



CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Family Stabilization Services

Overview

The Family Stabilization Services Department (FSSD) provides assistance to individuals and families whose lives have been disrupted by unplanned events such as domestic crisis, fire, unemployment, or relocation, or who for any reason are in need of emergency food and/or clothing.

Guidance

- **INFORMATION AND REFERRAL TO OTHER RESOURCES:** FSSD is a point of entry for clients and others seeking information, linkages and/or referrals to appropriate Catholic Charities programs and community resources. Immediate assistance and advocacy concerning housing problems, public assistance and Social Security appeals are available to both families and individuals.
- **SHORT-TERM CASE MANAGEMENT:** FSSD staff will work with participants who are experiencing problems with public assistance, housing, or other “red tape” situations. FSSD staff can troubleshoot with participants or may refer them to other advocates when necessary.

Food

- **EMERGENCY AND COMMODITY FOOD PACKAGES:** Our FSSD sites have food pantries. Ready-to-eat food is available for those who have no access to cooking facilities.
- **NUTRITION INFORMATION AND COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS:** FSSD offers periodic cooking demonstrations and handouts with recipes and information, to familiarize participants with the most nutritious ways to prepare food they receive from our food pantries.

Clothing

- **CLOTHING ROOM:** Many of our FSSD sites have clothing rooms where participants can select needed items. Some household goods like blankets, fans, and sheets may be available depending on supply.
- **MARY'S CLOSET:** A specialized clothing program geared toward participants who are searching for a job. Clients are outfitted with interview-appropriate clothing during a personalized session with a wardrobe stylist. Participants also receive interview tips and encouragement.

Income

- **SCREENING FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY:** Many FSSD participants qualify for public benefits like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps; Medicaid, Medicare, and other supports. FSSD staff screens for several types of benefits at once, saving participants from having to travel from office to office applying for benefits separately.

Financial Assistance

- Financial help with rent, utilities, and transportation as funds are available.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: (312) 655-7700



FOOD, CLOTHING, & RESOURCE REFERRAL SITES

CENTRAL OFFICE

721 N. LaSalle St.

MARILLAC SOCIAL CENTER

2859 W. Jackson Blvd.

ST. SABINA

1120 W. 79th St.

CASA CATALINA

4537 S. Ashland Ave.

BLUE ISLAND

12731 S. Wood St.

AUGUSTUS TOLTON

5645 W. Lake St.

ST. CASIMIR

2601 W. Marquette Rd.

FOOD PANTRIES

CICERO

1400 S. Austin Blvd.

DES PLAINES

1717 Rand Rd.

PARK FOREST

St. Irenaeus Parish
78 Cherry St.

SUMMIT

St. Blase
7438 W. 61st Pl.



www.catholiccharities.net

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THE MISSION OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Catholic Charities fulfills the Church's role in the mission of charity to anyone in need by providing compassionate, competent and professional services that strengthen and support individuals, families and communities based on the value and dignity of human life. *In order to remain faithful to our mission, Catholic Charities is guided by these core values: Respect, Compassion, Competence, and Stewardship.*