

## Las Vegas Family Church Shine City Project at Catholic Charities of So. Nevada

Ken Doo  
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Throughout the month of August, Shine City Project has been working to help serve the homeless and the food insecure. On August 31, 2019, our group returned to Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada! Since 1941, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada has been working hard to serve those in need, regardless of race, religion, or creed. They operate with the following mission statement: "We provide food, shelter and comprehensive services and inspire our community through collaboration, recognizing that each person is created in the image and likeness of God, and that God's compassion transforms lives."



On this morning, we had fourteen volunteers representing Shine City Project! Four of our volunteers were joining us for the first time! With our large group, we were able to split into two groups and offer ourselves in two separate areas of Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada. While ten of our volunteers were helping at the dining facility, four of our volunteers focused their efforts at the food pantry.

At the dining facility, our volunteers helped with various aspects of the community meal service. While several of our volunteers were helping to serve food items to those in line, a couple of our volunteers provided table assistance for single parents and their children and those with special needs such as wheelchair access. Other volunteers helped to check in clients and collect finished food trays. For all of our volunteers working at the dining facility, the meal service was an opportunity to serve directly those who needed help the most.

At the food pantry, our volunteers helped to restock shelves and make food bags while also breaking down cardboard boxes. Katsu, a volunteer from Japan, shares his experience.

"I was in charge of working at the food pantry and helping to make food bags. I felt joy doing the work while talking with another volunteer. We were able to make around 300 food bags in one and a half hours. I was not able to meet the people who will receive these food bags, but I know that these can help someone's livelihood."