



The Mission

Care With Dignity ... Life With Hope

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Celebrating 60 Years!

As America began its love affair with suburbs in the 1950s, millions flocked out of cities to make their homes on tree-lined streets with neat plots of grass and white picket fences. Nowhere was this exodus more striking than New York City to Long Island.

Yet being the next-door neighbor to the country's economic powerhouse created an assortment of formidable challenges. Our island had to resolve comparable issues regarding poverty, employment, and affordable housing but without the city's more significant resources. Issues of race and immigration also had to be addressed as did the growing number of elderly. How could such a small region with limited means meet the needs of so many?

For 60 years, Catholic Charities has helped answer that question.

Founded by Bishop Walter P. Kellenberg in 1957, Catholic Charities served 1,124 people with just 11 staff members at two offices that first year. But as communities grew so did we, most specifically in response to changing crisis. Various waves of immigration, the explosion of teen-pregnancies, rampant substance abuse, the AIDS/HIV epidemic, terrorist attacks and even natural disasters—through it all Catholic Charities has been there, responding with programs that help rebuild lives.

Today, we're one of the largest human service providers on Long Island, maintaining an extensive network of over 60 sites from Elmont to the East End. More than 600 employees and 300 volunteers serve an average of 55,000 people each year of every faith and background and at every stage of life. And while people may change and needs have too, what has remained constant is Catholic Charities' heartfelt concern and love and our promise to bring *Care With Dignity...Life With Hope* to our most vulnerable Long Island neighbors.



Will You Help?

\$60 for 60 years of service would mean a world of difference to neighbors in need.





The Luckiest Guy in the World



After serving in the Army and then retiring from the New York City Fire Department, Bob Canberg felt he still had plenty to give. So he decided to try driving for one of Catholic Charities' 13 homes for the developmentally disabled on Long Island's East End. "Once I started, I couldn't believe how much I loved being with the residents. They're warm and kind, no pretense whatsoever. I really can't wait to get up in the morning and come over here." The feeling must be mutual because the residents of the home count Bob as one of their dearest friends and include him in many of their activities. "The truth is I learn so much from them. Larry taught me to fish, and I go bowling with James every week. I think most people don't realize how much they have to share." That's why even when he's not working you can find Bob taking residents everywhere, from the supermarket to baseball games. "It's amazing. I'm forever getting trapped into jobs I love. I must be the luckiest guy in the world!" Our residents think they're pretty lucky to have you too, Bob.

#ComeSeeTheGood

Individualized Residential Alternatives (IRAs) are group living homes for people with developmental disabilities that affirm the dignity of residents while helping each achieve the highest levels of functioning. Catholic Charities offers 13 of these homes throughout Long Island.

Catholic Charities 2016

...more than 1.5 million, face-to face services for 55,955 Long Island neighbors

- Chemical Dependence Services***4,431** served
- Disaster Response***228** served
- Food and Nutrition Services*.....**16,891** served
- HIV/AIDS Services*.....**45** served
- Housing****4,120** served
- Immigrant Services/Refugee Resettlement***22,295** served
- Mental Health Outpatient Services*.....**2,118** served
- Mental Health Residential Services**.....**149** served
- Parish Social Ministry***.....**1,478** served
- Regina Maternity Services****211** served
- Residential Services for People With Developmental Disabilities****261** served
- Senior Services*.....**3,098** served

* Many participants in these programs receive round-the-clock, residential care.
 ** The Parish Social Ministry staff also supported programs that serve people in their local communities by holding trainings and conferences that were attended by 2,593 people.



Photos by Greg Shernitz, 3Vphoto.com



Blessing of Life

With a \$2,000 gift from Astoria Bank and help from students and faculty of St. John the Baptist High School, Catholic Charities hosted our first-ever annual “Blessing of Life” celebration. This uplifting reception was held at the Venetian Yacht Club for the 107 residents of our 13 homes for the developmentally disabled who have never had an affair held in their honor! Our Volunteer Coordinator, Mary Ellen Kwiecinski, best summed up the occasion saying, “Memories and friendships were made that evening that will last a lifetime.”



EXERCISE FOR OTHERS



Serving People In Need

Diocese of Rockville Centre

Do you spin or Zumba??? You can do it for Catholic Charities on October 28th. Organize a team, work out, and have fun while you help support Long Island’s most needy. To learn more call (516) 678-5800 ext. 264 or visit www.exercise4others.org to register online.

A Nutty Fire Drill



My Dear Friend,

Recently at Catholic Charities, we welcomed an unexpected fire drill as an opportunity to get some fresh air on our lawn. Even more unexpected was a most adorable squirrel that scurried in alongside us as we made our way back to our boardroom. Shrieks of delight eventually gave way to the sobering reality that we had to get this little guy out and back to his tree. What followed was a great example of what makes Catholic Charities tick.

