

From: [Caroline Torosis](#)
To: [Joi Richardson](#); [Kennisha Williams](#)
Cc: [Elaine Polachek](#); [Josh Kurpies](#); [Ryan Smith](#); [Destiny Freeman](#); [Laurie Craft](#); [Nikki Gilbert](#)
Subject: Re: Introduction to CEO St. Joseph Center, Ryan Smith
Date: Friday, May 16, 2025 5:21:36 PM
Attachments: [image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)

I'm happy to try to go on Friday, June 13th.

From: Joi Richardson <jrichardson@stjosephctr.org>
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2025 3:43:42 PM
To: Kennisha Williams <Kennisha.Williams@santamonica.gov>
Cc: Caroline Torosis <Caroline.Torosis@santamonica.gov>; Elaine Polachek <Elaine.Polachek@santamonica.gov>; Josh Kurpies <Josh.Kurpies@santamonica.gov>; Ryan Smith <rsmith@stjosephctr.org>; Destiny Freeman <dfreeman@stjosephctr.org>; Laurie Craft <lcraft@stjosephctr.org>; Nikki Gilbert <NGilbert@stjosephctr.org>
Subject: FW: Introduction to CEO St. Joseph Center, Ryan Smith

EXTERNAL

Good afternoon Kennisha,

I hope you're doing well. Below are the available time slots for the council to visit our site. Please let me know which members are available on each of these dates.

- Thursday, June 12 – 10:00 AM
- Friday, June 13 – 10:00 AM
- Thursday, July 17 – 11:00 AM
- Thursday, July 24 – 11:00 AM

Thank you for your help in coordinating these visits—I really appreciate your support.
Best regards,



JOI RICHARDSON

VP of External Affairs & Communication

jrichardson@stjosephctr.org | p: (310) 396-6468

204 Hampton Drive, Venice, CA 90291 | www.stjosephctr.org



From: Kennisha Williams <Kennisha.Williams@santamonica.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 8, 2025 1:20 PM
To: Joi Richardson <jrichardson@stjosephctr.org>; Caroline Torosis <Caroline.Torosis@santamonica.gov>; Elaine Polachek <Elaine.Polachek@santamonica.gov>; Josh Kurpies <Josh.Kurpies@santamonica.gov>
Cc: Ryan Smith <rsmith@stjosephctr.org>; Nikki Gilbert <NGilbert@stjosephctr.org>; Destiny Freeman <dfreeman@stjosephctr.org>; Laurie Craft <lcraft@stjosephctr.org>
Subject: RE: Introduction to CEO St. Joseph Center, Ryan Smith

Hi Joi,

Now that I have an idea of who's interested, it would be best if you can start sending over some available time slots. I will pass them along to the councilmembers and plug them in as soon as I get responses from them.

Thank you for your assistance.

-Kennisha

From: Joi Richardson <jrichardson@stjosephctr.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 8, 2025 11:19 AM
To: Kennisha Williams <Kennisha.Williams@santamonica.gov>; Caroline Torosis <Caroline.Torosis@santamonica.gov>; Elaine Polachek <Elaine.Polachek@santamonica.gov>; Josh Kurpies <Josh.Kurpies@santamonica.gov>
Cc: Ryan Smith <rsmith@stjosephctr.org>; Nikki Gilbert <NGilbert@stjosephctr.org>; Destiny Freeman <dfreeman@stjosephctr.org>; Laurie Craft <lcraft@stjosephctr.org>
Subject: RE: Introduction to CEO St. Joseph Center, Ryan Smith

EXTERNAL

Good morning Kennisha,

Just gently bringing this to the top of your inbox. Please let me know how I can help facilitate scheduling this visit soon. Thank you!

JOI RICHARDSON

VP of External Affairs & Communication

jrichardson@stjosephctr.org | p: (310) 396-6468

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From: Joi Richardson

Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 12:38 PM

To: Kennisha Williams <Kennisha.Williams@santamonica.gov>; Caroline Torosis <Caroline.Torosis@santamonica.gov>; Elaine Polachek <Elaine.Polachek@santamonica.gov>; Josh Kurpies <Josh.Kurpies@santamonica.gov>

Cc: Ryan Smith <rsmith@stjosephctr.org>; Nikki Gilbert <NGilbert@stjosephctr.org>; Destiny Freeman <dfreeman@stjosephctr.org>; Laurie Craft <lcraft@stjosephctr.org>

Subject: RE: Introduction to CEO St. Joseph Center, Ryan Smith

Good afternoon,

I hope you had a great weekend. I'd like to move forward with scheduling the visit for the city council members who expressed interest. I'm happy to assist in any way to help move this request along.

