



Catholic Charities and Most
Blessed Trinity Partnership

Continuing a Legacy of Giving

Stronger Futures Program
Gives Youth a Fresh Start

Families Find Hope

Reclaim Dignity and Rebuild Their Lives

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Reclaim Dignity and Rebuild Their Lives



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SPIRIT MAGAZINE

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Rev. Monsignor Michael Boland

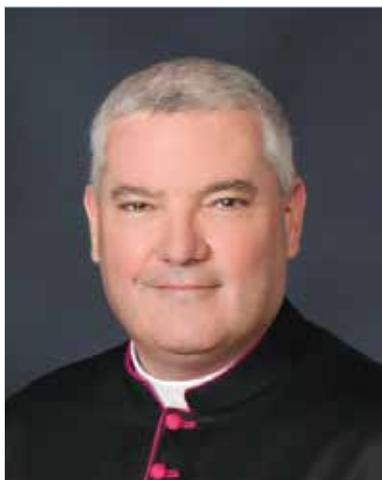
PRESIDENT OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Hope is Found at Catholic Charities

Often people come to Catholic Charities at the most difficult times of their lives. Hungry, afraid, hurting, alone, homeless, helpless, hopeless – it is Catholic Charities privilege to care for people at these desperate times, helping them rebuild their lives and restoring hope for the future.

In our century of serving people in crisis, Catholic Charities has learned that help must come in two forms. We must first meet any immediate basic needs for food, clothing, shelter, or safety. And then we must also offer comprehensive, holistic social services to address underlying issues and help people get back on a path to self-sufficiency.

This path to self-sufficiency is usually not easy, or straight, or lined with beautiful scenery. Sometimes the path can seem downright ugly and impossible. Becoming self-sufficient after experiencing homelessness, domestic violence, gang involvement, addiction, mental illness – or in the case of veterans, hand-to-hand combat – may take many months and lose its momentum from time to time. But no matter how many ups and downs or twists and turns the path takes, Catholic Charities walks with people, step-by-step on their journey to independence. Just like the Good Samaritan, we are



“The path to self-sufficiency is usually not easy, ...Sometimes the path can seem downright ugly and impossible.”

there to pick them up, clean their wounds, and give them another chance at life.

In this issue you will learn about the many ways that Catholic Charities helps rebuild lives. Whether we are

shining a light on the darkness of domestic violence; helping people climb out of the depths of homelessness; finding employment and a new lease on life for youths who have been incarcerated or have dropped out of school; or helping veterans reclaim their independence and stability when they have so bravely fought for ours, Catholic Charities is there. We are there with the professional services and comprehensive support that is needed to truly restore dignity and bring hope for the future.

You will also read about many of the partnerships that enable Catholic Charities to be present for those most in need. I hope you will be inspired by the dedication of our featured donors, Mary Ellen and Bob Kastenzholz; and the many men, women and children from St. Mary Parish in Riverside who so faithfully care for our neighbors in need. Catholic Charities is also very excited about our new partnership with Blessed Trinity Parish in Waukegan. Uniting our services in this community will be a blessing to all.

No matter what crisis, past actions, or circumstance leads people to our doors, Catholic Charities assures each and every person who seeks our help that hope is not lost. At Catholic Charities, hope is found!

The Voice of Catholic Charities

Listen to Monsignor Boland's reflections and perspective Tuesdays on WNDZ 750-AM from 8:30 to 9 a.m. and read his monthly column in the *Chicago Catholic* and *Keenager News*

Mary Ellen and Bob Kastenholz

Continuing a Legacy of Giving

The Kastenholzes honor the memory of Helen and Francis Kastenholz with love of family, tradition, and commitment of helping those in need.



Imagine an intricately woven tapestry, with each thread representing acts of kindness and unselfishly giving of one's self to helping the less fortunate. This tapestry is symbolic of the generosity of Mary Ellen and Bob Kastenholz. They continue to weave threads of what Mary Ellen describes as the fabric of their lives, largely due in part to the commitment to help others instilled by Bob Kastenholz parents, Helen and Francis. From 1982 to 1984 Francis Kastenholz served as President (Chair) of the Board of Directors.

On a recent bright and sunny fall morning in Chicago's Austin neighborhood, Monsignor Boland blessed the Peace Garden at the Tolton Center in honor of Helen and Francis Kastenholz. "We are grateful for Helen and Francis Kastenholz who served as perpetual examples of the selfless, unconditional love of parents for their children and grandchildren," said Monsignor Boland.

Mary Ellen and Bob were joined by their family to witness the tribute. "The visibility of this garden in the community, anti-violence, social justice, were important issues to

"The best way of teaching is what my father-in-law did, he just did it, and we all learned from that."

Mary Ellen Kastenholz

my parents," said Bob. "The peace garden was the perfect way to honor their memory and their legacy."

