

Care With Dignity ... Life With Hope

[www.catholiccharities.cc](http://www.catholiccharities.cc)

## Your Catholic Charities in 2017

—more than 1.4 million face-to-face services for 62,400 Long Island neighbors

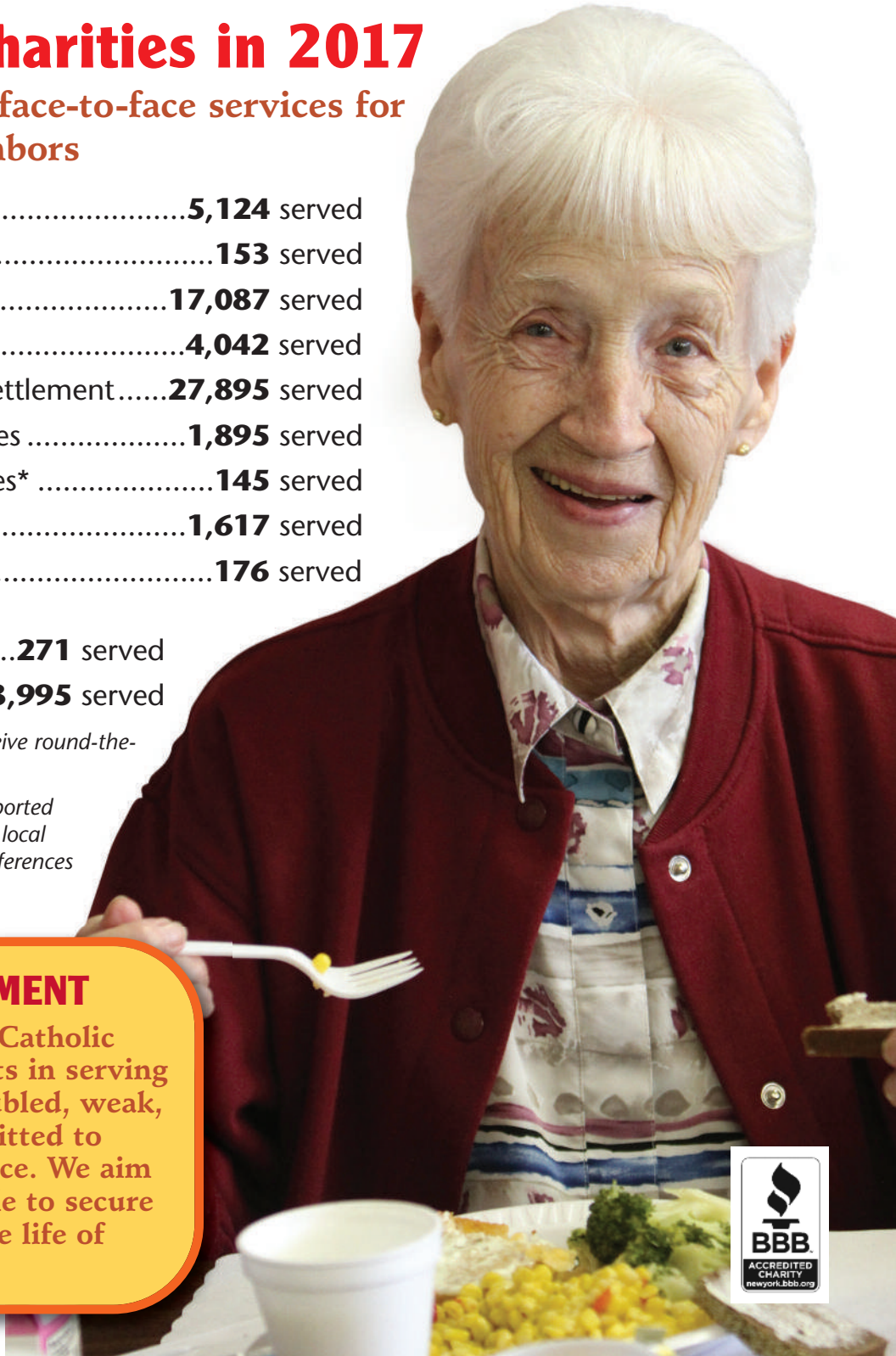
Chemical Dependence Services*	5,124	served
Disaster Response	153	served
Food and Nutrition Services	17,087	served
Housing*	4,042	served
Immigrant Services/Refugee Resettlement	27,895	served
Mental Health Outpatient Services	1,895	served
Mental Health Residential Services*	145	served
Parish Social Ministry**	1,617	served
Regina Maternity Services*	176	served
Residential Services for People With Developmental Disabilities*	271	served
Senior Services	3,995	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 3,147 people.

### 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.





*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

**C**harles 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 on Long Island, 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."

Photo by Greg Shemitz, 3Vphoto.com

**Long Island is home to nearly 140,000 veterans.**





## The Longest Way Around is Sometimes the Shortest Way Home

**I**n September our Massapequa Park Senior Community Service Center said an emotional goodbye to our 30-year home, Our Lady of Lourdes in Massapequa Park and relocated nearby to The Church of St. Jude in Wantagh.

As OLL parish geared up for a \$1 million renovation campaign we began a year-long search for alternate space, one large enough for the 250 seniors that attend weekly but that was also centrally located within the service area of Bethpage, Farmingdale, Massapequa, Massapequa Park, North Massapequa, Plainview, and Wantagh. As Catholic Charities CEO, Laura A. Cassell explains, this was no easy task. "We provide so many activities so finding the right space that was also handicap-accessible was a real challenge. And while we provide buses, it had to be close enough for the seniors who come on their own."