Please let me know how I can best support getting this on the calendar. I'm also available for a quick call or Zoom if that would be helpful.

Best regards,



JOI RICHARDSON

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204 Hampton Drive, Venice, CA 90291 | www.stjosephctr.org



From: Joi Richardson <jrichardson@stjosephctr.org>

Sent: Friday, May 2, 2025 6:18 AM

To: Kennisha Williams <Kennisha.Williams@santamonica.gov>; Caroline Torosis <Caroline.Torosis@santamonica.gov>; Elaine Polachek <Elaine.Polachek@santamonica.gov>; Josh Kurpies <Josh.Kurpies@santamonica.gov>

Cc: Ryan Smith <rsmith@stjosephctr.org>; Nikki Gilbert <NGilbert@stjosephctr.org>; Destiny Freeman <dfreeman@stjosephctr.org>; Laurie Craft <lcraft@stjosephctr.org>

Subject: Re: Introduction to CEO St. Joseph Center, Ryan Smith

Good morning Kennisha,

I hope this message finds you well. Thank you for following up—I truly appreciate your efforts in coordinating the tour.

I have a quick question: how many council members can attend together while remaining in compliance with the Brown Act? If needed, would it make sense to move forward with those who have already expressed interest and schedule a second visit for the remaining members?

Once again, thank you for your support in organizing this. We're absolutely fine with doing two tours if that's what's needed.

Best regards,

Joi

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From: Kennisha Williams <Kennisha.Williams@santamonica.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 1, 2025 5:00:54 PM

To: Joi Richardson <jrichardson@stjosephctr.org>; Caroline Torosis <Caroline.Torosis@santamonica.gov>; Elaine Polachek <Elaine.Polachek@santamonica.gov>; Josh Kurpies <Josh.Kurpies@santamonica.gov>

Cc: Ryan Smith <rsmith@stjosephctr.org>; Nikki Gilbert <NGilbert@stjosephctr.org>; Destiny Freeman <dfreeman@stjosephctr.org>; Laurie Craft <lcraft@stjosephctr.org>

Subject: RE: Introduction to CEO St. Joseph Center, Ryan Smith

Hi Joi,

To date, I have confirmed that three councilmembers are interested in a tour. I sent a follow-up email to the others (in case the first one got buried deep in their inboxes) and will let you know if any others are interested.

Stay tuned!

-Kennisha

From: Joi Richardson <jrichardson@stjosephctr.org>

Sent: Friday, April 25, 2025 5:24 PM

To: Caroline Torosis <Caroline.Torosis@santamonica.gov>; Kennisha Williams <Kennisha.Williams@santamonica.gov>; Elaine Polachek <Elaine.Polachek@santamonica.gov>; Josh Kurpies <Josh.Kurpies@santamonica.gov>

Cc: Ryan Smith <rsmith@stjosephctr.org>; Nikki Gilbert <NGilbert@stjosephctr.org>; Destiny Freeman <dfreeman@stjosephctr.org>; Laurie Craft <lcraft@stjosephctr.org>

Subject: RE: Introduction to CEO St. Joseph Center, Ryan Smith

EXTERNAL

Good afternoon,

I hope you've all had a great week! I wanted to follow up on the invitation for the Santa Monica City Council to visit St. Joseph Center.

Councilmember Torosis, I appreciate your past visits during evening events; however, I wanted to note that our programs typically conclude by well before 5:00 p.m. It would be wonderful for you and your fellow councilmembers to see our daytime programs in action — from addressing food insecurity to providing workforce development and other vital services that support our most vulnerable neighbors.

We'd love to find a time that works for everyone and are happy to coordinate around your schedules as best we can. Please let me know how we can assist in setting up a visit.