A legacy that continues through the dedicated service of Mary Ellen and Bob, who have called Catholic Charities home for more than 20 years. Whether serving on the board, starting clothing rooms, chairing event committees and raising funds through golf outings, the Kastenholz continue to lead by the example of Helen and Francis.

"My father-in-law really started something, his example was really in doing not about talking" said Mary Ellen. "I just knew when the time came for me, I wanted to become actively involved in the organization."

The Kastenholzes continue to build on their works of giving by having their children and other family members involved. "The nice thing about Catholic Charities is they provide a lot of service opportunities that bring families together," said Bob. The family has come together during the Celebration of Giving and recently filled toiletry kits for the Pope Francis ministries' shower program. Their children continue their involvement through the Junior Board and Mary Ellen and Bob's daughter-in-law is in her second year as chair of the Casino Night fundraiser for the Catholic Charities Junior Board.

Asked about why it's so important to keep families involved in giving, Mary Ellen says, "The best way of teaching is what my father-in-law did, he just did it, and we all learned from that. We want so much for our children, to see the good, but to be part of the good."

PHOTOS (LEFT TO RIGHT)

A plaque installed at the Tolton Center Peace Garden honoring Helen and Francis Kastenholz

Mary Ellen and Bob Kastenholz

The Kastenholz family and Monsignor Boland

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Catholic Charities and Most Blessed Trinity Expand Services through Partnership

Monsignor Boland and Father Tim O'Malley of Most Blessed Trinity Church in Waukegan welcomed community members to an open house at The Community Center on September 18 to celebrate a new partnership of social services in the Lake County area. Community members learned about the expansion of programs and resources and were treated to refreshments and a colorful performance by a local Mexican folkloric children's dance group.

The new partnership serves as a way to support families and their basic needs through additional programs offered at Most Blessed Trinity. The parish serves more than 25,000 families in Waukegan and



surrounding communities at its soup kitchen and food pantry. Catholic Charities is partnering with the parish for its social service programs at The Community Center and House of Peace shelter – a safe haven for women and children overcoming domestic and interpersonal violence.

“Catholic Charities is committed to honoring the legacy of compassionate care that Most Blessed Trinity parish has offered through its programs,” said Monsignor Boland.



(BOTTOM LEFT) A local Mexican folkloric dance group prepare to perform at a partnership open house at The Community Center.

(TOP) Karen Daniels, Debby Lambert, and Jan Elwart stand in front of artwork created by former residents of House of Peace.

“Our additional resources will help maximize our impact on the lives of clients and guide them on their journey to self-sufficiency.”

Sharing similar missions of serving people with love and compassion, the services offered through the new partnership will enhance the ability to serve women, men and children who need the help.

“To walk with Jesus is to walk with the poor,” said Fr. O'Malley. “Our partnership with Catholic Charities allows Most Blessed Trinity to work together to bring positive change to families and individuals in need. Our abundance of services helps restore faith in the community.”

For Carla Gutierrez, her passion for social work and community outreach has led her to what she considers her dream job as program supervisor for The Community Center.

“Through the new parish partnership, The Community Center is now able to offer a range of services not just available to our immigrant and refugee population, but to the community in general,” said Gutierrez. “It has become a main hub in the community for

helping those in need.”

Catholic Charities new partnership has expanded programs that not only support immigrants but build strong family and community support systems.

A much needed program and source of support for survivors of domestic violence in the community is House of Peace. The program is a six-month shelter program for residents of Lake County and serves 12-15 women and 30-40 children each year. The clients receive individual mental health counseling, self-esteem classes, and group counseling in both English and Spanish depending on the client's need.

“The House of Peace has helped numerous families heal, regain self-confidence, establish a network of support, and become independent to maintain a healthy livelihood free of abuse,” said Donna Drinka, program director for House of Peace.

Since the open house, more community members and local agencies have expressed interest on learning more about the continuum of services to provide a better future for families in Lake County.

Stronger Futures Program Gives Youth a Fresh Start

For youth who have not completed high school, or been incarcerated or involved with the justice system, getting a fresh start can be overwhelming – and to some, it can feel insurmountable. Unemployment among young people continues to be high, with young African American males facing a 40% unemployment rate. But now, thanks to a grant from the City of Chicago’s Department of Family and Support Services and funding from private donors, Catholic Charities can work with these youth to help them find employment and give them the supports they need to rebuild their lives.

The Stronger Futures Program is targeted to unemployed youths between the ages of 18-24 years old who are either justice-involved (including having a criminal record, arrests, or incarceration) or do not have a high school diploma or GED, or both. At least 75% of the participants are male. “We are excited to work with this group of youths,” says Gina Cleggs, associate vice president, Community Development and Outreach Services. “This is the group that is not connected to any type of supports, and it is so important that we reach them.”

