



Home Is
Where The
Heart Is

2013
Annual
Report



CATHOLIC
CHARITIES
DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER, N.Y.



Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?

John 14:1-2

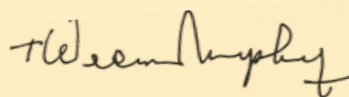
This short scriptural excerpt holds some of the most comforting words ever received from our Lord. It was the night our Savior was betrayed, just before He was to be handed over to death and the remaining eleven apostles were crushed by anxiety, confusion, and fear at the thought of losing Him. Ignoring His own looming suffering, He took pity on them and offered them reassurance. They were not to be discouraged because in His Father's house "there are many dwelling places." He promised them – and us – that regardless of any extraordinary circumstances in our lives, God's love would be there for everyone with no exception.

It's especially noteworthy that Jesus described His Father's love as a house. For most of us home is where we find unconditional love and security. We associate it with well-being and it's where we develop our first true sense of belonging. It's also where we turn when we are weary or scared. Think of the sick or dying in hospitals whose only wish is to return to their homes. Or how many children have cried out with broken pride that they just want to go home? Home is indeed where the heart is.

That's why this scripture is so relevant to the work of our Catholic Charities, here in the Diocese of Rockville Centre. Central to so many of our services is establishing a safe, secure and stable home life for the more than 63,000 friends and neighbors who sought our help – your help – this year. It is only with that foundation that they can begin the hard work of rebuilding their lives. Much as Jesus did, Catholic Charities holds out for them the promise of home: unconditional love.

On the cover of this annual report you find many doors to "many dwellings." They are just a few of the hundreds that Catholic Charities opens wide at their sixty-seven sites to welcome those who are marginalized or forgotten. Like Jesus, we "prepare a place" and just like our Father's house, there is room for all.

Yours faithfully in Christ,



**Most Reverend William F. Murphy
Bishop of Rockville Centre**

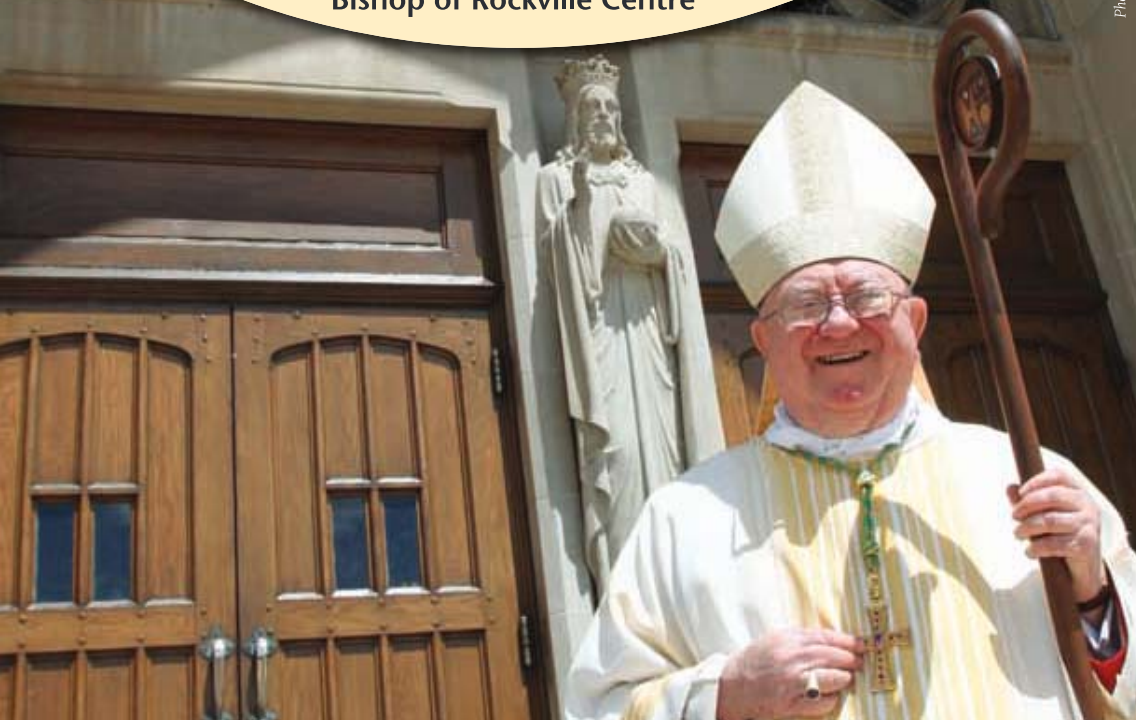


Photo by Greg Slemick, 3Wphoto.com



My Dear Friends,

Did you know that "Bethlehem" literally translated means "House of Bread?" So when God offered us the gift of eternal salvation, His love was to be found in a symbolic house.

