



More than a Meal

Seniors find compassion and support through Catholic Charities meals services

'Home to Stay' Program Provides Services Individualized to Match the Client's Needs

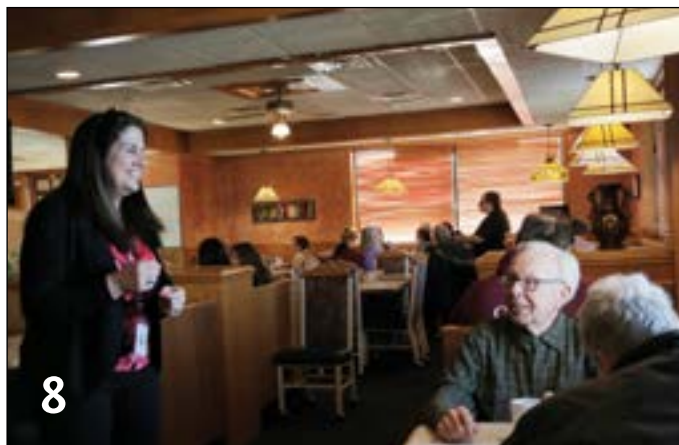
Hope Blooms In Back of the Yards

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“Our participating seniors are so grateful for an opportunity like this.”

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SPIRIT MAGAZINE

WRITERS **Alissandra Calderon**
Mindy McFadden Walch
PHOTOS Catholic Charities
Communications
Department
DESIGN **Kathy Gabriel**

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Rev. Monsignor Michael Boland
Administrator, President, and CEO
Spirit Magazine is published by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago for its friends, clients, and benefactors.

Phone (312) 655-7010
communications@catholiccharities.net
Postage paid in Chicago, IL 60654
Postmaster Send change of address to:
Spirit Magazine, 721 N. LaSalle Street,
Chicago, Illinois 60654

www.catholiccharities.net/spirit

Rev. Monsignor Michael Boland

PRESIDENT OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Ensuring Elders Dignity and Respect

In 1999, Pope John Paul II wrote a beautiful pastoral letter called the Letter to the Elderly. In it, he described the wonderful blessings that the elderly bring to us, for they are the guardians of our past and the keys to our future. He particularly cautioned us not to overvalue physical strength and vigor, and reminded us that our essential human dignity does not lessen with physical or mental deterioration. On the contrary, the passing of years can bring wisdom, a longer perspective, and a better grasp of the meaning of life that should be a resource for the rest of society. We must honor our elders, treat them with love, and ensure that our culture is one in which elderly people are treated with esteem and respect so they can grow old with dignity.

Catholic Charities has certainly taken St. Pope John Paul's message to heart over the past 20 years, growing and expanding our programs so that we can provide affordable housing, in-home care, meal programs, and social services to tens of thousands of seniors each year. And yet, even as we have rapidly grown our senior services, there will soon be a need for more.

It is hard to believe that nearly 10,000 Americans turn 65 every day and will continue to do so until the year 2030. By 2035, there



“Nearly 10,000 Americans turn 65 every day and will continue to do so until the year 2030.”

will be 78 million people age 65 and older, compared to 76 million under the age of 18, making that the first time the senior population will outnumber children in our country's history. To be sure, this demographic shift will have a dramatic impact on our economy, as well as on our health and social service systems.

In this issue of Spirit, you will

read about the many ways Catholic Charities cares for the needs of seniors, including how we help seniors gracefully age in their own homes, and when they must make the difficult decision to pursue care in a nursing facility. To provide seniors with the best care possible, we rely on support from individual donors and private foundations such as the Retirement Research Foundation, which has collaborated with Catholic Charities on many innovative projects. We also rely on the generous support of volunteers. In the Donor Profile you will learn about Ray Swaback, an inspiring volunteer who, in addition to his many other contributions to Catholic Charities, makes time to deliver meals to home-bound seniors in the Lake County region. We also learn about Fr. Tom Cima of St. Michael the Archangel church who, at 76 years young, dynamically leads a faithful community while supporting Catholic Charities services in one of Chicago's most under-resourced neighborhoods.

Catholic Charities is extraordinarily blessed to serve our elderly brothers and sisters. As our population ages, we are committed to helping build a culture that honors and values our oldest members, treating them with the love and compassion that is worthy of their essential human dignity.

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*

Ray Swaback | Living His Faith in Service to Others

“...it just feels good to be able to be in contact with people who for whatever reason can often times be alone or lonely.”

– Ray Swaback



Ray Swaback humbly describes his involvement with Catholic Charities as not being work, but rather a feeling of fulfillment.

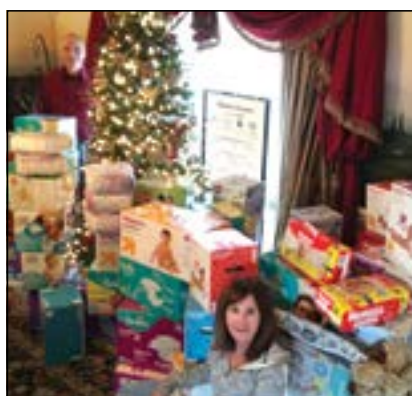
“The best way I can describe most of my activities with Catholic Charities is when you’re involved, it makes you feel good inside. It’s what keeps bringing me back and what keeps me going,” says Ray.

In 2001, after searching for a way to be further involved in the community, Ray was introduced to Catholic Charities by his college friend and fellow Catholic Charities Lake County board member, Jerry Hitpas. It wasn’t long before Ray would join the Lake County Regional Advisory Board and immediately took on various leadership roles. Now, more than a decade later, Ray and his wife Cindy have been ambassadors to carrying out Catholic Charities mission of serving those in need and encouraging others to do the same.