The program serves the Little Village and South Lawndale neighborhoods and is based out of Catholic Charities WIC Center at 2400 S. Kedzie, but it’s truly a mobile program. “Many of the youths have been gang-involved and we have to be very cautious about them



Some of the youth tell us that without this program, they would still be out there on the corner.

crossing gang territory,” explains Gina. “We will meet them wherever they feel comfortable.”

Each participant is assigned a Catholic Charities job coach and the two meet weekly to work on an Individualized Action Plan. The plan helps them think about their goals for the future, and covers a broad range of life issues that may potentially prevent successful employment including unstable housing, education and training needs, mental health issues, addiction, child care, and concerns about personal safety. Strategies are

developed to overcome obstacles, and participants are connected with a variety of needed support and resources. All participants take part in workshops where they learn specific job skills such as resume writing and job search techniques.

While they are looking for employment, participants receive a \$100 per week stipend, transportation assistance, and help covering the costs of work boots, uniforms, or other items needed to begin a job. Catholic Charities connects them to employers in a variety of industries including food service, retail, security, and manufacturing.

“Some of the youth tell us that without this program, they would still be out there on the corner. They don’t really know what else to do,” Gina explains. “This program helps them see that their past is their past, but with hard work and consistency, they can still have a strong future.”

For More Information or to Support Stronger Futures

Catholic Charities • 2400 S. Kedzie • Chicago
Ann de Cruz (773) 251-6321

Families Find Hope

Reclaim
DIGNITY

Rebuild
Their LIVES



Located in a quiet neighborhood north of Chicago, a peaceful enclave has opened its doors and its heart to families with little or no source of income and often with no place to live other than to return to an abusive relationship. The complex is a safe space where survivors of homelessness and domestic violence reclaim their dignity and rebuild their lives.

Beautifully landscaped and extensive grounds surround this campus where two large shelters stand alongside one another. Near the front steps of one of the shelters, a mother is playing with her toddler and just a few feet away small trees are shedding their leaves, in their place are tiny purple ribbons – a symbol of awareness, hope, and survival.

Three years ago, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago brought together House of the Good Shepherd, one of Chicago's first domestic violence/shelter programs, with Madonna House, an emergency homeless shelter. Although both houses shared the same location, there had been little collaboration between the two programs. That changed when Catholic Charities stepped in.

In June 2015 Sister Jean Kiely took the helm of overseeing both House of Good Shepherd and Madonna House. Together with a dedicated staff and numerous community partners, Sr. Jean began integrating services to benefit all clients residing on the campus. The resources and supports needed to stabilize the families' lives are often interwoven and similar so combining resources and expanding services at both shelters was a natural fit.

According to Sr. Jean, "We assist our families in accessing legal assistance, trauma-informed counseling, addiction services, education, child welfare, immigration, housing, employment, plus health and medical services. Residents share family outings to holiday parties and indoor and outdoor enrichment activities throughout the year. Ultimately we want our families to increase their learning, earning, and caregiving potential in a secure, nurturing environment."

Many women and children find themselves at House of Good Shepherd through referrals or recommendations from local domestic violence emergency shelters. An initial call or

intake by a clinician helps assess the needs of the women and children. The next step is an in-person interview to determine goals for the women and explain the structure of the intensive healing and recovery program, including counseling.

“The clients have a case manager who helps with having the women adjust to life at Good Shepherd, a lot of emotional support goes into case management,” says Kelly Vaughan, clinical supervisor at House of Good Shepherd. “For us, I think it’s important that clients don’t have to feel like they have to share everything about themselves with a case manager, so it’s important for them to have that private, confidential space. It helps clients become more independent because they don’t have only one person that they’re always going to, but learning to have their needs met by multiple people, I think it does break the isolation where they don’t think they just have to go to one person.”

Women from House of Good Shepherd participate in a rigorous, 12-week adult education program featuring coursework in ESL, GED, job training as well as support groups where women and mothers from Madonna House can also participate. One key program is the financial literacy component. Through a series of activities, participants learn basic skills to become financially independent. On average, 75-80% of survivors leave House of Good Shepherd with \$1,500 to \$3,000 in savings.

“We help the women budget their finances and save based on their income,” says Lizette Olvera, education supervisor for House of Good Shepherd. “The goal is to help them build trust, feel empowered and to say ‘I’m able to make it, even if it’s a little, if I budget correctly I have that financial independence to help me not go back to an abusive relationship’ or in the case of Madonna House, ‘help me be independent’.”

The children are also included in



campus programming. They too can be exposed to trauma from a domestic violence situation and House of Good Shepherd provides meaningful activities that help bring a sense of normalcy and happiness.

“She’s able to be a kid.” That’s how Angela* describes how her 10-year-old daughter feels at House of Good Shepherd. Angela became a resident of House of Good Shepherd a little over a month ago. She describes the feeling of a big burden lifted off her by being enrolled in the program.

