



# CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES OF SOUTHERN NEBRASKA

## Hope in the Good Life

April 2024

### St. Padre Pio/Our CSS Volunteers

## Unwavering service to others

When reading about the life of St. Padre Pio, it is immediately apparent that this humble Capuchin priest dedicated his life to prayer, suffering, and service to others. For fifty years, St. Padre Pio experienced the stigmata- the spiritual, emotional and physical anguish of Christ's holy wounds. It's been said that every breath he took was a prayer; never for himself but always for others. St. Padre Pio's life was marked by deep devotion to God, fervent prayer, self-sacrifice, and unwavering service to others.

This month we celebrate and thank a group of people who emulate St. Padre Pio's unwavering service to others, our CSS volunteers. We are blessed to have so many volunteers assist us in serving our neighbors across southern Nebraska. Their dedication is humbling, and their reasons for helping are as varied as the tasks they perform.

**Sue Nerverve** recently shared her story of how she began volunteering

at our St. Louise Gift & Thrift in Lincoln. She first became familiar with the store when she started to shop there with her mother. Her parents instilled in her a love of Christ and a desire to serve. When Sue decided that she wanted to do volunteer work, she knew she didn't want to volunteer just anywhere, but rather at a place where she felt she could make a difference. She prayed about it, then felt called to help at CSS. Sue began volunteering in our sandwich program, then moved over to helping at St. Louise Gift and Thrift. Like so many of our volunteers, Sue feels she gets to "be like Jesus, to be His hands and feet." She continues that by serving, her actions bless others, "but I get blessed. It's about Jesus, not me."



*Sue Nerverve*

Long-time Hastings volunteer **Dr. Don Foote** agrees he benefits as much as those he helps. For years, Dr. Foote has repaired donated furniture in the "St. Joseph Workshop" in

In 2023,  
OUR VOLUNTEERS  
PERFORMED  
**24,000**  
HOURS  
OF SERVICE ACROSS  
**SOUTHERN  
NEBRASKA**  
and there's room  
for you, too, in 2024!

We offer a wide variety of volunteer opportunities for individuals & groups at all of our sites, with tasks ranging from childcare & cleaning to shopping & sorting. Best of all, you'll be joining us in bringing **HOPE IN THE GOOD LIFE** to our southern Nebraska neighbors.

**BEGIN YOUR  
VOLUNTEER  
JOURNEY  
TODAY!**



**CSSHOPE.ORG/VOLUNTEER**

(Continued on back page)



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## #HopeintheGoodLife

### *Unwavering service to others (continued)*

the basement of our CSS Hastings regional site. The repaired furniture is then sold at our St. Joseph Gift & Thrift in Hastings. Not only does volunteering keep him from “sitting around just staring at the four walls,” it has had a profound affect on him. “It has enhanced my faith life.”

April is national Volunteer Appreciation Month, and we are so appreciative of the faith, love and devotion our volunteers bring to our Auburn, Hastings, Imperial and Lincoln sites. All four regional sites offers many opportunities for individuals, families, and parish communities to serve

those in need. Volunteers feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty through our CSS Food Market & Meal Services. Volunteers shelter the homeless by helping our St. Gianna Program families. Volunteers welcome the stranger by assisting with our Refugee Resettlement Services and Immigration Legal Services. Volunteers clothe the naked by assisting at our CSS Gift & Thrift Stores. Volunteers sustain Hope in the Good Life by helping with our Online Sales Initiative. We invite you to help provide Hope in the Good Life to those we serve! Visit [csshope.org](http://csshope.org) to volunteer or scan the QR code on the front of this newsletter. God bless!

**TWO WAYS to support HOPE IN THE GOOD LIFE: Early giving opens April 15th!**



**Give Hastings Day**  
live here. give  
*Hope in the Good Life* here.



—NEBRASKA—  
**CATHOLIC**  
DAY OF HOPE IN THE GOOD LIFE GIVING



[csshope.org/GHD](http://csshope.org/GHD)

[csshope.org/NCDG](http://csshope.org/NCDG)