We unanimously agreed that our fuzzy friend was to remain unharmed and after an impromptu brainstorming session our team got to work. Attempts were made to shoo him through the maze of rooms towards the door which he simply ignored. Then we tried to compel him into a garbage can so we could safely transport him outside with no success. Then an ingenious trail of peanut butter and trail mix proved only that this was the one squirrel in existence who didn’t care for nuts! Eventually someone went outside, removed the screens from the windows and opened them wide so he’d feel the breeze on his whiskers. And that, my friends, did the trick. Our new friend could not resist the siren song of a sunny day.

This is much more than a pleasant anecdote because it exemplifies the perseverance and compassion that we consider the hallmarks of Catholic Charities’ care. The bond of loving concern for that simple squirrel mirrors the love that is extended to those who daily turn to us in their heartache. There is no challenge too big or too small. I know because I’ve witnessed our response firsthand for many years.

HIV/AIDS epidemic? We led the way in Long Island’s care.
 Aftermath of 9/11? We ministered to thousands after their loss.
 Superstorm Sandy? We became the largest disaster relief organization in the state.

We never turn away. We never give up. And we never stop loving. Those have been our calling cards now for 60 years.

It’s a simple formula, one handed down to us by a man from Galilee more than 2,000 years ago. But making that love truly felt here on Long Island for 60 years wasn’t easy. It only happened because people like you make it happen. So I humbly ask you:

Will you consider a gift of \$60—a dollar for every year we’ve served our Long Island neighbors?

Because 60 more years starts right now—but not without you.

Sincerely Yours,

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

Even the hairs of your head have all been counted. Do not be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows.

—Luke 12:7



Responding...

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



A guardian angel, **Frances M. Nardino** whose estate left an incredible **\$3.8 million** to our ministries!

Fidelis Care New York for their generous 2017 grant of \$383,000 to help support our mental health, chemical dependence and maternity programs. Their ongoing commitment now stands at nearly \$2.1 million dollars!

Our wonderful **2017 Caritas Dinner honorees, Brian and Beth Crimmins** who with family, friends and steadfast Catholic Charities supporters raised an extraordinary \$194,620 for our programs throughout Long Island.

Catholic Health Systems for their \$150,000 grant for our Special Needs Housing and Projects Independence and Veterans' Independence.



Memorial Cards Now Available

The passing of a loved one is a difficult time but also one of reflection and prayer. The bereaved may take comfort in knowing that a gift on the loved one's behalf to Catholic Charities will assist their neediest neighbors. Call (516)-733-7028 to learn more about receiving memorial cards.

The New York State Department of Health and the **Dormitory Authority of the State of New York** for a \$137,375 grant to install handicap accessible ramps at our Chemical Dependence facilities.

The Health & Welfare Council of Long Island in conjunction with the **Long Island Community Foundation** for providing \$100,000 for Immigration and Refugee Resettlement Services.

Our longtime partners in care, **The United Way of Long Island** for their generous donation of \$65,000.

The Maternity & Early Childhood Foundation for a \$25,000 grant for case management and parent education classes at Regina Maternity Services.

The Allen E. & Patricia M. Murray Foundation for a \$25,000 gift that will be used to bolster services throughout Catholic Charities.

The Walmart Foundation for a \$25,000 grant to feed Long Island's hungry through our Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for \$24,298 to help resettle unaccompanied minor refugees.

The National Supermarket Association for their annual "Christmas in July!" which delivered hundreds of toys to children in our programs.

Around and About

Dozens of local senior citizens joined Deacon Ray D'Alessio at our **Oceanside Senior Community Center** as he blessed a new bus and a new Meals-On-Wheels delivery truck provided by **Nassau County's Office of the Aging**.

The **students of Holy Trinity High School** spread joy as they hosted their 5th Spring Fling dance for more than 100 of our developmentally disabled residents.

More than 40 people participated in our Women, Infants and Children program's **2nd Annual Breastfeeding Awareness Walk**.

Three of our 13 homes for the developmentally disabled are celebrating milestone anniversaries: both our **Alhambra Residence** in Huntington and our **Neumann Residence** in Manhasset mark their 40th, while our **Caritas Residence** in Aquebogue celebrates its 25th.

2017 is our **Massapequa Park Senior Center's** 40th year of providing hot meals, socialization and recreation to local seniors.

Our **Meals-on-Wheels staff** voluntarily collected and delivered nearly 60 potted flowers to meal recipients to help brighten their Mother's Day.



We bid a fond farewell, offer many thanks and congratulate **Bishop Nelson J. Perez**, Vice-Chair of our Board of Trustees, on his installation as Bishop of Cleveland.

More than 100 people from 6 countries celebrated 2017 **World Refugee Day** with us!

Our **Employee Recognition Luncheon** acknowledged the contributions of 68 employees who together have given a staggering 775 years of combined service to Catholic Charities. Our beloved Adelaide Corvelle has alone provided 45 of those years!

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