Ray’s contributions to the Lake County board as Chair from 2008 – 2011 and leading the membership committee were recognized in 2014 when he received the *Monsignor Holbrook Award*. The award was presented to Ray for his dedication and significant difference he’s made

in the lives of people who rely on Catholic Charities. Ray has been involved in numerous fundraisers and activities, but volunteering and connecting with the people Catholic Charities serves is what makes a difference in his own life.

In 2017, Ray and Cindy hosted a Christmas gathering in their home and asked guests to bring diapers for the Lake County Diaper Depot,



an initiative to address the basic needs of low-income families. Nearly 5,000 diapers were collected. Ray went above and beyond to deliver the diapers to the storage location and helped load them all into a storage facility. Ray’s contribution to helping

families and children also includes helping some of the most vulnerable seniors in Lake County.

A few times a month, Ray and five other Lake County Board members split a route to deliver meals through the Meals on Wheels program. Close to 15,000 seniors rely on Catholic Charities for a nutritious meal or food package through this program. Each delivery is received with gratitude and it doesn’t go unnoticed.

“You see the seniors over and over and you get to know them, you’re their contact. A lot of them are waiting at the door to see you and it just feels good to be able to be in contact with people who for whatever reason can often times be alone or lonely,” says Ray.

As Ray faithfully serves seniors, families and individuals in need, he continues to encourage others to take steps to get involved in helping the most vulnerable just as he did 17 years ago.

PHOTO

(TOP) Monsignor Boland and Rayelle Weber present the *Monsignor Holbrook Award* to Ray Swaback.

(MIDDLE) Ray and Cindy Swaback with a diaper collection for Lake County Diaper Depot.

Charitable Giving Options in 2019

With the start of a new year, Catholic Charities continues to bring faith and hope to thousands of people in need. A new year also means the start of making decisions on how you can best support our work, knowing that you have financial obligations to loved ones as well as your own needs to consider.

“You mean a great deal to us. Your generosity supports those who come to us at the most vulnerable time in their life.”

Margaret Hughes

According to Margaret Hughes, director of individual and planned giving for Catholic Charities, there are several tax-advantaged ideas for giving – whether you itemize or not – which have benefits for both you and Catholic Charities.

One option involves your traditional or Roth IRA. If you are at least 70 ½ years of age, you can make a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from your IRA. Simply ask your IRA custodian to transfer funds directly to one or more charities.

“The IRA QCD is an especially smart giving strategy for two reasons: it counts towards your required minimum distribution and is not reportable as income,”

says Margaret. “Because you never receive the money, you won’t pay taxes on it. And having a lower reportable income may benefit you in several ways, such as reduced taxes on Social Security benefits or lowering your future Medicare premiums.”

Margaret suggests appreciated securities as another way to give. When you donate stock, bonds, or mutual funds which you have held for over one year and have grown in value, you receive a double tax benefit. If you itemize, you receive a charitable deduction for the current fair market value and you are not taxed on your capital gain in the asset. If you don’t itemize, giving appreciated stock provides the benefits of not having to pay tax on the appreciation.

Another tax-wise option is to use appreciated property to fund a life income gift, such as a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust. This kind of gift allows you to avoid tax on some or all of your capital gain and receive income for life.

“A charitable gift annuity is simple to set up, with cash or securities,” notes Margaret. “With our high payout rates you may receive more income than you are currently earning from your investments. You receive an immediate tax deduction for part of your gift, and a portion of the annuity payments are tax free.”

Margaret and her team are always available to discuss options, answer questions, and assist with making charitable gifts. “You mean a great deal to us. Your generosity supports those who come to us at the most vulnerable time in their life.”

OF SPECIAL NOTE

- **IRA Distributions** must be made directly from your IRA to the charity. We have a sample letter you can send to your IRA custodian. You are allowed to give any amount up to \$100,000 per year. Spouses may each give up to \$100,000 from their own accounts.
- **To Transfer Stock** ask your broker to electronically transfer your shares to our account at Northern Trust, using DTC #2669 for credit to account #44-81515 for Catholic Charities. For direct registration shares, stock certificates, and mutual funds, please contact us for special instructions.
- **Charitable Gift Annuities** provide secure, stable income for life, for yourself or a loved one, starting now or in the future. The minimum amount is \$10,000, and the minimum age at the start of payments is 55.

TO DISCUSS YOUR OPTIONS

Margaret Hughes

*Director of
Individual & Planned Giving*

(312) 655-7012

mhughes@catholiccharities.net

‘Home to Stay’ Program Provides Services Individualized to Match the Clients Needs

Through Catholic Charities comprehensive Home Care program, home care aides provide support to ensure seniors are able to remain independent in their own homes and communities for as long as possible. Research has shown 80% of older adults would prefer to age in their own home, with a caregiver. As the older adult population continues to grow, there is a need for home care and support services for family and friends who take on the role of caregiver for an older adult.

Building on the success of homemaker services for low-income seniors primarily on Chicago’s southeast and southwest neighborhoods, Catholic Charities decided to look at opportunities to expand those same services to other areas of the city, especially for seniors who might not qualify for assistance through state funding. With the generous support of The Retirement Research Foundation and additional private funding, the ‘Home to Stay’ program was launched.

The ‘Home to Stay’ program is tailored to the individual needs of each participant with day services provided to the client for as much or as little as needed. This unique model of care allows for the client to pay only for the services needed and can be adjusted as conditions change.

