

A Vision Driven By Faith



Episcopal
Community
Services

OUR CALL

Episcopal Community Services' roots run deep in both the Episcopal community and the field of social work. We are called by the Baptismal Covenant to “strive for justice and peace among all people, and to respect the dignity of every human being.”

This call echoes through the values that drive every aspect of our work: Dignity, Justice, Community, and Impact.

And the King will answer them,
‘Truly I tell you, just as you did
it to one of the least of these who
are members of my family, you
did it to me.’ –Matthew 25:40



OUR FAITH

Look Up with courage, capacity, and will.

Founded in 1870 to coordinate the anti-poverty work of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania, ECS programs have evolved with the changing needs of Philadelphians. Our focus was once on orphanages and tuberculosis clinics. Through the years, ECS has been known for providing the highest quality in homeless services, care for children and the aging, and justice ministries. Our relationship with the Diocese of Pennsylvania, individual parishes, and the wider community has also changed over the years; however, we remain trusted partners in a shared vision of a thriving Philadelphia region.

Guided by our faith, we pride ourselves on being an inclusive community of participants, staff, and partners—many of whom represent diverse faith traditions. After nearly 150 years, ECS continues to serve as the outreach arm of the Diocese, and today we lead a common call to *Look Up, Challenge Poverty*.

Look Up is an expression of our faith, a belief that there are positive outcomes ahead. It is also a call to see the challenges that so many in our community face. To the people in our programs, *Look Up* is a call to find a new confidence to walk the path to prosperity that lies before them.

ECS is part of a growing number of organizations shifting their work to focus on sustained change. By working with families and young people who wish to achieve economic independence, we balance faithful compassion with a faithful commitment to the people and communities that need us most.

There is great power in people of faith coming together and sharing a commitment to serve. Our staff, our supporters, and our participants answer that call every day: when a father attends a parents' night in the afterschool program, when a local parish donates gifts for Christmas celebrations, and when a volunteer mentor provides guidance and support for an aspirational young person in our workforce development program.

OUR COMMUNITY

We remain grateful to our Episcopal community, which has continued to trust in our ability to improve lives. The time, treasure, and talent shared by so many people over so many years, show that we all believe in the astonishing possibility of people.





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Look Up.
Challenge
Poverty.