

# The Mission

Care With Dignity ... Life With Hope

September 2020 Volume 24 No. 2

We are LONG ISLAND

For more than 60 years Catholic Charities has served neighbors of every faith and background when disaster **strikes**. We responded when the towers fell and we rebuilt our neighborhoods after Superstorm Sandy hit our shores. As we battle COVID-19 our teams are still providing face-to-face, round-the-clock care at our homes for the developmentally disabled, the mentally ill, teen moms and their babies and seniors Do not abandon in our enriched housing. yourselves to despair. And our staff and volunteers deliver meals and groceries to

hundreds of homebound

seniors throughout

Long Island.

We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song.

Saint Pope John Paul II

Thank you for standing with us! To GET help or to GIVE help, contact us at:

www.catholiccharities.cc • (516) 733-7000

Please know that EVERY donation to Catholic Charities of Long Island STAYS with Catholic Charities of Long Island and serves the needy in our programs and services. WE DO NOT SHARE FUNDS OR DONOR INFORMATION WITH ANY OTHER AGENCY OR ENTITY.



Those who work for the Church's charitable organizations must be distinguished by the fact that they do not merely meet the needs of the moment, but they dedicate themselves to others with heartfelt concern, enabling them to experience the richness of their humanity.

Pope Benedict XVI

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# LONG ISLAND

## **Care During the Pandemic**

## Denise



Denise has been a care aide for our senior centers for over 6 years! While our our centers were closed, Denise has stayed in touch with our seniors throughout the whole ordeal. She calls each regularly to check on their health, make sure they have all that they need, and to remind them they they are loved and missed. She also leads a very popular Bingo game four times a week via conference call, and joins them three times a week for a phone-in exercise class. Her next venture is starting a phonein book club, which is expected to be a big hit with our seniors!

#### Suffolk County Meals-On-Wheels



Since April, this hardworking crew has been steadily increasing the number of people they serve. Operating five days a week they now drive to 449 Suffolk seniors to provide prepared meals, groceries, and referrals to other social services. And this dedicated staff remains vigilant, assessing needs and conducting wellness checks. Since the pandemic struck, our Nassau and Suffolk Meals-on-Wheels services have increased by more than 100% and we now visit more than 1,300 seniors on a regular basis. From left, first row: Abid, Wayne, Izabela, Artie, and Edgar. Second row, from left: Kim, Jessica, Norm, Sheryl, and Jakub

## Direct Service Providers



These Direct Service Providers (DSP's) are just some of the amazing men and women who provide round-the-clock, face-toface care to those living in our 13 homes for the developmentally disabled. The pandemic never stopped them from supporting our most vulnerable with their consistent, loving assurance each and every day. We value our frontline heroes and we even had a car parade to show them how much!

## Ocean Financial Federal Credit Union



As soon as the pandemic struck our good friends at this Long Island-based credit union wanted to know how they could help improve the outlook of our most vulnerable neighbors. They've been at it all summer, planting gardens at our homes for the developmentally disabled, writing personal letters to our homebound seniors and even sending board games and hand-painted rocks with message of hope to our clients. It's wonderful to have real partners in care by our side.

### **Bruce**

Meet Bruce, the coordinator of our Bayshore Mental Health Clinic who's been part of the Catholic Charities family since 2001. Throughout the pandemic, he's been vital to making sure patients continue to receive good mental health care. When our clinics were initially closed by the virus, he quickly coordinated with our IT department to devise a new model of care, linking our counselors to their clients remotely, via a new online network.



## amazonsmile.com

During this crisis everyone has been shopping on Amazon but did you know that you can donate 0.5% of your purchase directly to Catholic Charities of Long Island? Just go to **smile.amazon.com**, sign in as usual then choose your charitable organization as **Catholic Charities of Long Island located in Hicksville NY**. You'll be asked to confirm, click **YES** and then **Start Shopping!** 



## A Headline with Heart

What a year! Long Islanders have endured a pandemic, power outages and even sharks on our shores—all made worse by a media obsessed with negativity.

Maybe we should just shut it all off. After all, the 24-hour news cycle didn't always exist. Remember when you read the morning paper and then tuned in for a half hour of nightly news? Today, researchers find that technology and media saturation are fueling an alarming surge in anxiety disorders. They call it, "Headline Stress Disorder." So here's a positive and 100% true headline:

#### CATHOLIC CHARITIES IS HERE FOR YOU

No matter the challenge, big or small

While the numbers to the right are inspiring, look at the range of ministries! There are 10 and within those there are dozens of programs. We do it Real Love for Real People

In 2019, Catholic Charities of Long Island provided nearly 1.4 million caring, face-to-face services to 64,199 neighbors.

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pendence Services*	3,764	served
trition	20,314	served
	4,358	served
ervices/Refugee Resettlement	25,872	served
h Outpatient Services	2,455	served
h Residential Services*	154	served
nity Services*	180	served
Services for People With		
tal Disabilities*	107	served
es	4,137	served
	ervices/Refugee Resettlement houtpatient Services h Residential Services* Ministry** rnity Services* Services for People With	pendence Services*

<sup>\*</sup>Many participants in these programs receive round-the-clock, residential care.