“More and more, we’ve received calls from individuals who live all through the city asking specifically for Catholic Charities home care aides. We launched this program for seniors who live really anywhere



80% of older adults would prefer to age in their own home, with a caregiver.

in the city of Chicago and who want specialized services,” says Mary Ann Bibat, vice president of senior services or Catholic Charities. “We also try to be as flexible as possible for the caregiver. We want them to call us and know that we are there to help with whatever need the senior might have.”

Seniors and their caregivers can request something as simple as a home care aide spending a few hours sitting with a participant while the caregiver runs errands, or checking in on seniors when they are alone. All of the home care aides are trained by a staff developer, and receive additional in-service training from professionals in the field. In order to enhance trainings, the program recently partnered with Resurrection University where nursing students lead in-classroom trainings. Catholic Charities requires 44 hours of training for all aides, almost double what state regulations require, to provide an exceptional level of expertise for clients.

Angela Taylor, associate vice president of senior services and coordinator of the training program, ensures home care aides

learn through a combination of classroom settings and simulation exercises. Future aides learn how to properly transfer clients from a bed to wheelchair, are educated about diabetes and other chronic diseases, and how to recognize signs of medical emergencies such as a stroke. “The partnership with the university has been phenomenal with the help of the nursing students,” says Angela.

Part of the training also includes having aide candidates spend a day at a Catholic Charities adult day center to assess their ability to engage with clients.

Because all clients’ needs are different, the Home Care Program makes it a priority to connect an aide best suited for the level of services. Sometimes the connection is more than just a service, it can often be a source of gratitude and compassion.

“We have a home care aide and client he works for who both really enjoy playing checkers. The aide makes sure all his tasks are done in time to squeeze in a game at the end of his shift,” says Angela. “The client calls us every day to thank us for sending the aide to take care of him.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Catholic Charities Senior Services
(312) 655-7700 • www.catholiccharities.net

Seniors Enjoy a Unique Family Atmosphere at Holy Family Villa

As the population ages, Catholic Charities has redoubled our efforts to serve seniors in a variety of settings. Today we provide affordable housing, in-home caregiving, meal programs, and adult day care services to tens of thousands of seniors each year. Most of Catholic Charities programs are designed to help seniors remain safely in their homes for as long as possible. However, many seniors and their families must eventually contemplate placement in a nursing facility. It is at this stage of life that Catholic Charities is truly honored to welcome seniors into the warm, home-like setting of our Holy Family Villa nursing facility.

“Sometimes even having a 24-hour caregiver at home doesn’t ensure the safety or well-being of seniors,” explains Julie Regan, Director of Admissions and Social Services at Holy Family Villa. “If a senior is particularly frail, he or she may need the care of more than one person at a time, or the expertise of trained medical personnel. Even for more active seniors, sometimes being at home isn’t the best social environment for their long-term well-being. It can be very lonely and isolating to be home-bound and only seeing one’s caregiver each day.”

As a 129 bed, 24-hour skilled nursing and rehabilitation community, Holy Family Villa can provide the right mix of trained staff, camaraderie, and loving care that is the perfect fit for many seniors. Located in Palos Park, Holy Family Villa offers long term care for 99 seniors, 30 beds for short term rehab, as well as physical, occupational, and speech therapy that is available to residents and to members of the community on an outpatient basis. The short-term rehab program is designed to help



individuals, whether senior or not, make the critical transition from hospital to home after surgery or acute illness, providing rehabilitation to prior levels of functioning, or teaching skills to live safely with new physical limitations when necessary. Both the short- and long-term care programs

“Our staff treat residents like their own family.”

Roberta (Bobbi) Magurany

include meals, social and recreational activities, therapy, and life-enhancing skilled care designed to respect and nurture the dignity and self-worth of each resident.

“What makes Holy Family unique is the family atmosphere,” notes Roberta (Bobbi) Magurany, Holy Family Villa’s Administrator. “Our staff treat residents like their own family. And even the close relationships between staff members...there’s a special bond here.”

The family environment extends to family members too. Explains Bobbi,

“At Holy Family Villa, there is a ‘wholly family’ philosophy, meaning once your family member is in our care, your whole entire family becomes a member of our family.” Family visits are an extremely important part of the care program, and family members are encouraged to visit as often as possible. The building was designed to promote family bonding and includes a large patio and putting green for fun summer barbeques, a large pavilion that seats 250 people for special celebrations, a beautiful chapel for daily Mass, an ice cream parlor, unlimited visiting hours, an outdoor walking path for quiet strolls together, and smaller gathering places throughout the facility.

“Most of our residents do have strong family ties, but there are always some who don’t have anyone,” says Julie. “So we become their family.”

Catholic Charities is wholly blessed to welcome seniors from all walks of life at Holy Family Villa, and we are grateful for the opportunity to journey through their twilight years together.

PHOTO

Holy Family Villa encourages family visits and involvement with unlimited visiting hours and a variety of activities.

More than a Meal

Seniors find compassion and support through Catholic Charities meals services

It's a busy morning for staff at the Wauconda Café. Diners can be heard laughing and talking throughout the family-style restaurant all while servers wrap up breakfast orders and prepare for lunch-time customers. In a brightly lit space towards the back of the café a group of seniors gather for a meal. They too are laughing and talking as they patiently wait for others to join them. A woman walks in and cheerfully tells the group "Are you ready to play cards later? I have five sets of cards in my car!" She's Gale Loding a resident of Wauconda and member of this special group – the Catholic Charities Congregate Meal program in Lake County.

