

St. Juan Diego Women's Center

Help for Pregnant Women and their Babies

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Juan Diego Women's Center Announces Changes to the Board and Staff

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA, July 18, 2018 – Juan Diego Women's Center, a leading local provider of women's pregnancy care services, today announces the retirement of long time Board members **Patsy Gonzalez** and **Evelyn Reynolds**.

Patsy Gonzalez, also Senior Counselor for the Center, stated, "the Center and its Mission have been an important part of my life for the past 26 years. Being a part of the Pro-Life cause, that has helped many young mothers to make a choice to keep their babies, has brought me fulfillment and purpose that I could never put into words. Upon much reflection and discussions with my family, I will be spending more time in Manila. It has been a great blessing to have been a part of Juan Diego's ministry and growth, and our new leader will bring her gifts and talents to our grace-filled ministry in wonderful ways. Thank you all for enriching my life throughout the years. May God bless you all."

Evelyn Reynolds, a retired City of San Jose librarian, has served both on the Board of Directors and as a lead volunteer to the Center for over 25 years. She has always enthusiastically embraced and welcomed the opportunity to be a spiritual mother to many of the clients who came into the Center. Helping others in need is the most fulfilling aspect of her life.

Rafael Betancourt, Chairman of the Board of Directors, commented, "The Board is grateful to both Patsy and Evelyn for their 25+ years of service to the Center. The heart and soul of our mission, to help young women at the most vulnerable time in their lives, has been truly lived out through the generous efforts of these amazing ladies. It has been an honor and a privilege to work alongside pioneers of the Sidewalk Counseling Pro-Life movement, and there are over 1,200 children alive today because of the tireless efforts of Patsy, Evelyn and the entire Juan Diego family. We will miss them dearly, hold them close to our hearts as family, and wish upon them many blessings in the next chapter of their personal, professional and spiritual journeys."

The Center also announces the hires of **Christine Havens** as Outreach Manager, and **Cristina Fontanet** as Financial Accountant.

Christine Havens has over 18 years connecting families with community resources to address physical health and social service needs, specializing in outreach and in-home client services. She states, "In few weeks I have already been here, I am working with first-time mothers who truly need emotional or material support in their life's journey. Helping our clients overcome life's obstacles brings great joy to me. I feel [Juan Diego Center] is very much part of a larger plan for my life – this is more than a job for me, it is a calling for me to serve my sisters." Christine and her husband, Richard, are the parents of 6 children and have 14 grandchildren. They live in San Jose and are very active in their Church.

Cristina Fontanet, a native of Spain, has 15 years of Executive Assistant and Accounting Experience and is Quickbooks Certified. She has been a behind-the-scenes benefactor and prayer warrior for the

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Pro-Life movement for many years prior to joining the Center. Cristina and her husband have 2 children, live in San Jose, and are active members of St. Victor's Parish.

The Center also is sad to announce the departure of *Laura Reyes*, who served as Counselor and Office Manager for the past 4 years. We wish her the best in the next chapter of her life.

About Juan Diego Women's Center: Juan Diego Society, Inc., d.b.a. Juan Diego Women's Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit founded in 1986 as the first Catholic pro-life crisis pregnancy center in San Jose, California. Our mission is to support women through "Birth & Beyond," and for choosing LIFE for their unborn babies, in a Christ-centered environment. Since its founding, Juan Diego Center has saved over 1,200 babies' lives, and over over 11,000 clients with prenatal and material support. For more information, please visit: www.jdwcenter.org.

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