

Donor Corner: Meet APCF Philanthropist Gizella Czene



Gizella Czene has been donating to APCF through the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) [“Sharing Brings Hope”](#) campaign for many years. For over 10 years, she has been with LAUSD working in facilities contracts, bringing together education and construction, two areas which she is passionate about.

Gizella’s parents immigrated to the United States from Ecuador and Hungary and settled in Los Angeles for a better life. Gizella’s father shared a story with her about a time in his childhood when he had seen his Jewish neighbors taken by Hungarian Nazis to death camps. Ten years later he had escaped Hungary, fearing the Soviet Union, and left everything he had behind to immigrate to the United States, a country that opened its doors to him and other immigrants in desperate need. Overjoyed by the kindness America had shown him, Gizella’s father became a prolific activist in the community, provided assistance and helped those in the community. America’s welcome of her father inspired her spirit of service and philanthropy.

Gizella believes the best way to donate is through payroll deduction. In order to provide services for those in need, a stable source of income is crucial in making the difference especially when the need for food security and safety in our community is so great. Donations of merely \$10 a month through payroll deductions can help nonprofits to manage their finances so they may continue providing vital services to those most in need.

Her goal is to increase her giving every year, and this past year she has teamed up with co-workers Ronnie Bossier, Christy Guzman, Ling Lee, and Angela McCloud to encourage and inspire others to donate to the “Sharing Brings Hope” campaign.

Gizella currently donates to the Korean Resource Center, American Friends Service Committee, Friends of Project 10, and The LA Trust for Children’s Health through the LAUSD campaign.

(This article was featured in APCF’s October 2017 Newsletter – [click here](#) for the full issue.)