That's why I think our logo at Catholic Charities of Rockville Centre is so spot-on. Look on the cover and you'll find a family, in a house, atop of which sits a cross. This simple design means we offer a sense of belonging, an extended family in a spiritual home that holds Christ's love. Like the words of Pope Francis below, we are a place "where life grows and can be fulfilled," and "every person learns to receive love and to give love." You make that possible. With your support we maintain:

- homes for the physically disabled
- homes for homeless veterans
- homes for unwed teenage moms and their babies
- homes for the developmentally disabled
- homes for adults and kids struggling with mental illness
- special needs homes for those suffering with HIV/AIDS
- affordable homes for senior citizens (1,329 apartments!)
- a 24-hour Chemical Dependence Crisis Center that acts as a transitional home for nearly 2,000 people per year...

and we've helped thousands of Long Islanders battered by Hurricane Sandy return to their homes!

Your generous spirit is in each of these houses and it makes receiving and giving love possible. So, on behalf of the 63,904 Long Islanders that we served this year, thank you.

Gratefully yours,

Laura A. Cassell
Chief Executive Officer

...the "home" represents the most precious human richness, that of encounter, that of relations among people, different in age, culture and history, but who live together and together help one another to grow. For this reason, the "home" is a crucial place in life, where life grows and can be fulfilled, because it is a place in which every person learns to receive love and to give love.

Pope Francis

And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Colossians 3:14

Rooting for the Home Team

How did things get so bad? Beth and her mom Kay had been a great team but Kay suffered from Avascular Necrosis, a degenerative disease that was growing worse. There were lots of medications, erratic sleep patterns, and what seemed a never-ending string of bad news. Although Kay was a single mom, their life together had always been stable. Now her severely decreased mobility left her isolated and their relationship strained. The excessive stress and worry created a bitter environment marked by dwindling communication and growing emotional outbursts.

Beth explains, "I was angry, hopeless, and desperate all at the same time. I knew it wasn't mom's fault but our lives were falling apart." Depressed, she took out her frustration through self-harming behaviors so severe that her mom considered foster care. That's when mom learned about Catholic Charities' Teaching Family Homes.

The program provides therapeutic treatment in supervised residential settings for emotionally disturbed children and teenagers. Teaching parents are specially-trained couples who excel at providing a structured and stable home life for the young people while the program also provides services to the family with the ultimate goal of reuniting them.

Once there, Beth was suddenly expected to carry out household chores, respect rules, and maintain her school work. She also had to participate in counseling and work toward specific objectives in her individualized treatment plan. It was tough but it provided the attention and patience Beth so desperately needed. "At first, I hated it," she says. "Then I realized it was the break I needed to get things straight in my life." Today, Beth's a straight-A student, busy planning her future in the arts. After a life-changing surgery and continuing physical therapy, her mom Kay is finally able to walk again. Best of all, Beth is right by her side. The team's back together and back at home.

Since its inception in 1994, more than 600 children and adolescents have found a home with our teaching families.

Photo by Greg Stermitz, 3Vphoto.com

*For we know that if our earthly dwelling,
a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building
from God, a dwelling not made with hands,
eternal in heaven.*

2 Corinthians 5:1

Homes for our Heroes

Charles is a veteran of the United States Army who spent 17 years deployed at American military bases throughout the world. He made his home in places like Panama, Japan, and even Korea, but when he came home to Long Island, he found himself sleeping in an abandoned house.

His calamitous descent started after a hardship tour of the Demilitarized Zone in Korea when he returned to Fort Benning, Georgia. He was carrying out routine field exercises there when he fell victim to an accident involving CS nerve gas. It brought on numerous medical illnesses including incurable scarring on his face and body. He struggled with debilitating bouts of anxiety and depression and though he earned an honorable discharge, things only got worse. It was difficult to maintain steady work and he was soon estranged from his wife and children. He moved in with his mother, but within a year she died and his childhood home went into foreclosure. So he took refuge in an abandoned house with other homeless people and began experimenting with the drugs that were rampant there.

"I was out of the service, out of a family, out of a mother, out of a job and out of a home.

