

THE CLARION
NEWS FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Easter

BRINGS A SEASON OF
NEW GROWTH



..... SPRING 2021 EDITION

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NEW GROWTH

Dear Friends,

On behalf of everyone at Catholic Charities, I wish you a blessed Lenten Season and Holy Week. As a Catholic institution, we at Catholic Charities join you in looking forward to the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday.

This issue of our newsletter is also a celebration of new beginnings as we highlight the latest programs, services and partnerships that expand our mission across the diocese so we can better serve those in need as Christ would have us do.

At Catholic Charities, our role is to carry out the Gospel imperative to serve those in need. As the principal domestic charitable organization of the Church in our diocese, our services are therefore rooted in Catholic social teaching. As a result, we focus on strengthening the human family—the central institution of every society and community. Addressing root causes is key to our vision of eradicating poverty, strengthening families, and contributing to thriving communities.

In this issue, we provide our readers with a glimpse into the new ways Catholic Charities is responding to these essential pillars of our mission in each region of the diocese.

To learn more, please visit our website at ccfwsb.org and follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/ccfwsb

Gloria Whitcraft

Gloria Whitcraft, CEO

A CALL FOR MENTOR VOLUNTEERS IN NORTH REGION

The purpose of this program is to provide adult positive role models who can give support and guidance to help youth succeed later in life. Targeted to youth between the ages of 9 and 17 who need a boost to the protective factors known to lead to the best outcomes in school and in life, the program will use trained adult volunteers to form nurturing relationships lasting no less than twelve months. To learn more, please call **260-925-0917**.

“It’s really gratifying to see a student...blossom. It’s amazing to see how a little effort can really turn a kid around.”

-Tom Martin, Mentor Volunteer



A CALL FOR RSVP PARTICIPANTS

The Retired Senior Volunteer Program connects people 55 years and older to organizations that need them most. Catholic Charities helps them become mentors, coaches, and companions to people in need. They also contribute their job skills and expertise to community projects and organizations. COVID-safe opportunities are available. To learn more, please call **260-925-0917**.

“It feels good when I go back to the veteran and tell him we took care of his problem,”

- Marc Tjaden, VA Volunteer



A CALL FOR THOSE WANTING TO CHANGE THE WORLD

Is it your mission to help those in need? Are you passionate about changing the world? We are searching for our community’s heroes who can help us eradicate poverty one day at a time. If you would like to put your God-given skills to use to aid those most vulnerable in our community, we want you on our team! Learn more about career opportunities on our website: **www.ccfwsb.org/careers**

A CALL TO CELEBRATE MEMORIES & MILESTONES

As Catholic Charities approaches our 100th anniversary in 2022, we are collecting stories from past and present individuals, couples and families we have served to help us celebrate this big milestone. We want to hear how Catholic Charities has made an impact on YOU! If you are a past employee, board member or volunteer, or have you received services from any of our past or present programs, please share your story with us at www.ccfwsb.org/share-your-story.



LOOKING BACK...

Open Associated Catholic Charities, which is formed by Bishop Herman Alerding

1922

Open an office in South Bend to better meet the needs of the West Region

1927

Begin adoption counseling for moms

1947

Admit the first resident to the St. Anne Retirement Community

1950

Hire professional staff with degrees to meet the expanding need for counseling

1967

PAST PROGRAMS

- Birthing the Vision
- Children's Cottage
- Circle of Mercy Day Care Center
- Foster Parent Training Program (1997)
- Faith Based Initiative Program
- Home Visitor Program
- Project Rachel
- Saint Anne's Home (1967-2015)
- Summer Enrichment Program
- The Rainbows Program
- Ten-O-Four Home
- Villa of the Woods in Fort Wayne
- Vincent House in Elkhart

CURRENT PROGRAMS

- Adoption
- Assistance with rent, food or utilities
- Backpack program
- Christmas program
- Counseling
- Coats program
- Disaster Relief
- ECHO (Education Creates Hope and Opportunity)
- Food Pantry
- Hispanic Health Advocate
- Immigration Services
- Pregnancy Counseling
- Refugee Services
- RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program)
- Services to Survivors of Human Trafficking
- SCSEP (Senior Community Services Employment Program)
- VITA Tax
- Youth Mentoring



Begin resettling refugees from the Vietnam War

Launch the Hope to Healing Initiative to bring professional mental health counseling to the diocese

