

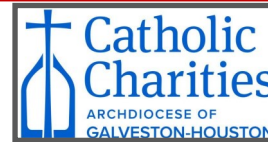
Cookie Joe had this "Spontaneous Idea" to do a Christmas in July event called "Care Cards" and was inspired by Gladys Brumfield Jones with Catholic Charities to involve the children to be part of the outreach ministry. Children were asked to do projects at home to help seniors feel more appreciated and not forgotten by giving them activities to do, board games and puzzles and so on. This was the first event of its type for Cookie Joe of Cookie Joe Dancin' School and they are thinking about making this an annual event! Inspired by Exchange! *Super idea, Cookie!*



“Zoom” Speaker of the Week! CATHOLIC CHARITIES!



L-R Thomas Singleton and Matt Johns
of Catholic Charities !

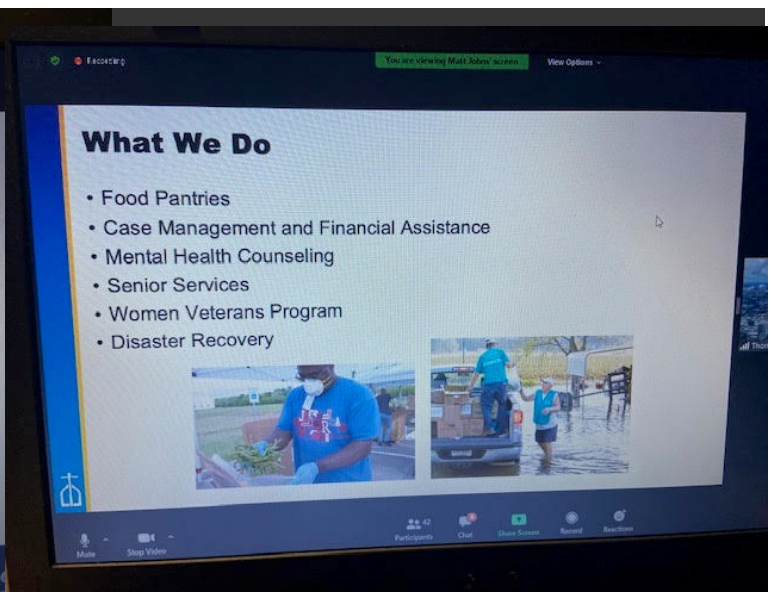
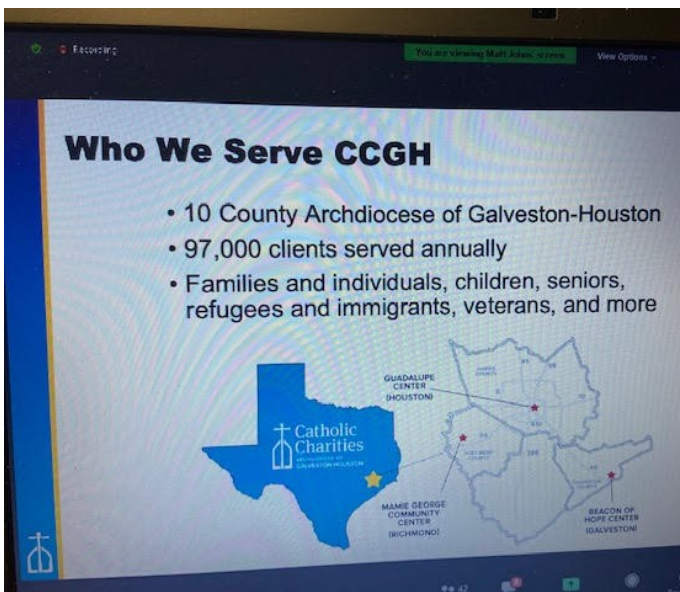


Catholic Charities operates from the vision of being people of faith, they are helping people in need achieve self-sufficiency and live with dignity.

Their work takes place across the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston from three service hubs in Fort Bend, Galveston, and Harris counties and focuses on providing **help** and **hope** to our most vulnerable neighbors. From these service centers they provide emergency food and financial assistance alongside case management, as well as supportive programs targeted at meeting the needs of special populations such as seniors, women veterans, immigrants, young parents, and more.

In Fort Bend County, the service hub is the Mamie George Community Center (MGCC) located at 1111 Collins Rd. in Richmond. At MGCC, they provide basic needs services through the Trini's Corner Market food pantry and the Comprehensive Case Management program. Additionally, they offer community-based programs that meet the needs of our most vulnerable neighbors. These include:

- **Community Counseling** to help individuals or families dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, and other mental health needs.
- **Senior Wellness** courses aimed at improving health outcomes and reducing isolation through nutrition education, exercise classes, art classes, and social activities.
- **Blessed Beginnings** parenting courses that help parents and grandparents learn important skills to help their child or grandchild grow and thrive.
- **Women Veterans** support groups that focus on supporting, empowering, and fostering a sense of community for women veterans.
- **Immigration Legal Services** including regular Charla Legal Immigration Information Sessions, and individual consultations with Catholic Charities' Cabrini Center immigration attorneys.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES– Continued

Many friends and volunteers!

Fort Bend County

- 787,856 Total Population (2010 Census)
- Most equitably diverse county in country
- 8% Total Poverty Rate
- 21% Poverty Rate in Rich/Rose community
- 1/3 of Residents struggle with Basic Needs



Mamie George Community Center

MGCC is a hub for Catholic Charities' services in Fort Bend County. The center provides food, clothing, shelter, and a network of support services to people from all walks of life and religious backgrounds, with an emphasis on seniors.