Catholic Charities Congregate Meal program offers hot meals and camaraderie for adults aged 60 and older and their spouses of any age. The program recognizes the importance not only of nutritious food for seniors, but also the importance of socialization. Susan Tangney, Lake County Area Congregate Meal program coordinator explains: "Our participating seniors are so grateful for an opportunity like this. Often, they don't get out otherwise or many times people have lost their loved one, and this is a way to see a friend or neighbor who has invited them, it helps a great deal."

Last year, Catholic Charities provided more than 19,000 congregated meals to seniors in Lake County through inviting settings, such as senior centers, banquet halls and restaurants. There are 10 participating locations diners can choose from. "The seniors really enjoy our larger events where there is often dancing, entertainment and games. Let's say someone else isn't quite the crowd person, something a bit more quaint would be our restaurant options which would be a



"We all know who we are, we're older people, we're not competitive anymore... it's a very good group."

Gale Loding

good place to start." says Susan.

The congregated meal groups can also be a source of support and strength, especially when experiencing the loss of a spouse or partner. Research has shown the loss of a partner at an older age, can increase seniors' vulnerability to emotional and social isolation. For Gale, joining the Congregate Meals program was a source of hope at one of the most critical points in her life.

Two years ago, Gale had retired and cared for her husband who was terminally ill. They didn't have family nearby and she knew she would need a support group to help her cope. Gale started to attend the meals program after hearing about it from fellow card players who would get together at the Wauconda Township office to play cards. "I



LAKE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES



Each year more than 17,000 seniors or persons 18-59 with disabilities are served through Catholic Charities Senior Services for Lake and McHenry counties through a variety of programs, including hunger relief programs.



In March 2018, Catholic Charities expanded to provide Meals on Wheels and Congregate Meal services in McHenry County. Catholic Charities delivers 250 Meals on Wheels meals a day and provides Congregate Meals daily to a growing number of seniors.



The Community Connections Grant has allowed for new and innovative programming throughout Lake County. Programs include education and recreational activities such as photography, book clubs, Tai Chi, Matter of Balance sessions and transportation services.



“Everyone at Catholic Charities is very kind, very supportive, and knowledgeable.”

Jerry Vinarsky

started going to the meal programs, my husband went with me one time, but he wasn't up to going anymore and so I would go when I could because I knew I was getting older too and I wanted a nice group

of people my age,” says Gale. Last April, Gale’s husband passed away, and she says, the group was a source of tremendous support.

Gale credits the members various walks of life as the reason why they get along so well. “We all know who we are, we’re older people, we’re not competitive anymore, this is who we are and it’s a very good group,” says Gale.

About 20 miles north of the Wauconda Café, a different Catholic Charities meal service operates with just as much meaning, the Home Delivered Meals Program also known as Meals on Wheels in Lake County.

Catholic Charities is the only provider of Meals on Wheels in Lake and McHenry counties. The program provides seniors who are homebound and unable to prepare their food due to physical or mental difficulties, with a nutritious meal five days per week.

Jerry Vinarsky a Catholic Charities client for 2 ½ years who receives Meals on Wheels couldn't be more grateful for the program. “Meals on Wheels is very helpful, I have the meals for lunch and dinner and its great quality,” says Jerry. Sitting in his tidy apartment, located inside a



Last year, Catholic Charities provided more than 19,000 congregate meals to seniors in Lake County through inviting settings.

senior residence in Grayslake, Jerry looks forward to receiving his daily meals. This particular day, Chelsea Malevanets, a Catholic Charities nutrition coordinator in Lake County, is making rounds delivering meals. She delivers Jerry's meal and stops in to talk to him, which shows the meal delivery program is more than a service; it's an opportunity to connect with clients.

In addition to home delivered meals, Jerry receives assistance from Catholic Charities after undergoing a medical procedure three months ago. "Everyone that I'm in contact with at Catholic Charities is very kind, very

supportive and knowledgeable. They supplied me with a walker and a walking cane, including the life alert system. They've been very good to me," adds Jerry.

Back in at Wauconda Café, Gale and her friends are talking about plans for the rest of the day, some decide to head over to the township hall to play cards. Gale offers to drive a few members of the group. This is nothing new to her as Gale also volunteers driving people who don't see well enough to drive to other activities, a gesture she says makes her feel worthwhile.

As lunch winds down, Gale pauses to reflect on how this program has helped her. "It's the quality of the staff that makes this work. It's not just food, it's fellowship, it's information and it's support," she says. "I just love the program, I love it."

PHOTOS

(p.9 TOP)
Congregate meal group that meets at the Wauconda Café.

(p.10 TOP)
Susan Tangney, Lake County Area Congregate Meals Program Coordinator reviews upcoming events with seniors.

CONGREGATE MEALS

COOK COUNTY

Arlington Heights Senior Center

1801 W. Central Rd.
Arlington Heights
IL 60005
(847) 797-5350

Josephine P. Argento Senior Center

Bernardin Manor Senior Residence
1700 Memorial Dr.
Calumet City, IL 60409
(708) 832-1208

