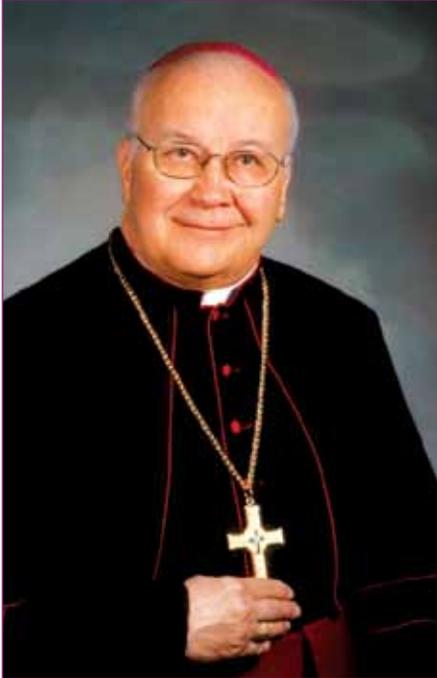


the gift of
HOPE



Compassion. Integrity. Commitment.



Dear Friends,

The world economy has created challenges unseen in nearly eighty years. Homelessness, hunger, and the lack of healthcare have become the reality for more people than ever before—and not just “elsewhere,” but here, in the four counties that make up the Diocese of Metuchen. Yet, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen remains a source of hope for these brothers and sisters of ours.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen strengthens the lives of others by offering aid that empowers and encouragement that lasts, particularly for the poorest and most vulnerable among us. Catholic Charities is one important means by which the Lord’s promise is fulfilled: “the needy will never be forgotten, nor will the hope of the afflicted ever fade” (Psalms 9:18). As you review the 2011 Annual Report, I believe you will find that the good work of Catholic Charities affords hope for all in need, hope that offers a future (Proverbs 23:18).

I thank the Catholic Charities’ board members and the many volunteers and benefactors whose deep faith, sacrifice, and financial assistance sustain Catholic Charities. The continued gifts of your time, talent and treasure are greatly appreciated. To every staff member, I extend my sincerest gratitude for your support of the mission of Catholic Charities.

May God bless you with sufficient grace to take thankfully the past, gratefully the present and faithfully the future.

Sincerely in the Lord,

The Most Reverend Paul G. Bootkoski, D.D.
Bishop of Metuchen

Dear Friends,

Once again, I have the privilege of being part of a wonderful story—the Annual Report of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen. The extent of good that is done each year by Catholic Charities never fails to amaze and inspire me. Over the past year alone, the agency helped more than 50,000 of our neighbors with basic needs that would not otherwise have been met.

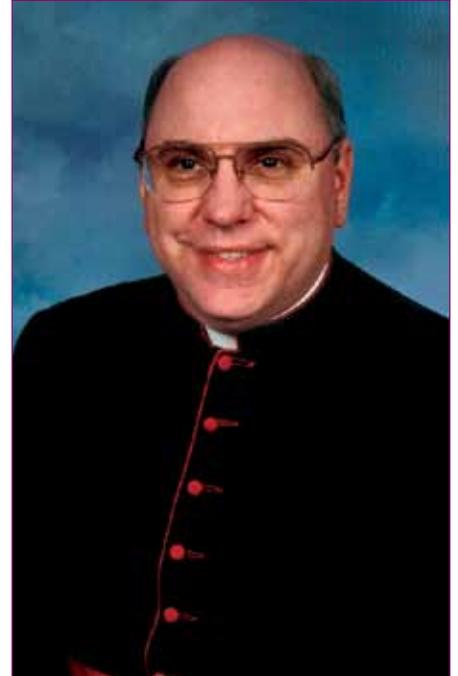
The work of Catholic Charities continues in an environment of increasing need and limited resources. Despite these challenges, Catholic Charities' staff continues to display the highest standard of professional excellence, while embodying God's genuine love and compassion—the common thread that binds it together. The fact that so many employees have been with the agency for many years is evidence that the work they do is not just a job, but a vocation.

