

# PREPARES

Pregnancy & Parenting Support

A PROGRAM OF CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES

September 2019

*"Lord Jesus, help families and society to value the presence and roles of grandparents. May they never be ignored or excluded, but always encounter respect and love."  
Pope Benedict XVI*

## A PREPARES Response.....

### Play With Love at Woodland Park Zoo (Seattle)



**Play With Love** is a weekly activity that brings together parents or caregivers and their children to learn playtime techniques and spend quality time with one another. The program was initiated in response to a need expressed by the

Hispanic community where many moms and young families don't have strong support networks. Many of them are recent immigrants living far away from their families in their home countries. The program builds community while providing parents with tools to teach their child through play which will help in the future to create healthy and successful children in life.

This year's **Play With Love** summer program concluded on August 14th when twenty-three happy children and their moms, aunts, grandmothers and caregivers enjoyed a spectacular day at the [Woodland Park Zoo \(Seattle\)](#) to celebrate their graduation. Next year's program will begin in October at [St. Madeleine Sophie \(Bellevue\)](#) and [St. Mary Magdalen \(Everett\)](#).

To learn more contact Teresa Cacho-Govea at 206-487-2414 or [TeresaC@ccsww.org](mailto:TeresaC@ccsww.org)



## Public Charge" Ground of Inadmissibility

You may have heard about changes that the Department of Homeland Security, or DHS, is making to the public charge rule. The new rule, which is scheduled to go into effect October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019, creates a higher standard that immigrant applicants must meet to prove they are not likely to enroll in a public assistance program in the future.

Catholic Charities USA has joined with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to create *"Public Charge" Ground of Inadmissibility: What You Need to Know About the New Rule and Its Impact on Legal Immigrants and Families*. If you, or one of the families you serve, have questions about the proposed changes, you can access the document [here](#).

Why does the "Public Charge" Rule Matter to Catholics?

1. The rule harms families.
2. The rule targets lawful immigrants.
3. The rule will likely prevent families from receiving vital nutrition and housing assistance.



Pregnancy and Parenting Support Program (PrePS), a partner program of PREPARES at Catholic Community Services, serves low-income families living in King County who are pregnant or have children under the age of 5. (PrePS) provides wraparound services to achieve healthy pregnancy and birth outcomes. The program provides comprehensive services to pregnant women and families to meet basic needs, maintain housing stability, and build parenting skills. Services include case management, prenatal education, childbirth preparation, parenting and life skills education, emergency assistance, material support, and social support. All program services are available in English and Spanish. PrePS currently provides weekly support groups in Spanish on Thursdays for Latinx families at our South Seattle office. During this time parents participate in early learning activities with their young children while they network with families living in the neighborhood.

Catholic Community Services- PrePS and St. Vincent De Paul-Centro Rendu have come together to engage with low-income Latinx families to co-design and implement De Colores, a home visitation program that meets their unique needs. The **collaborative** between Centro Rendu and PrePS will strengthen Latinx **caregiver's capacity** to support their children's physical well-being and social emotional development in their home and in the community so that Latinx children will enter kindergarten ready to learn and succeed in school with **positive relationship skills**. We anticipate providing weekly home visits that would combine early childhood development activities with family support, case management and leadership opportunities for parents enrolled in the De Colores program.

To learn more contact Julisa Aguilar at 206-707-1501 or [julisaa@ccsww.org](mailto:julisaa@ccsww.org)

Did you know that the annual cost for baby's first year is \$5,550? This can be daunting for any family, but particularly for those who are living on the margins. Once a parish decides they want to start a PREPARES ministry, they frequently ask, "How do we raise money to fund essential needs like diapers, wipes and car seats that that are so important for the mothers and children we serve? While each parish goes about raising funds in their own way, it is helpful to know what others have done that have been successful. This month's Helpful Handout lists a number of ideas that you may want to consider.

To learn more about how you can raise funds to support vulnerable moms and their children, please click [here](#) to access the link to the Helpful Handout: **Parish Fundraising Ideas.**

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## A Prayer for Grandparents

Lord Jesus,  
You were born of the Virgin Mary,  
the daughter of Saints Joachim and  
Anne.  
Look with love on grandparents the  
world over.  
Protect them! They are a source of  
enrichment  
for families, for the Church and for all  
of society.  
Support them! As they grow older,  
may they continue to be for their families  
strong pillars of Gospel faith,  
guardians of noble domestic ideals,  
living treasuries of sound religious traditions.  
Make them teachers of wisdom and courage,  
that they may pass on to future generations the fruits  
Of their mature human and spiritual experience.



Lord Jesus,  
help families and society  
to value the presence and roles of grandparents.  
May they never be ignored or excluded,  
but always encounter respect and love.  
Help them to live serenely and to feel  
welcomed  
in all the years of life which you give them.  
Mary, Mother of all the living,  
keep grandparents constantly in your care,  
accompany them on their earthly pilgrimage,  
and by your prayers, grant that all families  
may one day be reunited in our heavenly homeland,  
Where you await all humanity  
for the great embrace of life without end. Amen!

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## Upcoming Events

- Grandparents Day - **September 8<sup>th</sup>**
- St. Joseph (Lynden) Baby Shower – **September 8**
- National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children – **September 14<sup>th</sup>**
- 40 Days for Life begins – **September 25<sup>th</sup>**
- Respect Life Sunday – **October 6<sup>th</sup>**
- St. Stephen the Martyr (Renton) Baby Shower – **October 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>**
- [Cornerstone Conference](#) - October **19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>**

Blessings,

Donna, Erin, Carol, Teresa, Lisa, and Mary Pauline

**PREPARES of Western Washington Team**

100 - 23rd Ave South, Seattle, WA 98144

206-737-9264

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**VOLUNTEER**



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**To learn about updates and upcoming PREPARES events, please visit us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/PreparesWW](http://www.facebook.com/PreparesWW)**

Please consider joining us in walking the journey with families in your own parish community. For more information please visit our website at [www.preparesforlife.org](http://www.preparesforlife.org). If you know of others who might be interested in volunteering and or learning more about PREPARES, please forward them this message or have them contact us directly.

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