Clyde Park

1909 S. Laramie Ave.
Cicero, IL 60804
(708) 652-3545

Markham Senior Golden Chateau

15652 S. Homan Ave.
Markham, IL 60428
(773) 808-2961

LAKE COUNTY

Maravela's

4 Washington St.
Fox Lake, IL 60020
(847) 587-6100

Grayslake Senior Center

50 Library Ln.
Grayslake, IL 60030
(847) 543-1041

Nuestro Center

501 Bank Ln.
Highwood, IL 60040
(847) 681-0208

Island Lake Cafe

310 E. State St.
Island Lake, IL 60042
(847) 526-7797

Antioch/Lake Villa Township

1625 Deep Lake Rd.
Lake Villa, IL 60046
(847) 838-6415

Koffee Kup Restaurant

30 East Main St.
Lake Zurich, IL 60047
(847) 438-8110

Lambs Farm's Magnolia Cafe and Bakery

14245 W. Rockland Rd.
Libertyville, IL 60048
(847) 362-5050

Wauconda Cafe

405 W. Liberty St.
Wauconda, IL 60084
(847) 526-4444

Foss Park District

1730 S. Lewis Ave.
North Chicago, IL 60064

N&T's Restaurant

2711 Sheridan Rd. #201
Zion, IL 60099
(847) 872-7979

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to Give**

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Chicago, IL 60675-1623



www.catholiccharities.net

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St. Michael the Archangel Parish

CHICAGO – BACK OF THE YARDS

Hope Blooms In Back of the Yards

When speaking with Fr. Tom Cima, pastor of St. Michael the Archangel church in Chicago's Back of the Yards neighborhood, one can feel the deep love he has for the people of the community. "It is a great parish," he says. "I've never been happier in my life." And for someone who is 76 years young and has served the Church in a variety of capacities, that is saying quite a lot. "I'm well past retirement, but the people here feed me...keep me going. I get an awful lot more than I give."

The Back of the Yards community got its name from the Chicago Stockyards, which are long gone, but the area's gritty character remains. About 30 percent of the population lives below the poverty line and far more are considered "low-income." Although there is a mix of ethnicities present, the community is predominately Spanish-speaking, with the majority being immigrants from Mexico who have come here to make a better life for their families.

No matter how tight their budgets, the community gives. "I'm amazed that they can contribute at all," says Fr. Tom. "We unfold a lot of dollar bills when we're counting the collections. It's humbling."

The needs in Back of the Yards are great, and so it is evident that the people who nourish Fr. Tom's soul are those beloved by Jesus – people living at the margins and coping with the challenges of poverty, unemployment, hunger, violence and other ills that are a routine part of life in this southwest side neighborhood. Fr. Tom is happy to be intricately woven into the fabric of the community, and he finds tremendous



"God places people into our hands ... On judgment day He's going to ask us, 'What did you do for them?'"

— Fr. Tom Cima

joy in carrying out the Church's mission to care for the poor and all those finding life difficult.

"I just think to myself, God places people into our hands," he explains. "On judgment day He's going to ask us, 'What did you do for them?'"

Fr. Tom relies heavily on Catholic Charities and other community organizations to help him help his people. He is grateful to have a Catholic Charities counselor at his parish on a part-time basis, and he routinely makes referrals to the other

services Catholic Charities has in the area, including the many programs coordinated through our City Southwest Regional Office at 5533 S. Sawyer Avenue.

"Casa Catalina is extraordinary," he says, referring to Catholic Charities Casa Catalina Basic Human Needs Center on Ashland Avenue. "Sr. Joellen really knows how to help people." A Back of the Yards native herself, Sr. Joellen Tumas has been helping the poor in the community for nearly 30 years, including serving as director of Casa Catalina. The center has a very active food pantry and connects clients to a variety of needed services such as health care, counseling, and immigration services.

Fr. Tom serves on the board of Casa Catalina and is continually looking for ways to support it. "He's always drumming up support from everyone he knows for our annual fundraiser," laughs Sr. Joellen. The fundraiser, *Ayudando Nuestras Familias* (Helping Our Families), is sponsored by Catholic Charities Latino Advisory Board and takes place each fall.

Catholic Charities is honored to work with Fr. Tom, and our City Southwest Region recently awarded him with the *Heart of Charity Award* for his extraordinary dedication to the community. When asked what he would like readers to know, Fr. Tom says "Please ask them to keep donating to Catholic Charities. We couldn't survive without Catholic Charities. And also tell them thank you – thank you, thank you, thank you!"

PHOTO

Fr. Tom Cima, Pastor of St. Michael the Archangel

Community Partnership with Chicago Police Grows Stronger

Catholic Charities was blessed this Thanksgiving and Christmas with food deliveries compliments of Chicago Police officers from the 18th District-River North and Jewel-Osco. The meals went to feed hundreds of families who otherwise would not have had a meal this season. The officers also donated blankets and other cold weather clothing during January's Polar Vortex. This is one example of our partnership with CPD. These acts of kindness and engagement with the community continues due in large part to

the impact fallen Chicago Police Officer Commander Paul Bauer instilled in the community when he took over the 18th District in 2016. Sadly, he was killed last year on February 13, 2018, chasing a suspect fleeing from police in downtown Chicago. A plaque dedicated to Commander Bauer for his leadership and community involvement now stands in front of the flag poles in the St. Vincent Centennial Garden at Catholic Charities headquarters in Chicago.

PHOTO Plaque dedicated to Commander Bauer



Fenwick Students Put Faith into Action

On December 7th nearly 50 sophomore students from Fenwick High School paid a special visit to the Accolade Adult Day Center in Oak Park where they spent time with senior clients and rolled up their sleeves to help serve lunch. This day was one of six service days for the students to participate in as part of their Christian Service Project.

“This isn’t just philanthropy, this isn’t just volunteerism, community

service, it really is Christian charity in that, if we look at what Christ does in the Bible, it only happens person to person. We have to get to know each other on some level and interact with each other on a person to person basis. When we do that, amazing things happen and have happened,” said Brother John Steilberg, O.P., a Fenwick theology teacher and coordinator of the service project.

PHOTO Fenwick students.