“I am now able to open up, be myself, and talk about some of the things that I have been through. And it’s only because of the programs that they offer here,” says Angela. “For the person that really needs them and is willing to move on and rewrite a chapter in their life the programs work a lot.”

While only at House of Good Shepherd for a short time, Angela credits her daughter for her continued strength and perseverance. “She told me the other day, ‘mom I’m so proud of you’ and what she didn’t know is that from what we were going through, going from shelter to shelter, she was my backbone,” says Angela. “And she kept on pushing me and she gave me a reason to get out of it and get help, to escape it.”

Angela is thriving at House of Good Shepherd and is using her experience as an avenue of advocacy for domestic violence awareness. She is continuing her education to pursue a degree in counseling to help others in similar

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE Impact on Immigrants and Refugees

Domestic violence affects women and children of all walks of life, including men. Immigrants and refugees who are faced with domestic violence circumstances can often feel isolated and helpless due to language barriers, cultural barriers and fear of an unknown environment, but Catholic Charities Immigration and Naturalization Services program offers a safe and supportive network of services. The Immigration Survivors Project provides legal assistance and safety planning with immigrant, refugee and undocumented survivors of domestic violence.

In collaboration with other agencies, community based services and referrals – at times from House of Good Shepherd; the project has helped 300 survivors obtain legal status and citizenship through the Violence Against Women Act.

CONTINUES PAGE 10



situations. “Everybody’s story is different, but we’re the same because we’re all survivors.”

Each woman’s stay at House of Good Shepherd is unique to their personal and family needs. The program has no imposed lengths of stay and women like Angela can take as little as one month to start to feel confident in their journey of healing and recovery. But for others, it can take longer where each House of Good Shepherd staff member provides compassionate support to each survivor.

On a recent late afternoon at House of Good Shepherd, you see a mother waiting for her child to be dropped off at the school bus, another mother is returning from work, carefully pulling into her parking spot and on her way to pick up her children from the onsite day care. A normal routine for many parents, but for these women, it is a sense of accomplishment and a routine that they never thought they could do.

Lauren*, a young mother of two children, has been with House of Good Shepherd for 9 months. She arrived at the shelter scared and resistant, with a then 2-year-old child and a baby on the way. Lauren felt a void that soon was filled with the love and support by staff.

“They helped me a lot. They gave me a baby shower, helped me with formula and diapers, they’re very supportive,” says Lauren. “I don’t have that support system with my family so

they make up for it.”

Additional support services include the unique access to a licensed child care center on site, just steps away from where the women live. The House of Good Shepherd is the only domestic violence shelter in Chicago with a licensed on-site child care center. This is crucial as it allows the women to focus on their classes and work while they are comforted knowing their children are in a safe environment nearby. The challenges of finding appropriate child care can become a daunting task for mothers who find themselves in domestic violence situations.

Through continued support of House of Good Shepherd, Lauren has gone back to school, saved enough money to buy a car, and has a full-time job. These accomplishments are stepping stones in Lauren’s journey of independence, something she didn’t think she could achieve when she fled from her domestic violence situation. Catholic Charities has helped Lauren stay encouraged and restore her faith.

“I didn’t think I would be able to be such a great mother and to support my children, and to stay safe,” says Lauren. “I didn’t think I would be able to leave him, I didn’t think I would be able to make it, but I am, I’m doing it.”

PHOTOS

(PG 8) Volunteer walks with son of resident.

(PG 9) Caseworker counsels resident.

(PG 10) Art project created by children of residents.

“I am now able to open up, be myself, and talk about some of the things that I have been through. And it’s only because of the programs that they offer here.”

— **Angela**

Resident at The House of the Good Shepherd

“I didn’t think I would be able to be such a great mother and to support my children, and to stay safe. I didn’t think I would be able to leave him, I didn’t think I would be able to make it, but I am, I’m doing it.”

— **Lauren**

Resident at The House of the Good Shepherd

NOTE:

*Client’s name in story has been changed for their safety.

Hope is Found



Hope is found all around us and it is precisely at this time we must share this hope with all those we encounter.

By supporting Catholic Charities, you embody the Good Samaritan, taking care of the scared, wounded, sick, abused, or forgotten.

Your gift is the only reason we are able to offer alternatives that will change entire communities and inspire hope for the future.

Will you be a Good Samaritan and help today?

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to Give

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Saint Mary's Parish

RIVERSIDE, ILLINOIS

Parish Community Faithfully Serves Those Most in Need

“They do so much for Catholic Charities. I’m not sure what we would do without them.” That’s what Esmeralda Zepeda, Catholic Charities Regional Director for the West Region, says about St. Mary’s Parish in Riverside.

