

Answering the Call: Supporting Casa Alitas in Their Mission

In the heart of Tucson, Arizona, amidst the sweltering heat of the desert, lies Casa Alitas—a haven for migrants in their most vulnerable moments. Catholic Community Services of Southern Arizona oversees the Casa Alitas program, ensuring its unwavering commitment and boundless compassion in offering refuge and assistance to those seeking safety and asylum in the United States.

The story of Casa Alitas is one of unwavering commitment and boundless compassion, but it is also a story of staggering numbers. Since 2014, Casa Alitas has welcomed over 175,000 migrants, providing them with essential services such as food, shelter, medical care, and assistance with travel arrangements. These are not just statistics; they are lives needing support and solidarity.

Behind each of these numbers lies a human story—a story of resilience, courage, and hope in the face of adversity. Mauricio arrived at Casa Alitas exhausted and in agony. Fleeing Venezuela to escape gang violence, he sought refuge and opportunity in the United States. Along the perilous journey north, he fractured his leg and limped on crutches from Nicaragua to the U.S. border, pleading for asylum and relief from his suffering. While Border Patrol medics attempted to assist, Mauricio's leg required specialized care.



“A Better Life”

Welcomed warmly at Casa Alitas and buoyed by donor support, Mauricio received treatment from a specialist who reset his leg and applied a cast. Throughout his recovery period at Casa Alitas, Mauricio actively engaged in welcoming newcomers, facilitating family connections, aiding with paperwork, serving meals, cleaning, and more. During this time, he made the profound decision to call Tucson home. With determination, he completed his asylum paperwork, secured a work permit and employment, and established his own residence. Now, Mauricio returns to Casa Alitas as a committed volunteer, grateful for the opportunity to assist individuals like himself in pursuit of "a better life."



Year after year, the demand for Casa Alitas' services has grown exponentially. In the past year alone, over 80,000 migrants sought refuge within its walls, a testament to the escalating humanitarian crisis facing our nation.

But with this influx of migrants comes an urgent need for resources. Providing for the basic needs of tens of thousands of individuals and families requires a substantial investment of time, money, and human resources. Casa Alitas relies heavily on the generosity of donors and volunteers to meet these needs, but the scale of the challenge must be balanced.

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As we reflect on the mission of Catholic Community Service (CCS) and the Casa Alitas program, we are reminded of the words of Jesus in **Matthew 25:35-36**: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Casa Alitas embodies these teachings, offering hospitality and compassion to those in need.

We are proud of the work we have been doing, helping legally processed asylum seekers who have been released to us by the Border Patrol. Casa Alitas has been a lifeline for these individuals for the past ten years, providing them with the support and assistance they need to begin rebuilding their lives.

Providing Help, Creating Hope & Serving All

We have no secrets. Hundreds of stories have been written about CCS's work with Casa Alitas by local, state, and national media. Additionally, there have been dozens of open public meetings where our work has been discussed and budgets approved by our fiscal agent, Pima County. Our Mission of Providing Help, Creating Hope, and Serving All drives everything we do. We are committed to supporting the people we serve and ensuring their safety while upholding the values of compassion and dignity.



Now, more than ever, Casa Alitas needs your help. Your donation, no matter how small, can make a tangible difference in the lives of migrants in need. Together, we can ensure that Casa Alitas remains a beacon of hope for future generations.

As the numbers continue to rise and the need for assistance grows, let us answer the call to support Casa Alitas in its mission. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of migrants and refugees, offering them the compassion and solidarity they deserve as fellow human beings. **Will you join us in this vital cause? Your generosity can help write a new chapter of hope for those in need.**

For more information on how to donate and the items needed, please visit our website:



<http://ccs-soaz.org>