Supper Guest Tim Berry Runs with Purpose

One of Catholic Charities supper guests and avid runner, Tim Berry, participated in the 41st annual Chicago Marathon this past October. As a show of gratitude to Catholic Charities for supporting him, Tim ran alongside 45,000 runners while wearing the Catholic Charities logo on his t-shirt

and completed the marathon in 3 hours, 25 minutes and 4 seconds. He has since gone on to participate in other area races. We are proud of Tim for his commitment to finishing the race!

PHOTO Supper guest Tim Berry after completing the 2018 Chicago Marathon.



Past Events



Southwest Regional Board Chair Tim Richards and South Regional Board Chair Linda Abbott

Bourbon Street Blues Night

September 26, 2018

Benefits South & Southwest Regions
Emergency Services Programs

226 guests

\$12,009 raised

CHAIR
South & Southwest
Regional Advisory



Presenting sponsors, Isabell & Gus Abello and family

Ayudando Nuestras Familias Cocktail Reception

October 23, 2018

Benefits Casa Catalina
Basic Needs Center

165 guests

\$62,223 raised

CHAIR
Catholic Charities Latino
Advisory Committee



Co-Chairs: Tae Haider-Krebs and Jackie Cantwell

Holiday Tea & Boutique

November 8, 2018

Benefiting Programs
in Lake County

161 guests

\$36,648 raised

CO-CHAIR
Tae Haider-Krebs, Jackie Cantwell
and Nancy Singlet



(LEFT TO RIGHT)
Most. Rev. Ronald A. Hicks; Most. Rev. Alberto Rojas; Rhonda Swanson,
Scott Swanson, Cardinal Blase J. Cupich; Most Rev. Robert Casey;
Most. Rev. Joseph N. Perry; Monsignor Boland

The 29th Annual Spirit of Saint Nicholas Ball kicked-off the Christmas season at the Chicago Hilton on December 7, with an estimated \$1,490,000 in net proceeds raised to benefit our Children's Programs. Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, Most Rev. Joseph N. Perry, Most Rev. Alberto Rojas, Most Rev. Ronald A. Hicks, and Most Rev. Robert Casey were in attendance along with over 1,260 guests, making for a very memorable evening. Chaircouple Scott & Rhonda Swanson provided great leadership and their committee did a fantastic job planning the Ball. Guests danced to the Ken Arlen Orchestra and also enjoyed cocktails, cookies, and harp music in the Late Night Café.

29th Annual Spirit of St. Nicholas Ball

December 7, 2018

Benefiting
Catholic Charities
Children's Programs

1,243 guests

\$1,490,588 raised

CHAIRCOUPLE
Scott & Rhonda
Swanson

\$1,601,468

raised this fall to support
programs and services

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

FEBRUARY 23

Compassion In Action Dinner

The 15th Annual Compassion in Action Dinner is on Saturday, February 23 at Idelwild Country Club in Flossmoor. The fun evening is planned by the South Regional Advisory Board, chaired by Linda Abbott. Honorees for the evening include Sr. Miriam Patrick Cummings, SSND who will receive *The Servant of God, Father Augustus Tolton Award* and the Thornton Township District 2015, Student Board of Education who will receive *The Compassion in Action Award*.

MARCH 7

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

On Thursday, March 7, the legendary Fitzgerald's Night Club in Berwyn will welcome over 300 guests in support of Catholic Charities New Hope Housing Program in the West Region. Event Chair, Ben Jagoe and the Planning Committee are presenting a fun-filled evening featuring great Irish entertainment by the McNulty Irish Dancers, the Shannon Rovers and members of the Irish Musicians Association-Chicago. Highlights include a fantastic grand raffle prizes and a terrific silent auction.

MARCH 9

Helping Hands Dinner & Silent Auction

The Helping Hands Dinner and Auction is on Saturday, March 7 at the Silver Lake Country Club in Orland Park. More than 250 guests are expected to attend this annual event in support of Catholic Charities Programs in the Southwest Region. Highlights will include the presentation of the *Helping Hands Award* to the Honorable Christopher and Julie Lawler, the *Parish Partner Award* to Saint Stephen Deacon & Martyr Parish in Tinley Park, and the *Heart of Charity Award* to Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC).

MARCH 24

Holy Family Villa Dinner

Join us at Gaelic Park in Oak Forest to celebrate the 10th Annual Holy Family Villa Awards Dinner. This event features a fabulous pick a prize, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and dinner, and a Grand Raffle with cash prizes up to \$1,500. This year's proceeds will benefit therapy department enhancements at Holy Family Villa.

APRIL 6

Art of Caring

The Women's Board of Lake County Services 30th Annual Art of Caring is on Saturday, April 6. This year's event will be held at the Armour House Mansion and Gardens at Lake Forest Academy. The event is chaired by Sondra Adam and Nadine Shepard and will include a fabulous reception and dinner, unique live auction and a six-piece band by LFC Entertainment. Proceeds benefit programs in Lake County.

APRIL 13

Hearts for Hope Dinner & Auction

The 30th Annual Hearts for Hope Dinner & Auction is on Saturday, April 13 at The Cotillion in Palatine. More than 300 guests are expected to attend. Highlights include music by 7th Heaven, a silent and live auction, and recognition awards to members of the community. Proceeds from the event support the many wide range of services provided by Catholic Charities in the Northwest Suburbs.

APRIL 28

Blossoms of Hope Brunch

On Sunday, April 28, Catholic Charities will commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the LOSS (Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide) Program. More than 1,000 survivors and supporters are expected to attend the event at Drury Lane in Oakbrook Terrace. This event features an amazing array of raffle and pick a prize items and the famous Drury Lane Sunday Brunch Buffet.