As good fortune would have it, Fr. Christopher D. Hofer, Rector of the Church of St. Jude, came to the rescue and offered his Episcopal parish. He explains, "It was a homecoming of sorts because the center actually started in our mission parish, St. Michael and All Angels, Seaford, home of The St. Jude Mission Center, many years ago. And this move now allows our parish to play a more personal role in serving vulnerable neighbors which is a vital part of our mission and vision."

The new Wantagh Senior Community Service Center will continue offering all of its services without interruption from the new location including handicap-accessible transportation to and from the facility. Catholic Charities operates four Community Service Centers in Nassau County that offer recreation, socialization, entertainment, education, health services and hot meals to local seniors. All are open to Nassau County residents 60 years of age or older at no cost. If you or someone you love is interested in attending, call (516) 733-7000 for more information.

Photo by Greg Shemitz, 3Vphoto.com

## My Dear Friend,

**l**once read a heartwarming article about a couple who had been married for 65 years. Asked for their secret they likened their partnership to a "pair of comfortable, old shoes." They said that while people desire novelty, true satisfaction was only had when we use "fresh eyes" to find meaning in the things we see every day.

The same might be said for Long Island and Catholic Charities. After more than 65 years we're part of the fabric of life here, maybe even going unnoticed at times. But look at the cover of this newsletter with "fresh eyes" and you'll discover that we're a leader when it comes to meeting Long Island's changing needs.

Take for example, the HIV/AIDS epidemic of the 90's. We led the way with a dental clinic, day programs and even specialized housing. The aftermath of 9/11? We ministered to the spiritual, physical, and psychological needs of thousands of New Yorkers for years after. And when Superstorm Sandy ravaged our communities, Catholic Charities of Rockville Centre quickly became the largest disaster relief organization in the state.

Sadly, history shows us there are always going to be new challenges. The good news is Catholic Charities is always going to be ready,

**because the one part of the formula that never changes is YOU.**



Without your support, seniors would go without our Meals on Wheels, teenage moms and their babies would find themselves on the street instead of our Regina Residence, and the addicted might be deceased instead of alive and withdrawing in our Talbot House.

These examples may seem dramatic but I assure you they're not. They're all true. And I'm only sharing the tip of the iceberg.

**So I'll ask you plainly...  
won't you please send your gift  
in the enclosed envelope today?**

Long Island still needs us  
and we still need you.

Gratefully Yours,

Laura A. Cassell  
CEO, Catholic Charities,  
Diocese of Rockville Centre





# Responding...

The New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) awarded Catholic Charities a \$388,850 grant for our New York State Refugee Social Services Program (RSSP).

Our friends at **Fidelis Care New York** for a \$386,000 grant which will help fund our Mental Health, Chemical Dependence, and Regina Maternity Services programs. Their ongoing commitment now stands at nearly \$2.5 million!



Our faith-filled Caritas Dinner honorees, **The Whitcomb Family**, and the **250 guests** who recognized their dedication to the Long Island community. Together, we raised a record-breaking \$219,000!



Our 16th Annual Golf Classic honorees, **Bishop Nelson J. Perez of Cleveland** and **Mike Breen, sportscaster and legendary voice of the NY Knicks**. One hundred and sixteen golfers played 18 holes at the picturesque Meadow Brook Club and then joined us for dinner, raising over \$195,000 for our ministries on Long Island.

Our special thanks to these friends for helping us provide  
*Care With Dignity...Life With Hope.*

A supporter who wishes to remain **anonymous** for a very generous gift of \$50,000.

**The Edgar Side III Estate** which bequeathed \$31,000 to our ministries.

**The Allen E. & Patricia M. Murray Foundation** for a \$30,000 gift that will bolster all our services.

**The Robert C. DeFillipis Irrevocable Trust** for its gift of more than \$29,000.

**Catholic Charities USA** for a \$25,000 grant for our Immigration Services and Refugee Resettlement Program.

**The Walmart Foundation** for awarding us \$25,000 to help feed Long Island's hungry through our Nutrition Outreach Education Project.

**The Maternity & Early Childhood Foundation** for their \$25,000 grant to our Regina Maternity Services.

**The William Nolan Revocable Trust** for their donation of \$10,000.

**The United Way** for a \$15,000 grant for our Immigration Services & Refugee Resettlement Program.

**The Pascucci Family and The Sebonak Golf Club, LLC** for their gift of \$10,000.

**The Gary J. & Susan O. Ferentino Foundation** for gifts amounting to \$10,000.

**New York Community Bank** for an \$8,000 grant to our Immigrant Services and Refugee Resettlement Program.

**The Bob Hannon Agency** for their gift of \$5,000.

**The Combined Federal Campaign through The United Way** for \$4,216 in general support of our services.

**The Town of Babylon Community Development Fund** for a \$3,000 grant to our Thea Bowman Residence for the Disabled in Amityville.

**Mr. & Mrs. William Ayers** for their gift of \$2,500 and **The Bank of America Charitable Foundation** for matching another \$2,500.

**The Town of Southampton's Human Services Department** for \$2,000 for our Chemical Dependence Services.

Special thanks to **Bruce & Barbara Brownyard** for hosting 170 guests who together raised \$25,000 for **Talbot House**, our medically monitored stabilization center for the chemically addicted.

## Around and About

Kudos to **Izabela Sliwowska, MS**, our Meals on Wheels Program Coordinator who has been invited to serve on the Board of Trustees for the **Gerontology Professionals of Long Island**. GPLI was formed in 1990 and serves as a networking and educational center for professionals who serve the aging population of Long Island.



Congratulations to our **Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) staff** as they celebrate their program's 8th anniversary and its remarkable growth. The program has flourished, from one location that served 815 people in 2010 to four locations today that serve more than 6,000 per year. Our WIC program provides food assistance, nutrition education, and health screenings with referrals to women and young children who are at nutritional risk. To learn more call, (516) 377-0157.

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