

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAN DIEGO, May 4, 2022

Contact: Mike Peterson, mike@gomixte.com, 619-732-0789 ext. 645

Links:

- [High resolution photos of previous galas](#)
- [High resolution photos of Father Joe's Villages](#)

Father Joe's Villages, Supporters Create 'Waves of Possibilities' for Children Experiencing Homelessness at 38th Annual Children's Charity Gala

- *Signature event will raise funds to keep families together and prevent children from falling into homelessness*
- *Funds will be used toward therapeutic childcare, pediatric health services and more*
- *Father Joe's Villages to honor community leaders during gala*

WHAT

On Saturday, May 20, Father Joe's Villages will host its signature 38th Annual Children's Charity Gala, presented by Bob and Ellen Svatos, to raise critical funds for programs and services aimed at families and children experiencing homelessness in San Diego.

Funds raised during the event will support services and programs that keep families together and prevent children from falling into homelessness. Each year, Father Joe's Villages provides hope and life-changing services to more than 450 families and more than 900 children.

Father Joe's Villages' family and child services include Therapeutic Childcare, which combines fully licensed preschool and after-school childcare with family and parenting programs, behavioral health, ongoing support and mentorship. The organization also offers life-sustaining services like food, shelter and pediatric care.

At the 2023 Children's Charity Gala, more than 350 people will gather to celebrate the theme of creating "Waves of Possibilities." During the gala, they will enjoy cocktails, dinner, entertainment and dancing.

WHY

Father Joe's Villages believes every child deserves a happy and healthy life. With Investing in Children as one of its guiding [Pillars of Care](#), the organization is

committed to creating waves of possibilities for families and children overcoming homelessness in San Diego.

Researchers show that children who have experienced homelessness are four times more likely to have delayed development, and are twice as likely to repeat a grade in school.

Funds raised during this event will directly support life-changing services for families and children in need throughout San Diego. If you would like to join attendees in providing this critical care, you can take action by donating, advocating or volunteering.

GALA HONOREES & HONORARY CHAIRS

This year's Father Joe's Villages Children's Charity Gala is presented by Bob and Ellen Svatos, the 2023 Honorary Chairs for the signature event and loyal advocates to those in need for more than 25 years.

Additionally, Father Joe's Villages is honored to celebrate the following individuals and organizations.

- The **Ladies Guild**, an all-volunteer group that supports Father Joe's Villages programs, will receive the Father Joe Carroll Award. This award recognizes organizations and individuals with a longstanding commitment to Father Joe's Villages' mission. As the Ladies Guild celebrates its 40th anniversary of service, there's no better time to honor the nearly 14,000 hours that members volunteer annually to help those experiencing homelessness.
- The **Menard Family Foundation** will receive the Bishop Maher Award, which recognizes those who put the needs of the poor before themselves. The Menard Family Foundation, which supports organizations helping those in need, continues the legacy of Barbara Menard's parents, Bernard P. and Mary K. Menard.
- **Allan & Peggy Keck** will receive the Father Joe's Villages Award because of their steadfast dedication and contributions to the organization's children and family services, Children's Charity gala and more.

QUOTES

"This event is an opportunity for community leaders to gather and directly support young ones experiencing homelessness in our city," said **Deacon Jim Vargas, president and CEO of Father Joe's Villages**. "Children experiencing homelessness face unique challenges each day, but we know that hope is possible for both families and children in need. Together, we can create new

possibilities for children and families experiencing homelessness and ensure that their lives are transformed for the better.”

ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND CONTACT

- **Organization:** [Father Joe's Villages](#)
- **Date/time:** Saturday, May 20, 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.
- **Location:** The U.S. Grant (326 Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101)
- **Tickets and sponsorship opportunities:** [Click here](#) – tickets starting at \$350, sponsorships starting at \$4,000
 - For more information about sponsorship opportunities please contact Emily Davis at emily.davis@neighbor.org or 619-446-2115.
- **To coordinate interviews:** Contact Mike Peterson, mike@gomixte.com, 619-732-0789 ext. 645
- **Link to use in your story:**
 - [Father Joe's Villages' website](#)
 - [38th Annual Children's Charity Gala](#)

###

As San Diego's largest homeless services provider, Father Joe's Villages ensures that each person can rediscover hope and leave homelessness behind. To address the complex needs of people who are homeless, the organization provides housing for more than 2,500 people each night, along with health care, substance use disorder treatment, job training, therapeutic childcare and more. This mission is made possible only through the efforts of compassionate staff, [volunteer work](#), [car donation](#), and generous public and private [charitable contributions](#). For more information, please visit: <https://.my.neighbor.org/>.