MARCH 20-24

Chicago Flower & Garden Show

New in 2019, Catholic Charities has partnered with the Chicago Flower & Garden Show. Partial proceeds from the weeklong event and the *Evening in Bloom* charity benefit will be donated back to Catholic Charities programs. You will view some of the most breathtaking garden displays and learn from the pros the do's and don'ts of gardening. In addition, there will be an all FREE Kids Activity area, Garden Gourmet cooking demonstrations and Catholic Charities Visions and Loom Programs will be featured and selling items in the Home & Garden Marketplace. Tickets to the show are \$20 but if you use code CCCHICAGO \$4 of the ticket price will be donated back to Catholic Charities. You must use CCCHICAGO for Catholic Charities to get credit.

In addition, on Tuesday, March 19th there will be a charity benefit called *Evening in Bloom* that will feature the Hort Couture fashion show hosted by Candace Jordan. A Hort Couture spotlights the spectacular talents of Chicago's leading floral designers, fashion designers and landscape artists as they draw inspiration from the flower show to create breathtaking garments and accessories made in part from plants, flowers and natural materials. *Evening in Bloom* features culinary creations from leading Chicago restaurants, specialty cocktails and a sneak peak at the gardens of the show. Tickets for the event are \$150 and if you use code CCCHICAGO \$50 of each ticket will go back to Catholic Charities Programs. You must use CCCHICAGO for Catholic Charities to get credit.

If you are interested in sponsoring this event or would like more information, please contact Dsamulis@catholiccharities.net. For more information or to purchase tickets for either event go to chicagoflower.com

FOR TICKETS, SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES,
AND MORE INFORMATION

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

www.catholiccharities.net/events

The Retirement Research Foundation

Supporting Services for Older Adults



The Retirement Research Foundation (RRF) is committed to working with organizations through grant making programs which promote innovative research and project initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life for older people across the United States.

For more than two decades, Catholic Charities has been a grant recipient of RRF. Within the last several years, grants awarded to Catholic Charities have helped enhance and expand services to older people such as nutrition outreach programs and connecting them to benefits and resources. Most recently, RRF awarded a grant to Catholic Charities to develop a home care service model that expands home care services to a larger group of older adults. This program was launched as the 'Home to Stay' program.

"Catholic Charities is a beacon of hope for thousands of older people in Chicago," says Irene Frye, president of The Retirement Research Foundation. "We are fortunate to work with great organizations like Catholic Charities and have seen firsthand how organizations can make a difference. We want to make sure older people

are not forgotten and continue to be recognized for the talents and wisdom they bring to the community."

As an additional resource for organizations that serve older persons, RRF created a challenge grant opportunity for Giving Tuesday, the global day of donating towards a charitable cause. Catholic Charities has been a generous recipient of this matched grant which has encouraged more donors to consider contributions for older adult services.

"We hope Catholic Charities continues to be a strong partner with other organizations in the aging services network," says Mary O'Donnell, vice president of The Retirement Research Foundation. "Collaboration is so important these days when there are less resources to go around but a great need as the demographic shifts, changes in our communities and more and more older people may need some assistance and live the kind of strong and connected lives they want to live."

PHOTO

Catholic Charities employee assists senior client.

Thank You

to our many
Foundation Partners



Highland Park Community Foundation

Catholic Charities was awarded a grant at the Highland Park Community Foundation's 2018 Grant Awards Reception. The grant will support Lake County Senior Services, which provide support to older adults in Lake County to help them live independently in their communities.

Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois

A grant from the Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois will support the Catholic Charities Legal Assistance Program, which provides legal services and education to low-income individuals.

Wells Fargo Foundation

Catholic Charities received a grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation in support of our Youth and Family Therapeutic Services. This program provides mental health and case management services to low-income children and adults on Chicago's South and West sides.



New Year's Celebration for Clients Hosted By Gibsons

Nearly 400 Catholic Charities clients received a delicious start to the New Year thanks to the Gibsons Restaurant Group. The 11th annual event was held at the Montgomery Club in Chicago on January 6 and included seniors, veterans and families who

attend our child development centers or live in Catholic Charities shelters. Volunteers and staff prepared a steakhouse meal and distributed much-needed gift bags filled with cold weather essentials like hats, gloves and scarves.

PHOTO

(LEFT) Holy Family Villa staff and residents celebrate the New Year at Montgomery Club.

(RIGHT) Monsignor Boland, John Colletti, and Peg Lombardo of the Gibsons Restaurant Group.

Catholic Charities Boards Bring Joy at Christmas

Members of the Catholic Charities Board and Junior Board brightened the holidays for many of the individuals and families served through the agency's annual Celebration of Giving program, the major Christmas gift-giving initiative taking place in Cook and Lake counties. Members of the Boards participated by sponsoring families, collecting and donating toys, and involving their parishes and workplaces in the fun. In addition, members assisted staff in identifying and securing warehouse space for the distribution. The Volunteer Service Committee of the Board served as lead volunteers in the Cook County Warehouse and members of the Lake County Women's Board were invaluable helping to sort gifts and deliver them to recipients.

The Junior Board hosted a Christmas party for the children and families participating in our child development center programs at our St. Casimir Center in Chicago. Members of the Junior Board



decorated the space, served the meal and coordinated fun games and activities for our guests. Board members participating on the Child, Youth and Family Service Area Advisory Board also were invited to join in the fun. Santa visited and provided each of the children a stocking filled with joy. Noreen Russo, Manager of the Junior Board, shared, "It takes a village and we have such a great group of young adults who put time and energy into making

events so special for everyone." The Junior Board welcomes young adults between the ages of 21 and 40 to become involved. For more information, please contact Noreen Russo at nrusso@catholiccharities.net or (312) 655-7932.