Between volunteering at Catholic Charities food pantry in Cicero; volunteering at the Greater Chicago Food Depository so Catholic Charities can receive discounted food costs; donating professional clothing for our clothing room; sponsoring refugee families; generously giving to the Catholic Charities Mother’s Day Appeal each year; making and serving dinner to veterans at the Bishop Goedert residence; and conducting drives for coats, back packs, cleaning supplies, and snacks for Catholic Charities after-school tutoring program, St. Mary’s has become an integral part of Catholic Charities services.

“People rely on Catholic Charities. They trust that we are going to have that warm coat, the back pack their child needs for school, or food to help them get through the month. St. Mary’s helps us be that reliable presence. They are truly carrying out the mission to serve the community right alongside of us,” Esmeralda explains.

Thanks to a very active Service Outreach Committee, service has become part of the parish culture. The Committee coordinates a wide array of service projects throughout the year with many different organizations and spearheads the annual Parish Action Day. The parish also has a dedicated Garden Ministry,



“People rely on Catholic Charities. They trust that we are going to have that warm coat... back pack their child needs...food to help them get through the month.”

— Esmeralda Zepeda
West Region Director

whose hard work to beautify outdoor spaces is enjoyed by many.

“Service is what we’re called to do,” says Pastor Fr. Tom May. “We are always looking for ways to help parishioners live out their faith. Service helps get the Gospel message

into their hearts.”

Pat Madai, chair of the Service Outreach Committee says, “I am overwhelmed with how people respond. I am so thankful that our parishioners want to be involved. I see them bringing their children and I think it’s such a powerful teaching moment — not only for the children, but for us as adults to see how the parents want to instill the message in their children. We are very blessed.”

Deacon Randy Belice explains that “We are called to be a visible presence of Christ in the world. We are looking for the face of Christ in those we serve, and we become the face of Christ to others. Serving with Catholic Charities helps parishioners have that conversion experience.”

Catholic Charities is extraordinarily grateful for our partnership with St. Mary’s. We are blessed to work with them to bring the Gospel to life!

PHOTO

Volunteer prepares for bake sale raffle to raise funds for Catholic Charities Veteran housing.



Catholic Charities Interns Meet with Former President Obama

On August 28, a group of student interns with the Catholic Charities and One Summer Chicago-Computer Coding Program were surprised by a special visit from former United States President, Barack Obama who was also joined by Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel. The students enjoyed

a conversation with the former president and received a brief lesson in coding. The program is aimed at helping students explore the field of computer science and technology with the fundamentals of coding, creating their own apps, and principals of entrepreneurship. Through One

Summer Chicago, Catholic Charities has partnered with Eric Solorio Academy High School on the city's southwest side for two years and impacted 36 students.

PHOTO One Summer Chicago-Catholic Charities interns with former President Barack Obama and Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

Successful Pope Francis Ministries Shower Program Expands to Three Days

After a successful pilot run in the spring and summer, the new shower facilities are now available to clients three times a week. Each Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, clients receive towels, toiletry kits and a change of clothes. The success of the program is due in large part to the generous volunteers coming together to assist with welcoming clients, helping with washing towels,

and collecting and organizing toiletries and clothing. The shower program is in need of toiletries and new socks and underwear for men and women. In addition, volunteer opportunities are available for the shower and supper programs. For more information, please contact Andrew McKernin, (312) 655-7557 or at amkernin@catholiccharities.net.

PHOTO Shower program client.



Employment and Veterans Resource Fair Help Veterans Seeking Job Opportunities

In October, more than a dozen businesses and corporate partners were on hand to recruit employees at Catholic Charities Employment and Veterans Resource Fair at St. Casimir Auditorium on the city's southwest side. Veterans seeking employment presented resumes and met with recruiters to learn

about various job opportunities. The Catholic Charities Employment Program assists veterans through supportive services including job placement, resume writing, referrals to vocational training programs, and other services such housing.

PHOTO Veteran consulting with Jewel Osco representative about opportunities.

Past Events



Scott Rubin, Jack McNamara, Rob Ferrigan, Deninis Vaughn

William E. Joyce Golf Invitational August 6, 2018

Benefiting LOSS Program
156 guests
\$75,777
CO-CHAIRS
Jim Sexton and Jack Miller



Mike Hyzy and Don Migler

Holy Family Villa Monsignor John Kuzinskas Golf Invitational August 9, 2018

Benefiting Holy Family Villa
194 guests
\$49,566
CHAIRS
Mike Hyzy and Don Migler



John & Lisa Burke, Monsignor Boland

Harvest of Hope October 5, 2018

Benefiting Programs in the North Region
228 guests
\$64,237 raised
CHAIRCOUPLE
John & Lisa Burke



Sr. Mary Ann Dosen

Patrick J. Ryan Golf Outing August 9, 2018

Benefiting the
*Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide
(LOSS) Program for Children & Youth*
300 guests
\$126,139 raised
CHAIRS
Jim & Marie Ryan