That's when Catholic Charities found me." Charles agreed to participate in our Project Veterans Independence where he was given a safe, clean apartment and support services to help turn his life around. And that's just what he did. Today, he lives independently in his own place. "Veterans just want a place to live, to be close to the ones we love, and to stand on our own two feet.

Now there's a new generation of soldiers coming home and a lot of them are dealing with emotional disturbances directly related to their military service. They need and deserve our help."

Long Island is home to nearly 140,000 veterans.

...his glory will be shelter and protection: shade from the parching heat of day, refuge and cover from storm and rain.

Isaiah 4:6

Shelter From the Storm

You wouldn't believe it was happening on Long Island. After Hurricane Sandy struck his Lawrence neighborhood, Lance spent five months in a house without electricity or running water, with large sections of roof missing. The heating system failed and black mold grew throughout the damp, cold house.

As a renter he had little recourse. His landlord insisted he had no money for repairs and showed little interest in working with government agencies to fund repairs. Having suffered a work-related brain injury that permanently impaired the left side of his body, Lance could do little to improve conditions himself and was living on a meager disability check. Worse still, he had prepaid his rent for a year prior to the storm, trapping him with too little savings to move elsewhere. He had tried living in shelters but his health and hope were deteriorating fast. That was until a partner agency shared his plight with the Catholic Charities Disaster Case Management team. Our caseworkers visited him immediately, delivering food, toiletries, and fresh water while putting together an action plan. They helped Lance approach multiple venues for assistance and fill out paperwork. A few months later, Lance moved into a studio apartment of his own, one that fits his budget to a "T." He says, "Sandy took everything from me but I want the people reading this to know that their support of Catholic Charities is what helped me start over. I want them to know they gave me a home again."

In 2013, our Disaster Case Managers helped 1,352 neighbors rebuild their lives.

Photo by Greg Shemitz, 3Vphoto.com



*Rise, then, for this is your duty! We are with you,
so have courage and act!*

Ezra 10:4

A Spiritual Home

Bill knew his son was smart but that he was also restless. When Michael ultimately decided to become a doctor like his brothers, he chose a medical school overseas. It was there that he got hooked on cocaine and began a steady, downward spiral into the world of chemical dependence. "It was a disaster," his father explains. "He became a full-blown addict so we turned to Talbot House."

The Catholic Charities 24-hour crisis center offers medically-monitored withdrawal services to those who have nowhere else to turn. Once admitted, Michael met "Sr. Jane," a counselor who challenged him with the brutal honesty and intense self-examination that is necessary to recovery. Michael wanted to quit, but Jane wouldn't give up. After several grueling weeks, he successfully graduated from Talbot and moved on to other recovery programs.

With his life eventually back on track, he finished medical school and had just decided on a residency program that would lead to becoming an addiction specialist when disaster struck again. The parents of a childhood friend battling alcoholism called, pleading desperately for help. Michael responded, setting off on a drive that ultimately ended his life in an accident caused by an impaired driver.

"It wasn't enough for Michael that he beat it. He was going to help others beat it too. I grieve for my son, but he inspires me every day." In fact, Bill recently graduated with a master's degree in Pastoral Studies from the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception. A chaplain at St. Joseph Hospital he also volunteers as a spiritual counselor at Talbot House.

"Michael said he owed his life to Talbot House. I know I belong here carrying on his work."

Talbot House gave 1,718 Long Islanders the courage to battle chemical dependence in 2013.

2013 Program Highlights

Our Disaster Relief Fund provided 1,812 individuals and families with over \$2 million in direct financial assistance.

Students and faculty from Holy Trinity Diocesan High School hosted their 1st Annual "Spring Fling" dance for individuals with developmental disabilities who live in our community residences.

To reduce the incidence of suicide among our US military veterans, we provided suicide prevention training sessions to veterans, their families and veteran service providers.

Our Commack Chemical Dependence Clinic began offering program participants voluntary, weekly spirituality sessions to increase the positive outcomes of their substance abuse treatments.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

As a ministry of the Roman Catholic Church, Catholic Charities assists in serving the basic needs of the poor, troubled, weak, and oppressed and is committed to addressing the causes of injustice. We aim to organize and empower people to secure the participation of all in the life of the community.

In 2013, Catholic Charities of Rockville Centre provided nearly 1.5 million caring, face-to-face services to 63,904 neighbors. Our goal is to bring love, respect, and hope to each person we serve.

