

Stanford Settlement Newswheel

Celebrating Over 80 Years of Service

MISSION STATEMENT

Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center helps build healthy communities through individual, family, and neighborhood services.

> STANFORD SETTLEMENT PROGRAMS

Teen Center

Children's Program

Senior Center

Emergency Assistance

Community Development









Dear Friends,

We've just passed the one-year mark – the "Corona-versary" – of closing our center-based programs. It's been a long year, but we have persevered and are looking ahead to the future with HOPE.

Most of our Senior Center participants have received the COVID-19 vaccine! Our staff contacted each of our seniors to provide help in registering online for an appointment. They also continue to assist seniors with door-to-door transportation to local vaccination clinics for both the first and second doses. It's an exciting outing, and a step towards returning to "normal."

Local schools are preparing to have students back on campus in the coming weeks. Families are feeling both anxious about health safety but also relieved that their children can return to school in person. We are looking forward to having our participants back here for programs later this year, but will continue our breakfast & lunch deliveries for now

Recently, we celebrated the high school graduation of a young woman who has been part of Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center since 2009. We attended her virtual graduation online and celebrated with a parade down her street in our agency vans. She is resilience in action, having overcome hardships compounded by the pandemic. We are proud to have been part of fostering her resiliency and can't wait to see what she accomplishes in the future.

Thank you for helping us continue this life-saving work during the pandemic. Please consider donating to Stanford Settlement on **Big Day of Giving, Thursday, May 6, 2021**. Your donation will be doubled, thanks to matching funds provided by **Parasec** and **Ken & Diane Luttrell!** Visit <u>bigdayofgiving.org/stanfordsettlement</u>, and help us win a **prize challenge** by making your online donation between **8 am-9 am**. If you are a member of **Golden 1 Credit Union**, use that card to donate. It will receive an extra "boost," thanks to their generosity.

Finally, we are happy to announce that the "Fore Good!" golf tournament is back, with necessary precautions in place to ensure everyone's safety. It will take place on June 23, 2021 at Teal Bend Golf Club, with an 8:30 am shotgun start. Register as an individual or as a foursome online at www.stanfordsettlement.org. It's going to be a great event this year, with Maita Toyota's Hole in One contest, our new golf ball cannon, and lots of other fun on the green. Sponsorship opportunities are still available!

Thank you again for all that you do in support of Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center. Your generosity makes our community stronger!

With gratitude,

Julie Rhoten Executive Director

In spite of the pandemic, what's the best thing that has come out of this past year for you as a social worker?

"In spite of the pandemic, I would say that the best thing that came out of this the past year is that I was able to connect with our seniors individually. Doing home visits with the seniors has allowed many of them to share more personal stories, where they came from, how many grandchildren they have, and much more. Dedicating a whole hour,



sometimes an hour and a half, still does not seem like enough time for them with us. They are filled with so much wisdom and stories that make us as staff eager to hear more every time we visit with them. We get to see where they live, what new hobbies they have taken up since the pandemic, and keep them company outside when the weather is nice. We always look forward to our one-on-one visits with each of our participants."

-Melissa Corona, Senior Center Activities Director

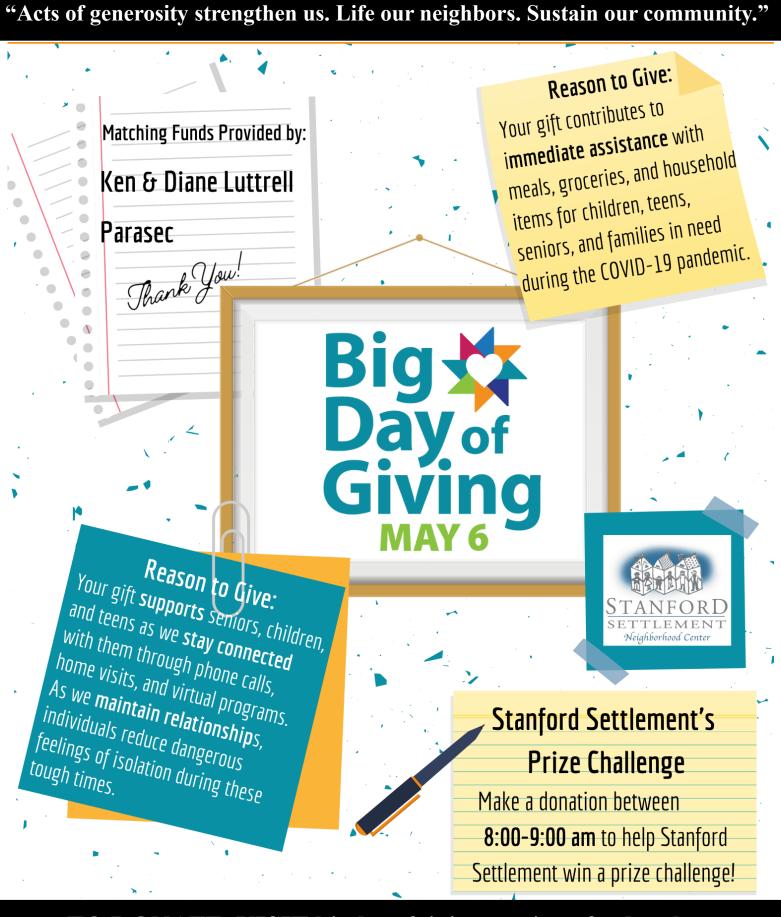
This year has been one of the most fulfilling years for me as a social worker. Prior to Covid-19, saw our teens in two environments, school and Teen Center. The pandemic granted us the opportunity and time to visit our teens at their homes and achieve a deeper understanding of who they are and where they come from. Many teens and families began to realize that we are more than simply an after-school program. They began to entrust us with more intimate details about their life. At Stanford, we believe the relationship component is essential and the foundation of our work. We help the teens in building new skills to help them become successful, thriving adults after creating and maintaining positive relationships. This pandemic has been full of uncertainty for many families. I'm proud of our strong bonds relationships with positive interactions that foster their resiliency and build new memories during a difficult time."

-Porscha Hightower, Teen Center Coordinator

"In continuing our work with our families, we have built a stronger rapport with each and every one of them. As a social worker, one of the best things that has come out of this pandemic is the new opportunities. I've been able to do more home visits and check-ins with our kids and their families. Prior to the pandemic, we normally have our groups and would all do activities together. Now, I have the opportunity to learn more about each kid while giving my full undivided attention. Stronger bonds are through activities with them in front of their homes. The pandemic has created a lot of changes, but some have allowed us to grow even more as social workers."

-Daya Cabrera, Children's Program Group Worker





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