Dennis & Kristina Kelleher, and Monsignor Boland

Gala of the Arts September 7, 2018

Benefiting the
Family Stabilization Program
531 guests
\$338,732 raised
CHAIRCOUPLE
Dennis & Kristina Kelleher

\$654,451

raised this summer to support
programs and services

FOR ALL EVENT PHOTOS
[flickr.com/ccofchicago](https://www.flickr.com/photos/ccofchicago/)

NOVEMBER 8

Holiday Tea & Boutique

The event promises to be a great day of high tea and holiday shopping on November 8 at The Club at Wynstone in North Barrington. Tickets are \$65 and early reservations are suggested. Proceeds benefit Lake County programs

DECEMBER 7

Spirit of Saint Nicholas Ball

A reception, gourmet dinner and wine, live dancing and entertainment by the Ken Arlen Orchestra, cocktails, and late night "sweets and treats" will be featured at this black-tie celebration of the Christmas season on December 7 at the Hilton Chicago. Honorary chairmen are Most Reverend Cardinal Blase J. Cupich and Monsignor Boland. The 2018 Chaircouple is Scott Rhonda and Swanson. Tickets are \$550 and proceeds benefit children's programs

JANUARY 27

d'Vine Affair

An elegant wine tasting at the Union League Club of Chicago featuring more than 250 wines from around the world as well as a craft and imported beer tasting, gourmet hors d'oeuvres, desserts and a Wine Appreciation Seminar. Proceeds benefit Catholic Charities Self-Sufficiency programs in Cook and Lake counties. Tickets are \$150.

FEBRUARY 1

Patrick J. Ryan Main Event

The Patrick J. Ryan Main Event was established by former Illinois Attorney General Jim Ryan and his wife Marie and their family in memory of their son Patrick who died of suicide in 2007. The event will feature an exciting night of 8 to 10 talented, Golden Glove-style amateur boxing fights, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and ringside seating with dinner. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide (LOSS) Program, created for children and youth who have endured the loss of a loved one to suicide. Tickets are \$250.

FEBRUARY 8

First Look for Charity

First Look for Charity is the Chicago Auto Show's preview night at McCormick Place that benefits local nonprofit organizations, including Catholic Charities. The event will feature access to Catholic Charities private reception suite, a "first look" at the premier display of vehicles on the auto show floor, live entertainment, a chance to win one of two new cars: a 2019 Chevy Blazer or a 2019 Jeep Compass. The event benefit the Maternity and Adoption programs and the Neighbors in Need Fund. Tickets are \$275.

FEBRUARY 16

Charities Royale Casino Night

The Junior Board's 12th annual Casino Night will be held at the Chicago Cultural Center. The event features hors d'oeuvres, a premium open bar, gaming tables, a silent auction and live entertainment from the Outcast Jazz Band. Proceeds benefit the Family Stabilization Program. Tickets are \$100 and early reservations are suggested.

FEBRUARY 23

Compassion In Action Dinner

Join us for the 14th annual Compassion in Action Dinner at Glenwoodie Golf Club in Glenwood. The event benefits Catholic Charities South Region. Tickets are \$65.

FEBRUARY 23

Nite at the Net

Join us at the Hinsdale Racquet Club with special guests Chicago Blackhawks Coach "Q" Joel Quenneville, Eric Ferguson of 101.9 FM, and Chicago Blackhawks Hall of Famer Denis Savard. This event features two hours of fast-paced tennis drills, food and beverages, a silent and live auction, raffle, and DJ. Proceeds benefit the Neighbors in Need fund. Tickets are \$150 for tennis, food, and cocktails, or \$100 without tennis.



- 1 Spirit of Saint Nicholas Ball
Michael & Claire O'Grady, Msgr. Boland, Cardinal Cupich, Rhonda & Scott Swanson
- 2 d'Vine Affair
Couple sample wine at tasting.
- 3 Patrick J. Ryan Main Event
Challengers in the ring.
- 4 Charities Royale Casino Night
Participants try their luck placing bets.

FOR TICKETS, SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES,
AND MORE INFORMATION

Denise Samulis (312) 948-6864 • dsamulis@catholiccharities.net

www.catholiccharities.net/events

Daniel P. Haerther Charitable Trust

Supporting Family Stabilization Services



The late Daniel P. Haerther was a veteran of the Navy, having served in WWII and the Korean War. After his military service, he was engaged in a number of business and charitable ventures in Chicago.

Upon his death in 2007, the Daniel P. Haerther Charitable Trust was established to continue Mr. Harther's charitable activities. The Trust supports Catholic Charities outreach to the agency's most vulnerable families in need. It also supports the Shedd Aquarium of which Dan was a Trustee, the Morton Arboretum, and Princeton University, Dan's alma mater. The Trust also established a scholarship program for high school students to help them through high school and prepare for college.