Taken from the Catholic Charities of Long Island 2019 Annual Report. Please call (516) 733-7028 to order a free copy.

all, caring for the whole person no matter who they are. We feed and house seniors, young moms, children, the developmentally and physically disabled and even veterans. We welcome immigrants, provide mental health services, and help the addicted start new lives. The list is truly endless, so I like to simply say, "We do what Jesus would do."

But His work relies on good people like you. So I ask you plainly,

## Will you use the enclosed envelope to make a gift today?

I promise that as long as we have you in our corner, we'll never give up and we will remain the hands that do the work of your beautiful heart.

Sincerely,

Laura A. Cassell

CEO, Catholic Charities of Long Island

mul Cassell

**Looking for A JOB WITH HEART?** 

Visit www.catholiccharities.cc/jobs

Years of

**Years of** 

**Years of** Service!

Years of **5** Years of Service!

This year, Covid-19 preempted our 34th Annual Employee Recognition Ceremony but that won't stop us from honoring a team whom we consider the best on Long Island. In 2020, 49 members of our "CC Family" celebrated various milestone anniversaries:

Pamela Abele • Helen Boystak-Tretola • Troy Cort • Yves Cyriaque • Francis Dooley • Nona Eler-Holmes Ashadebie Kamta • Jennifer Knowlton • Lauren Lalchand • James Lamb • Arleen Oakes Caroline Palmer • Maureen Palmeri • Jennifer Regan Haight • Paul Robertson • Christopher Schettini Donna Smith • Lauren Sondey • Carolann Stedman • Robert Stroh • Wayne Wood • Kerri Zaleski

Margaret Campbell • Natasha Cooks • Maureen DeGazon • Betty Eaves • Sara Gardner Joseph Martusciello • Aristides Stavros • Danielle Tanzi • Pearlie Dowdell • Lucille Johnson Abid Paul • Yvelisse Suriel

Elvira Castro • Laura Cooper • Anthony Modica • Izabela Sliwowska

Gabriel Boscarato • Ann DiTroia • Douglas Boyce • Gerard Bragg • Colleen Duffy-Lomler •Linda Jones Laurie McIndoo Ventrella • Laura Montefusco • Dina Sabo

Susan Intravaia • Reina Rivas

<sup>\*\*</sup>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 3,243 people.

# Affordable Senior Apartments Are Now Available!

### Beautiful 1-bedrooms and studios

Mary's Manor in the Five Towns area is for low-income seniors aged 65 and older who need just some assistance with daily activities. Services include: Nutritious meals • Personal care aides • Showers/tubs with fold-down seats and grab bars • Recreational activities • A safe environment with 24-hour supervision

St. Anne's Gardens in Brentwood is a 100-unit, private community now available to seniors 60 and older. It offers safe and affordable apartments with a dedicated social services coordinator and pastoral support to help ensure the physical, social, and spiritual well-being of our residents.

Call today for you or someone you love. (516) 733-7076



# Responding...

Our good friends at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for providing a Catholic Charities USA grant totaling \$307,421 for emergency Covid-19 expenses!

Our allies at the **Rauch Foundation** whose gift of \$50,000 also supports our COVID-19 relief efforts.

The anonymous donor who graciously gifted \$50,000 to offset increased operating costs at this critical time.

The faith-filled, **anonymous couple** for their gift of \$50,000 to support our full spectrum of services.

Our partners at the Long Island Community Foundation for \$40,000 from their L.I. Immigrant Children's Fund and for an additional \$20,000 from their COVID-19 Long Island Philanthropic Response Fund.

The anonymous family who continue their inspirational giving with a gift of \$25,000.

The Walmart Foundation for a \$25,000 grant to our Nutrition Outreach Project. Since 2014 they've helped us eradicate hunger to the tune of \$145,000!

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Croke for their ongoing generosity and especially for their most recent gift of \$10,000.

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

Team Brownsville, Inc. for \$10,000 to cover legal expenses for immigrants seeking to make their new home in America.

Gail and Richard Sullivan and The Bob Hannan Agency, Inc. for respective donations of \$5,000 each.

Our faithful partners in building a better Long Island, the Marianist Province of Meribah for \$5,000 in COVID-19 relief funds.

The New York Community Bank **Foundation** for sustaining our work with a \$5,000 contribution.

Mike's Floor Sanding and Installation in Bayshore for donating and installing new floors in bedrooms at our Talbot House Chemical Dependence Residential Stabilization Center.

Greenman-Pedersen Engineering and **Construction** in Babylon for "adopting" three of our homes for developmental disabilities and providing clients and staff with special meals and activities tailored to their unique interests.

Mary Lynn Borst for 12 hand-crocheted blankets to those recovering from substance addiction at Talbot House.

The Stop & Shop Community Bag program and Long Island shoppers who together donated over \$300 to Catholic Charities in August.

Special thanks to **New York Legislator Tom Donnelly** for his generous donation of masks when we needed them most.



In June, Catholic Charities warmly welcomed Bishop Luis Miguel Romero Fernandez who was ordained auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, home to more than 1.4 million Catholics.

## Around and About

The young people in our **New York** Services To At-Risk Youth (NYSARY) spent a week at the Suffolk County Police Department's Youth Police Academy where they learned about laws, resolved crime scene exercises, played with adorable K-9 dogs and even rode in the Suffolk County Police Department helicopter!

The Mission Development and Communications Department, Catholic Charities of Long Island (516) 733-7028

www.catholiccharities.cc

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