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Press Release

April 11, 2018

New House Sharing Program Launched in Santa Clara County

San Jose, CA (April 11, 2018) – Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County will operate a new House Sharing program launched by the County of Santa Clara. The plan is to match people willing to rent a room in their home with people seeking affordable housing. Catholic Charities will promote the program and act as trusted match-maker to ensure the room providers and renters are screened and compatible.

The pilot program has a goal of matching 100 households (renters with providers) each year over the next two and a half years. The Board of Supervisors approved a contract of \$1.5 million with Catholic Charities to launch the new House Sharing Program on April 3, 2018.

Priority for rooms will be given to County residents with incomes below the area median income. In particular, young adults and seniors may find this a helpful solution to their housing costs. Seniors who are “house rich but cash poor,” who own their own homes but have vacant rooms, may find this option not just an attractive source of revenue, but also an opportunity for creating new friendships.

Catholic Charities will conduct marketing, outreach, facilitate the housing agreements, screening the providers and the renters through background checks, and providing advice and support to the participants. House Sharing is a County program administered by Catholic Charities. The first three months will involve hiring staff, developing operating policies and procedures, launching user-friendly marketing materials, and website access.

Individuals interested in the new House Sharing program should contact Catholic Charities at (408) 325-5226 or email scastillo@CatholicCharitiesSCC.org.

About Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County is the social service/social justice arm of the Catholic Church serving people of all cultures and beliefs for more than 62 years. Catholic Charities works to build a just and compassionate community by alleviating, preventing, and reducing poverty by improving access to food, housing, healthcare, education and economic security.

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