For nearly a decade, the Daniel P. Haerther Charitable Trust has generously supported the Family Stabilization Services program. This program provides assistance to those whose lives have been disrupted by unplanned events such as domestic crisis, fire, unemployment, or relocations,

or who for any reason are in need of emergency food or clothing. Individuals and families in need of assistance receive food, clothing, and additional resources through several referral sites. Catholic Charities serves 1.6 million meals through its network of eight food pantries.

Former Catholic Charities Board President and long-time board member, Richard W. Burke, Sr., is one of the trustees who manages the Daniel P. Haerther Charitable Trust. "I think Mr. Haerther would be very pleased to see the benefit resulting from its grant to Catholic Charities is for people who are hard pressed when they come to Catholic Charities," said Burke. "My wife and I are quite touched by the care Catholic Charities personnel extends to clients. We are always very impressed by the devotion and commitment they have to helping those in need."

PHOTO

Client receives food from Catholic Charities Casa Catalina food pantry.

Thank You

to our many
Foundation Partners



Walter J. & Edith Best Foundation

The Foundation has continued their longstanding support of our adoption program. This gift will help Catholic Charities to continue to provide comprehensive services for birth parents, adoptive families, and adopted children. We are grateful for the Foundation's commitment to the welfare of children.

Aileen S. Andrew Foundation

The Foundation has provided much-needed general operating support to Catholic Charities benefitting programs located throughout Cook and Lake counties.

Season of Concern

With the support of Season of Concern, we will be able to continue to offer caring, compassionate support to help those who are living with HIV/AIDS in Lake County. The HIV/AIDS Program reaches those who are most in need of services, offering comprehensive case management, counseling, nutrition, and referrals to address barriers to accessing care. Catholic Charities has the only food pantry in Lake County specific to the dietary needs of those living with HIV/AIDS.



101st Annual Meeting of the Board of Advisors

On October 4 nearly 350 members of the Catholic Charities Board of Advisors and guests gathered for the 101st Annual Meeting of the Board at the Hyatt Chicago. Board Chair Leonard E. Wiatr and Monsignor Boland shared remarks, highlighting the theme of the 2018 Annual Report, “Built on Faith and Hope.”

“This year’s Annual Report reminds us that our founding roots and values must continue to guide us in the future,” said Len. On this Feast of St. Francis, Len also quoted St. Francis who said “Preach the Gospel at all times. If necessary, use words.” “I can think of no better organization that preaches the Gospel in all it does than Catholic Charities.”

Monsignor Boland also thanked

Len who will be completing his two year term as Chair of the Board. Janice Klich, MD was welcomed as Chair-Elect. Each Board member also received a copy of the newly published “A Century of Hope” a book highlighting the history of Catholic Charities over the past 100 years.

At this meeting, the Board also welcomed 43 new members who will serve on Standing Committees of the Board and Event Committees. Also recognized were Distinguished Board members and individuals and institutions for their remarkable contributions to the Catholic Charities mission

PHOTO New Board Members welcomed at the 101st Annual Board Meeting

New Chair-Elect Janice Klich, MD



Msgr. Boland, Dr. Janice Klich, and Leonard Wiatr

2018 Board Member Recognition Awards

RECIPIENTS

- **John and Laura Brinkerhoff**
Compassion in Action Award
- **Timothy J. Rivelli**
Dennis F. Kelly Award
- **The Honorable Michael Y. Scudder, Jr.**
St. Thomas More Award
- **The Order of Malta**
*Bishop Edwin M. Conway
Caritas Christi Urget Nos Award*
- **Eileen Higgins**
*Francis Cardinal George
Mission of Charity Award*
- **Ed Guerrero**
*Francis Cardinal George
Mission of Charity Award*
- **Linda Rox**
Volunteer of the Year

Junior Board | 2nd Annual Scavenger Hunt



The Junior Board Scavenger Hunt, now in its second year, explored the Lincoln Park neighborhood in Chicago including Lincoln Park Zoo with a group of about dozen youth from the Peace Corner. The youth along with Junior Board volunteers, embarked on fun day filled with learning about some of Chicago’s most visited sites. “Many

of the youth we work with at the Peace Corner don’t regularly encounter places beyond their neighborhood,” said Noreen Russo, junior board manager with Catholic Charities. “We are grateful for the volunteers who helped make this opportunity memorable.”

PHOTO Peace Center youth with Junior Board volunteers.

Akeam Jones

Veterans Employment Program Provided Professionalism and Compassion

I served in the United States Navy for 20 years where I was a structural technician and drill sergeant. I was good at either fixing airplanes or commanding recruits and leading teams. Once I left the Navy, I felt my skills set would easily translate into the aviation maintenance industry. Little did I know I would face a challenge many veterans face when transitioning out from military life – starting over.