Warm regards,



JOI RICHARDSON

VP of External Affairs & Communication

jrichardson@stjosephctr.org | p: (310) 396-6468

204 Hampton Drive, Venice, CA 90291 | www.stjosephctr.org



From: Caroline Torosis <Caroline.Torosis@santamonica.gov>

Sent: Saturday, April 12, 2025 10:58 AM

To: Joi Richardson <jrichardson@stjosephctr.org>; Kennisha Williams <Kennisha.Williams@santamonica.gov>; Elaine Polachek <Elaine.Polachek@santamonica.gov>; Josh Kurpies <Josh.Kurpies@santamonica.gov>

Cc: Ryan Smith <rsmith@stjosephctr.org>; Nikki Gilbert <NGilbert@stjosephctr.org>; Destiny Freeman <dfreeman@stjosephctr.org>; Laurie Craft <lcraft@stjosephctr.org>

Subject: Re: Introduction to CEO St. Joseph Center, Ryan Smith

Hi All,

I'm definitely interested in attending and I feel confident I can rally a couple of my colleagues to come with me.

For my schedule it's always better after 5 pm - I am not sure if that's doable for SJC.

Caroline

From: Joi Richardson <jrichardson@stjosephctr.org>

Sent: Saturday, April 12, 2025 10:44 AM

To: Kennisha Williams <Kennisha.Williams@santamonica.gov>; Elaine Polachek <Elaine.Polachek@santamonica.gov>; Caroline Torosis <Caroline.Torosis@santamonica.gov>; Josh Kurpies <Josh.Kurpies@santamonica.gov>

Cc: Ryan Smith <rsmith@stjosephctr.org>; Nikki Gilbert <NGilbert@stjosephctr.org>; Destiny Freeman <dfreeman@stjosephctr.org>; Laurie Craft <lcraft@stjosephctr.org>

Subject: RE: Introduction to CEO St. Joseph Center, Ryan Smith

EXTERNAL

Good morning Kennisha,

Hope your weekend is going well. I am happy to continue to work together to schedule visits.

Below is an invitation with additional details that may be helpful to share with the council.

On behalf of St. Joseph Center, we would be honored to invite Santa Monica Mayor, City Councilmembers and their staff to visit St. Joseph Center. We would greatly appreciate the opportunity to share more about our programs and the work we're doing to address the homelessness crisis in our community.

The visit would take approximately one hour and would begin with light refreshments and a meet-and-greet with your team, our staff, and our President & CEO, Dr. Ryan Smith. During the visit, Dr. Smith will provide an overview of St. Joseph Center's mission, services, and impact.

The visit will include a tour of:

- Our food pantry (the largest on the west side)
- Red and Roses Culinary Training Kitchen
- On-site workforce development program
- Bread & Roses Café, where we provide free, gourmet meals daily to an average of 150 clients—served with dignity and care

We believe this visit will offer valuable insight into how our organization is supporting vulnerable populations across Los Angeles County.

If you have additional questions, I am available for a call or a zoom. You can learn more about us at <https://stjosephctr.org/>.

We look forward to the opportunity to welcome Santa Monica elected officials to St Joseph Center.

Warm regards,

JOI RICHARDSON

VP of External Affairs & Communication

jrichardson@stjosephctr.org | p: (310) 396-6468

204 Hampton Drive, Venice, CA 90291 | www.stjosephctr.org



From: Kennisha Williams <Kennisha.Williams@santamonica.gov>

Sent: Friday, April 11, 2025 10:23 AM

To: Joi Richardson <jrichardson@stjosephctr.org>; Elaine Polachek <Elaine.Polachek@santamonica.gov>; Caroline Torosis <Caroline.Torosis@santamonica.gov>; Josh Kurpies <Josh.Kurpies@santamonica.gov>

Cc: Ryan Smith <rsmith@stjosephctr.org>; Nikki Gilbert <NGilbert@stjosephctr.org>; Destiny Freeman <dfreeman@stjosephctr.org>; Laurie Craft <lcraft@stjosephctr.org>

Subject: RE: Introduction to CEO St. Joseph Center, Ryan Smith

Good morning,

Very nice to meet you all. Thank you for reaching out and for extending the invitation to tour St. Joseph Center. I would be happy to share this with the Councilmembers to gauge their interest.