Chemical Dependence Services*	2,465	served
Commodity Supplemental Food Program	11,555	served
Dental Services.....	749	served
Disaster Response.....	6,194	served
HIV/AIDS Services	23	served
Housing*.....	1,954	served
Immigrant Services/ Refugee Resettlement	19,822	served
Mental Health Outpatient Services	2,281	served
Mental Health Residential Services*	136	served
Nutrition Outreach Education Project.....	7,394	served
Parish Social Ministry**	1,993	served
Regina Maternity Services*	52	served
Residential Services for People With Developmental Disabilities*	108	served
Senior Services	4,396	served
Women, Infants & Children	4,782	served

* Many participants in these programs receive round-the-clock, residential care.

** The Parish Social Ministry staff also supported parish programs that serve people in their local communities by holding trainings and conferences that were attended by 5,236 people.



Catholic Charities is funded by the Catholic Ministries Appeal of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, federal agencies, the State of New York, Nassau and Suffolk counties, the United Way of Long Island, foundations, third-party reimbursements, client fees, contributions, grants and bequests. Catholic Charities is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions to Catholic Charities are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Catholic Charities gratefully acknowledges the legacies and support of those who assist in the continuation of our ministry. For information about planned giving or other forms of donations to Catholic Charities, please contact the Development and Communications Department at (516) 733-7042.



Catholic Charities
Diocese of Rockville Centre
 COMBINING STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
 For the year ended December 31, 2013

OPERATING REVENUE:	
Bequests, contributions and other gifts	\$ 3,837,396
Foundations, grants and other contracts	951,860
Catholic Ministries Appeal	1,500,000
Government contracts	13,599,053
Medicaid and Medicare	13,208,132
Fees, third-party and other reimbursements	4,782,259
Total Operating Revenue	\$37,878,700
OPERATING EXPENSES:	
Program Services:	
Chemical Dependence Services	\$ 3,095,367
Disaster Response	4,107,560
Food and Nutrition Services	2,494,048
HIV/AIDS Services	1,282,718
Housing	564,659
Immigrant Services	1,159,853
Maternity Services	727,668
Mental Health Outpatient Services	3,653,680
Parish Social Ministry	874,512
Residential Services	13,250,556
Senior Services	4,157,805
Visually Impaired Persons Center	32,373
Other Programs	388,209
Total Program Services	\$35,789,008
Supporting Services:	
Administration	\$ 3,209,095
Fundraising	336,238
Total Supporting Services	\$ 3,545,333
Total Operating Expenses	\$39,334,341
DECREASE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS	\$(1,455,641)
NONOPERATING ACTIVITY:	
Investment income and realized gains, net	\$ 1,048,740
Unrealized appreciation in fair market value of investments	1,706,205
Increase in temporarily restricted net assets	301,291
Increase in permanently restricted net assets	167,650
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 1,768,245
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	26,282,708
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$28,050,953

A copy of the latest audited financial report is available upon request by e-mailing info@catholiccharities.cc or calling (516) 733-7000.





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Care With Dignity...
Life With Hope

Call
(516) 733-7000
for help.

**Chemical
Dependence Services:**
Talbot House Chemical Dependence
Crisis Center/Outpatient Clinics

**Commodity Supplemental
Food Program:**
Permanent and Mobile Food Distribution Sites/
Nutrition Education

Disaster Response: Case Management/Preparation & Relief Services

HIV/AIDS Services: Housing

Housing: Affordable Housing for Seniors and People With Physical
Disabilities

Immigrant Services: Legal Counseling/ Citizenship & Voter
Registration/Refugee Resettlement/ Advocacy & Organizing

Mental Health Outpatient Services: Community-based Clinics

Mental Health Residential Services: Siena Residence for Adults
with Psychiatric Disabilities/ Teaching Family Homes for Children/ Project
Independence and Project Veterans Independence

Nutrition Outreach Education Project

Parish Social Ministry: Parish Outreach/ Central Information and
Referral (CIR)/ Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Regina Maternity Services: Regina Residence/ Mary's Residence/
Mentoring Program

**Residential Services for People with Developmental
Disabilities:** Case Management/ Community Integration/ Skills
Development/ Community Residences

Senior Services: Case Management/ Meals-On-Wheels/ Senior Community
Service Centers/ Senior Deaf Club/ Visually Impaired Persons (VIP) Center

Women, Infants and Children Program: Food/ Nutrition
Education/ Referrals to Health and Social Services



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