PHOTO

(LEFT) Board of Directors member Judy Kendzior and family at Building Blocks Toy Store shopping for Celebration of Giving.

(RIGHT) Volunteers at the Celebration of Giving warehouse.

Cochise Hutcherson

Catholic Charities Home Care Program Works With Client to Find the Right Aide

I was going from agency to agency trying to find a home care aide that would be a good fit for me; I had already been through five aides, who didn't quite work out for one reason or another. A social coordinator, who works in the building I live in, suggested I contact Catholic Charities. I called right away and got an appointment for a home visit. During my assessment, I explained to the home care supervisor that I would like an aide that was closer to my age. I figured if the aide was at least 60 years old, we would have a better understanding. The supervisor suggested Mr. Kenneth Tucker, who was highly recommended and had good things to say about him. I told her I had never had a male aide before; he never had a female client, so we agreed to a trial basis. One year later, the support provided by Catholic Charities has worked out beyond my expectations and Mr. Tucker is like family.

With my health not being the best, I need someone I could truly depend on. Before meeting Mr. Tucker in person, the supervisor suggested I talk with Mr. Tucker by phone – I was very impressed by that. In the past other agencies didn't do that, they would just send someone over. This allowed Mr. Tucker to get to know more about me and for me to know more about him. When we met, we put our questions and answers together, and it just worked.



“What can I do to help you?” No one has ever said that to me before. He always makes me feel that it's about me and I think that's very important.”

Mr. Tucker is always on time, pleasant and extremely thorough. He always asks “What can I do

to help you?” No one has ever said that to me before. He always makes me feel that it's about me and I think that's very important. He helps me with daily chores in my apartment, laundry, cooking and makes sure I attend my doctor appointments. If I'm not up to going to the grocery store, Mr. Tucker goes for me. I always say “do you mind or do you feel like going?” and he says “What I feel like doing is whatever you need” – it doesn't get any better than that.

I always brag about Mr. Tucker to my family, including my father. Now, when my family calls me the first thing they say is “How's Mr. Tucker?” and I jokingly say “What about me?” This small gesture of asking about Mr. Tucker shows how grateful my family and I are for all that he does to take care of me.

Looking back, what stands out the most about working with Catholic Charities is the fact that everyone I've interacted with is polite, attentive, never argumentative, professional and well trained in the services they provide. These are the things I look at as a senior and appreciate.

As for Mr. Tucker, I think I'll keep him. I hope if a person ever needs a home care aide, they have an opportunity to have someone like Mr. Tucker.

PHOTO
Cochise Hutcherson



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Meeting the Polar Vortex Challenge

During the last week of January, the Midwest experienced record-breaking frigid temperatures. Over the course of three days (January 29-31), Catholic Charities made it a priority to keep its doors open at our locations to compassionately serve those most impacted by the dangerously cold elements.

Our Mobile Outreach team drove across the City of Chicago providing around the clock support to conduct well-being checks and bringing people out of the cold and into warm shelters. Many of our sites throughout Cook and Lake counties were designated as warming centers, offering emergency food and financial assistance. Our Family Stabilization teams were ready to help individuals with food and other resources such as assistance with heating costs. We also received donations of winter items for our clothing rooms. All of these efforts would not be possible without our dedicated staff, volunteers, generous donors and supporters.

1 Although school was closed, kids had a warm place to go at The Peace Corner Youth Center in Austin.

2 Volunteer Joe Rose helps answer the phones to direct people to services during frigid temperatures.

3 Catholic Charities guest warms up from the historic cold weather.

4 Monsignor Boland serves dessert during supper on one of the coldest nights.

5 Silvia Decasas from our west regional office helps a family select winter clothing.

6 Catholic Charities has six mobile outreach teams dispatched 24/7, 365 days a year taking the homeless to shelters and conducting well-being checks.

7 Catholic Charities client receives groceries from our Waukegan Food Pantry in Lake County.

8 Volunteers Carmen Welch and Ann Schmidt prepare items for the Pope Francis ministry shower program which provides showers to the homeless.

9 West Regional Director Esmeralda Zepeda and Director of Board and Mission Engagement Dalia Rocotello deliver food to a client.



Catholic Charities
of the Archdiocese of Chicago
721 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60654

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UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

COMPASSION IN ACTION DINNER
Saturday, February 23
Idlewild Country Club
Flossmoor
(708) 333-8379

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

HOLY FAMILY VILLA DINNER

Sunday, March 24
Gaelic Park
Oak Forest
(312) 948-6797

APRIL

ART OF CARING
Saturday, April 6
The Armour House
Mansion & Garden
Lake Forest
(847) 782-4115

HEARTS FOR HOPE DINNER & AUCTION
Saturday, April 13
The Cotillion
Palatine
(847) 376-2118

BLOSSOMS OF HOPE BRUNCH

Sunday, April 28
Drury Lane
Oakbrook Terrace
(312) 948-6797

MAY

LEGAL LIFELINES COCKTAIL RECEPTION
Thursday, May 9
Union League Club
of Chicago
(312) 655-7290

JUNE

CITY SOUTHWEST STORY: BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY RECEPTION
Wednesday, June 5
St. Ignatius College Prep
Chicago
(773) 349-8835

AFTER SUPPER VISIONS
Photo Exhibit and Sale
Friday, June 7 thru
Sunday, June 9
Catholic Charities, Chicago

BRIGHTER FUTURES GOLF OUTING
Monday, June 24
Butterfield Country Club
Oak Brook
(708) 329-4022

www.catholiccharities.net/events