After consulting with military leadership on the next phase of my career, I decided to enter the field of Information & Technology (IT). I knew I enjoyed learning all things technology, including trouble shooting and research. The Post-9/11 GI bill allowed me to immediately start working towards my associate's degree and soon after on my bachelor's degree. While I was studying IT and learning technology theories, I wasn't receiving the hands-on training to keep up with the ever evolving IT field. I thought with my military experience and multiple degrees, I would easily be able to land my dream job. I submitted resume after resume and went on a few interviews only to be told I didn't meet the credentials the employer was looking for. Through this process I learned technology certifications were a requirement, but with my GI funding running out and very little resources available to me, I became frustrated and discouraged. What was I going to do now?

I soon learned about a job readiness program through the Department of Veterans Affairs, it was there where I met Mitch Siegel,



“Catholic Charities gave me hope; they’re taking care of people daily and getting them back on their feet. I am always going to be grateful.”

job developer for Catholic Charities Veterans Employment Program of Lake County. I was in a resume workshop Mitch was leading where he sat down with me and took the time to help me tailor my resume specific to the jobs I was applying for. It was a humbling experience to learn that it was ok to take advice and learn a different approach after my own technique wasn't showing results. Mitch made it a point to say “if you're going to be successful,

it's going to be because YOU are going to put forth the effort.” Being held accountable really cultivated my relationship with Mitch. His guidance led me to my first federal government position. But I wasn't done; Mitch continued to stay involved as my mentor and assisted me in landing my dream job, working as an IT professional for the United States Military Enlisting Processing Command Center in North Chicago.

My job search was difficult and very emotional. The transition affected my confidence, but because of the Catholic Charities Veteran Employment Program, I was able to accomplish in six to seven months what may have taken two to three years to accomplish on my own. I don't consider myself a success story, I consider myself a recipient of the compassion and professional knowledge of someone who was just waiting to share it.

I am going to be like Mitch one day, I want to teach others. I am now involved in dual master's program, and once that's done will pursue a doctorate in technology education.

I always say good fortune is when opportunity aligns with preparedness. When I met Mitch, I was prepared to listen and he was prepared to teach. Everything lined up and went forward from there. Catholic Charities gave me hope; they're taking care of people daily and getting them back on their feet.

I am always going to be grateful.

PHOTO
Monsignor Boland, Akeam Jones, Mitch Siegel

FROM LETTERS

FROM SOCIAL MEDIA

These stories were submitted to Catholic Charities through the mail or online.

We welcome your submissions, stories, and memories.

Back around 2003, I was going through a difficult time in my life. I was involved in a domestic violence relationship that I was trying to get me and my boys away from. I lost my job. I had no money and felt helpless. My abuser used that situation to further abuse me and my boys.

Somebody told me to contact Catholic Charities for assistance on money to move with. Catholic Charities paid my rent at my apartment which allowed me to save a month's pay and move me and my boys away.

It's now 14 years later and I'm still very grateful and will never forget the help I received.

—Shelly

I happen to be involved in Catholic Charities. I am in the program Streets to Home. Last year at this time I was homeless and didn't have a place to live. I got involved, and they found me a wonderful one bedroom apartment that's all mine, and I'm just so grateful and so thankful. I've started going back to church.

I try to help other people too and tell them about it. So maybe they can feel like I feel. Catholic Charities has brought me back to myself and made me a whole human being.

—Anonymous



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UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

HOLIDAY TEA & BOUTIQUE

Thursday, November 8
The Club at Wynstone
North Barrington
(847) 782-4115

“KICK OFF” ART OF CARING

Thursday, November 17
Exmoor Country Club
Highland Park
(847) 7782-4115

DECEMBER

SPIRIT OF SAINT NICHOLAS BALL

Friday, December 7
Hilton Chicago, Chicago
(312) 948-6797

2019

JANUARY

D’VINE AFFAIR

Sunday, January 27
Union League Club
of Chicago
(312) 948-6797

FEBRUARY

PATRICK J. RYAN MAIN EVENT

Friday, February 1
Drury Lane
Oakbrook Terrace
(312) 655-7290

CHICAGO AUTO SHOW’S FIRST LOOK FOR CHARITY

Friday, February 8
McCormick Place, Chicago
(312) 948-6797

“CHARITIES ROYALE” CASINO NIGHT

Saturday, February 16
Chicago Cultural Center
(312) 655-7932

COMPASSION IN ACTION DINNER

Saturday, February 23
Idlewild Country Club
Flossmoor
(708) 333-8379

NITE AT THE NET

Saturday, February 23
Hinsdale Racquet Club
Hinsdale
(312) 655-7290

MARCH

ST. PATRICK’S DAY CELEBRATION

Thursday, March 7
FitzGerald’s, Berwyn
(708) 329-4022

HELPING HANDS DINNER & AUCTION

Saturday, March 9
Silver Lake Country Club
Orland Park
(708) 430-0428

www.catholiccharities.net/events