

ADOPT A YIAYIA AND PAPPOU

LET'S BUILD RELATIONSHIPS...ONE PHONE CALL AT A TIME!

OUR MISSION

- To build authentic and meaningful relationships between teenagers and the elderly members of our church.
- To create an outlet for senior members of our community to share their life experiences and lessons learned with younger members of the community.
- To create a spirit of intergenerational excellence in our Greek Orthodox community.
- Added bonus: Diminish feelings of isolation and loneliness caused by COVID-19 pandemic.

OUR PLAN

- A GOYA advisor reaches out to the Parish Council and church ministries and community to find interested seniors.
- GOYANS are matched with an elderly member of their church community to call and have a weekly chat.
- GOYANS are given an approved list of questions to utilize as conversation starters.
- GOYANS and their adopted Yiayia/Pappou establish a weekly phone call routine.

OUR VISION

- This program has been well received by both the St. George GOYANS and senior members.
- With our success, we would like to see the Adopt a Yiayia and Pappou program implemented in all Greek Orthodox churches.

REWARDS

- Increased empathy.
- A greater understanding of the past, as told by someone who has experienced it.
- Wisdom is gained, as well as a beautiful collection of stories.
- A new friendship.

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS

- What is your name and were you named after someone?
- When and where were you born?
- In what church were you baptized?
- Is your family from Greece, and if so, from what part of Greece?
- Were you born in Greece and did you immigrate to US? Who from your family came first, and what was it like coming to this country?
- What would you consider the most important inventions during your lifetime?
- What person really changed the course of your life?
- Do you remember any advice or comments that had a big impact on how you live your life?
- Are there any saints that are particularly meaningful to you?

CONTACT INFORMATION

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