Would you mind sending over a few additional details about what the tour would entail—such as the estimated duration, key highlights or any specific topics that would be covered? If possible, it would also be helpful to have a brief invitation or overview that I can forward directly to the Councilmembers. Once I know who might be interested in attending, we can work together to coordinate potential dates.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Best regards,
Kennisha



Kennisha Williams

Administrative Staff Assistant
City Council's Office

santamonica.gov

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From: Joi Richardson <jrichardson@stjosephctr.org>

Sent: Tuesday, April 8, 2025 9:08 AM

To: Elaine Polachek <Elaine.Polachek@santamonica.gov>; Caroline Torosis <Caroline.Torosis@santamonica.gov>; Josh Kurpies <Josh.Kurpies@santamonica.gov>; Kennisha Williams <Kennisha.Williams@santamonica.gov>

Cc: Ryan Smith <rsmith@stjosephctr.org>; Nikki Gilbert <NGilbert@stjosephctr.org>; Destiny Freeman <dfreeman@stjosephctr.org>; Laurie Craft <lcraft@stjosephctr.org>

Subject: RE: Introduction to CEO St. Joseph Center, Ryan Smith

EXTERNAL

Good morning,

Thank you for looping me in, Dr. Smith. It's a pleasure to e-meet you, Elaine and Josh. I'm excited to assist with coordinating the visits to St. Joseph Center and will be happy to help with scheduling.

Please feel free to send over the dates that work for the Councilmembers, and I'll do my best to accommodate. Additionally, if it would be helpful, I'm available for a call or virtual meeting to work through the details—whatever is most convenient for your team.

Best regards,



JOI RICHARDSON

VP of External Affairs & Communication

jrichardson@stjosephctr.org | p: (310) 396-6468

204 Hampton Drive, Venice, CA 90291 | www.stjosephctr.org



From: Ryan Smith

Sent: Saturday, April 5, 2025 9:39 AM

To:

Cc: Caroline Torosis <Caroline.Torosis@santamonica.gov>; Josh Kurpies <Josh.Kurpies@santamonica.gov>; Kennisha Williams <Kennisha.Williams@santamonica.gov>; Laurie Craft <lcraft@stjosephctr.org>; Joi Richardson <jrichardson@stjosephctr.org>; Nikki Gilbert <NGilbert@stjosephctr.org>; Natalie Hernandez <NHernandez@stjosephctr.org>

Subject: Re: Introduction to CEO St. Joseph Center, Ryan Smith

Dear Elaine and Josh,

Thank you, Councilmember Torosis, for the introduction. Elaine, it's nice to meet you. I appreciate you being open to coordinating tours for the Councilmembers, and I look forward to welcoming you all to St. Joseph Center.

Please feel free to reach out whenever it's convenient to identify dates that work well for everyone. I'm excited to share more about our work and explore opportunities to further support the community. I'm copying Joi Richardson who can help us schedule time as well.

Looking forward to connecting and making this visit happen.

Have a great weekend!

Onward,

RJS

Dr. Ryan J. Smith

President and CEO

St. Joseph Center | Hope Through Empowerment

rsmith@stjosephctr.org | he/him/his

204 Hampton Drive, Venice, CA 90291 | www.stjosephctr.org

On Apr 4, 2025, at 6:20 PM, Elaine Polachek

<Elaine.Polachek@santamonica.gov> wrote:

Thank you for the introduction, Councilmember Torosis. Nice to meet you, Ryan.
We will work with you to identify times for groups of Councilmembers to tour the facility. Josh and Kennisha will be in touch.

Have a nice weekend!

Elaine

From: Caroline Torosis <Caroline.Torosis@santamonica.gov>

Sent: Friday, April 4, 2025 4:44 PM

To: Ryan Smith <rsmith@stjosephctr.org>; Josh Kurpies

<Josh.Kurpies@santamonica.gov>; Elaine Polachek

<Elaine.Polachek@santamonica.gov>

Subject: Introduction to CEO St. Joseph Center, Ryan Smith

Hi Josh and Elaine,

I wanted to introduce you to my friend, Ryan Smith, who is the President and CEO of St. Joseph Center. They have been doing a lot of great work over the last year and I believe he wanted to be in touch with you all about inviting the Councilmembers for a visit and tour.

I hope you all are able to connect so we can make this happen.

Thanks!

Caroline

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