1974

1975

1996

2017

2021

Establish the Retired Senior Volunteer Program

Launch Education Creates Hope and Opportunity (ECHO) to assist pregnant teen moms

Open an outpatient addiction treatment program in South Bend

A NEW SEASON

CATHOLIC CHARITIES EXPANDS ITS VITAL

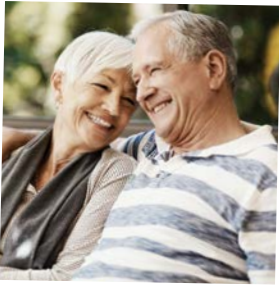


COLLABORATION WITH THE CENTER FOR THE HOMELESS



Aligned with our vision to eradicate poverty, Catholic Charities has joined forces with this respected pillar in South Bend to provide services to adult guests of The Center for the Homeless who are transitioning out of the shelter. Securing affordable housing, a stable paycheck and nourishing food are just a few of the barriers our mutual clients will face. Together, Catholic Charities and The Center for the Homeless staff will help guests get a good start toward their goal of thriving again in our community.

PARTNERSHIP WITH REAL SERVICES, INC.



REAL Services, another trusted provider of needed services in South Bend and surrounding counties, and Catholic Charities are now collaborating to support care givers of adult recipients of REAL Services' programs for aging adults. A counselor from Catholic Charities will work with care givers as they work through the many complex emotions associated with caring for a loved one who is in need of more care and support than ever before.



CONNECT ALLEN COUNTY



Catholic Charities and long-term partner Lutheran Social Services of IN will share an office at Connect Allen County, an initiative of the Allen County System of Care and The Lutheran Foundation. Located in Rudisill Plaza in Fort Wayne, IN, Connect Allen County will bring together several local social service agencies to better coordinate services for adults, children and families in need of services.

OF GROWTH

SERVICES ACROSS THE DIOCESE



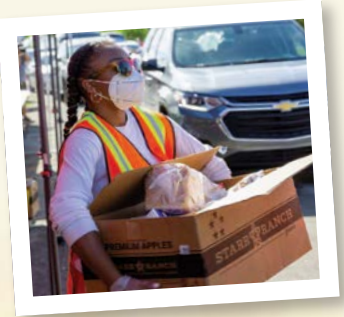
ECHO PROGRAM



Catholic Charities is expanding the Education Creates Hope and Opportunity (ECHO) program to DeKalb, Noble, Steuben and LaGrange counties, which are served by our North Region office in Auburn, IN. The ECHO program focuses on supporting teen parents to obtain their high school diploma or equivalent. According to the national average, only about 40% of teen parents graduate from high school. Compare that figure with the 90+% graduation rate for ECHO participants. This basic

level of achievement has a profound effect on earning potential, along with numerous other positive outcomes, which in turn helps keep many above the poverty level.

RESOURCE AND REFERRAL PROGRAM



Our Resource and Referral Program, which provides financial assistance for basic needs such as rent, utilities, food, baby and household supplies, has expanded to our North Region office. This program has also been aiding families financially who have been affected by the pandemic. Individuals may complete an application for assistance on our website.

Eligible adults will be scheduled for an appointment to meet with one of our social workers.

A NEW TREATMENT PROGRAM FOR THE ADDICTED

NEW OUTPATIENT ADDICTIONS TREATMENT PROGRAM OPENS IN SOUTH BEND

Under the umbrella of the mental health counseling division--but separate from the Hope to Healing Initiative--Catholic Charities has launched a fee-for-service outpatient drug and alcohol addiction treatment program. This program is currently available in our South Bend office and is now taking referrals from healthcare professionals, courts, attorneys, and self-referrals.

“Addiction is a common companion to mental illness, and it affects people of all ages and backgrounds with devastating results,” says Chris Nowak, Catholic Charities Clinical Director and certified addictions therapist. “It has the power to destroy health, relationships, and livelihoods. And people in our diocese are suffering from addiction to drugs and alcohol in record numbers.”



Chris Nowak - Clinical Liaison

A recent report from the U.S. surgeon general estimates that more than 20 million Americans have problems with prescription drugs, illegal drugs,

or alcohol. However, only a small percentage get meaningful help.

“What sets us apart is our ability to attend to the spiritual needs of clients,” says Gloria Whitcraft, CEO of CCFWSB. “We provide a safe and encouraging environment to nourish the mind, body, and spirit for the sake of healing.”



Gloria Whitcraft - CEO of CCFWSB

For now, the new program is limited to outpatient treatment for alcohol and drug addiction. Until further notice, CCFWSB will not be addressing other addictions such as gambling.

The program is abstinence-based, meaning clients need to remove themselves completely from the addicting substance. Clients are also strongly encouraged to participate in support programs such as Alcoholics Anonymous.

CCFWSB acquired an established outpatient treatment program from owner Rob Morgan, who is a certified addictions counselor. Morgan now

provides the same services for clients through the Catholic Charities office in South Bend. Nowak, who has 25 years of experience in addiction treatment, acts as clinical supervisor. Catholic Charities received state certification for the program on January 5, 2021.

Over nearly 100 years, CCFWSB has responded to the needs of the most vulnerable in the diocese. Today, addictions are tormenting individuals and destroying families. Providing treatment that honors the dignity of every person and strengthens families aligns well with CCFWSB's mission. As such, CCFWSB has plans to expand its addictions practice over time.

MEET ROB MORGAN

CATHOLIC CHARITIES' NEW ADDICTIONS COUNSELOR



Joining Catholic Charities in January, Rob Morgan has a Masters of Science in Addiction Psychology from Capella University. He brings with him 25 years of experience working with adults in substance abuse, education, and anger management groups. He enjoys the variety of clients at Catholic Charities. The different backgrounds, personalities and experiences that he comes in contact with on a daily basis is his favorite part of his work.





Hope ^{to} Healing

HOPE TO HEALING INITIATIVE RAISES AWARENESS OF VITAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

With encouragement from Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Catholic Charities launched the philanthropic Hope to Healing Initiative in 2017. The initiative's goal is to raise awareness of the growing need for mental health services across the diocese. In addition, the aim is to encourage the faithful and all people of good will to pray, volunteer and give generously in support of Catholic Charities' efforts to respond to individuals, couples, and families referred for mental health services from the parishes and Catholic schools.

160,317

Catholics in our diocese



20,000

will need help in their lifetime

13,668

students in Catholic school



1,640

will need help in their lifetime

20,000

served by Catholic Charities annually



2,160

will need help in their lifetime

PLEASE SUPPORT

Mental Health

THIS MOTHER'S & FATHER'S DAYS

The COVID-19 pandemic has increased anxiety and mental health challenges. Those affected in our diocese need the compassionate assistance of the Church more than ever.

To answer this need, we are again offering the opportunity to honor a parent in your life this Mother's and Father's Day. This appeal is a special way to say thank you for

all the love and support your parents gave you, while also supporting the parents who are showing the same care to their children today and tomorrow.

All donations made for this appeal will have the option to have Catholic Charities send their honoree a Mother's Day or Father's Day card. Donations can be made on our website by selecting "Mother's Day"



Catholic Charities has mental health counselors, as well as a Clinical Liaison dedicated to this program. The liaison receives referrals from diocesan priests, designees and Catholic school principals, assesses the needs and preferences of the person referred so we make the best connection for them with a licensed counselor in our vast network.



Parish priests and school staff encounter a student or family who need help.



The parish priests contact a clinical liaison with a referral for counseling.



The clinical liaison reaches out to the party to gather information.



The clinical liaison connects them with a suitable counselor based on collected information.



The clinical liaison follows up 4 to 6 weeks post-match.

"Many of our family members, friends, or colleagues will encounter mental health challenges at some point," says Hope to Healing co-chair Helen Nill. "So a sustainable counseling program is vital to creating a more mentally healthy diocese."

COUNSELING

243

**SERVED
2017-2020**

CLINICAL LIASON

668

**REFERRALS
2017-2020**

under appeals. Catholic Charities must receive the honoree's name by April 30 for a card to be sent for Mother's Day and June 11 for Father's Day.



THANKS TO YOUR

generous gifts

we were able to serve

22,546 INDIVIDUALS
IN 2020.

PLEASE CONSIDER A GIFT OF:

- \$1,500 Counseling Couples to Save Their Marriage
- \$1,000 Counseling Victims of Abuse or Trauma
- \$500 Welcoming New Americans
- \$250 Providing Job Training for Low Income Parents
- \$100 Preventing Teens from Dropping Out of High School
- \$50 Eliminating the Barriers that Contribute to Poverty
- \$15 Helping a Low income Family keep the Heat on

Any gift, big or small, helps us strengthen families!



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