I hope you will take a few moments from your busy schedules to be amazed, inspired, and challenged as you read about all that Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen has accomplished in 2011. I also hope that Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen can count once again on your prayers and support in 2012 as it continues its special mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Msgr. Benwell" followed by a decorative flourish.

Rev. Msgr. William Benwell, V.G.
Chairman, Board of Trustees





Dear Friends,

I am pleased to present the 2011 Annual Report of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen. The agency's mission is exemplified through its work – providing quality services with both compassion and professional expertise, while upholding the dignity of every person we serve.

This year has proved to be another challenging year for the agency. The continuous downturn of the economy, coupled with decreased local, state and federal funding, created a “perfect storm” that necessitated changes in agency programs. These changes affected the composition of the organization. At the close of FY 2011, it was evident that the agency's structure was no longer relevant and no longer supported our existing programs. In order to create a structure that supported the existing programs, a plan was developed to merge like services and achieve efficiency by right-sizing the agency's leadership structure. These changes went into effect July 1, 2011, and will allow us to work more efficiently and focus on furthering our mission.

The critical need for our services has been reinforced by the failing economy. Each day we see the suffering and pain written on the faces of the people who come to us for assistance. Many are broken in body and spirit. Through our work, we inspire them to take an active part in their own recovery and strive to give them hope for a better future.

Catholic Charities is able to fulfill its commitment to the betterment of the human spirit because of the outstanding leadership of the Board of Trustees and the dedication and commitment of staff, volunteers and benefactors.

Your partnership with Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen is critical. Without the sustained support of the community, the agency's programs and services that help so many of our neighbors would be in jeopardy. Your dedication helps us to touch lives when it matters most.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marianne Majewski". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Marianne Majewski, LCSW
Executive Director

Financial Summary – FY11

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, continued to meet the needs of its clients, despite this being the third year of a severe economic downturn. The challenges faced over the past few years continued. The failing economy brought an increasing number of clients to the agency's doors, most notably, the poor and average working class families affected by job loss and the recession. While funding cuts at the state and local levels continued, the agency continued with funding and service initiatives begun in 2010.

Relief for families facing homelessness was made possible through funding provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. With these funds, as well as other local and Diocesan support, Catholic Charities was able to provide financial assistance and services to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless. The agency disbursed almost \$1.5M for client assistance in the form of mortgage payments, rental assistance, rental security deposits and utility assistance.

Corporate sponsorship was realized through the Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit (NRTC) Program. This program is

designed to foster the revitalization of New Jersey's distressed neighborhoods. Tax credits are provided to business entities that invest in the revitalization of low- and moderate-income neighborhoods in eligible cities. In collaboration with other local non-profit agencies, funds have been used to develop low- to moderate-income housing units throughout Unity Square in New Brunswick. The agency has also expanded access to medical services and is working to provide a community center for residents of Unity Square.

With no economic relief on the horizon for the coming year, Catholic Charities will strive to remain strong and to meet the needs of its clients throughout fiscal year 2012.



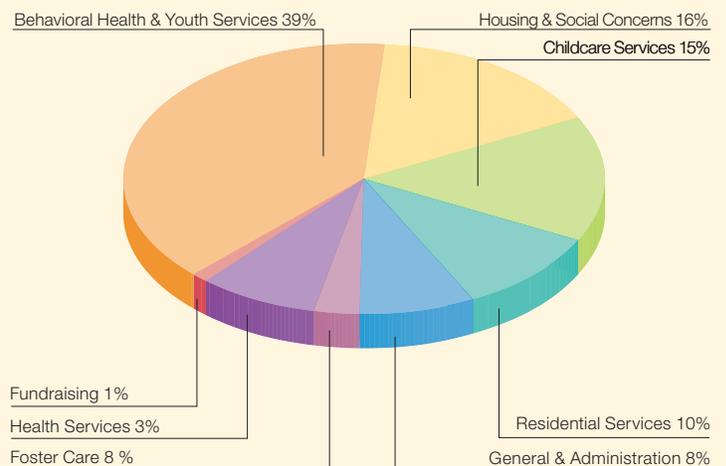
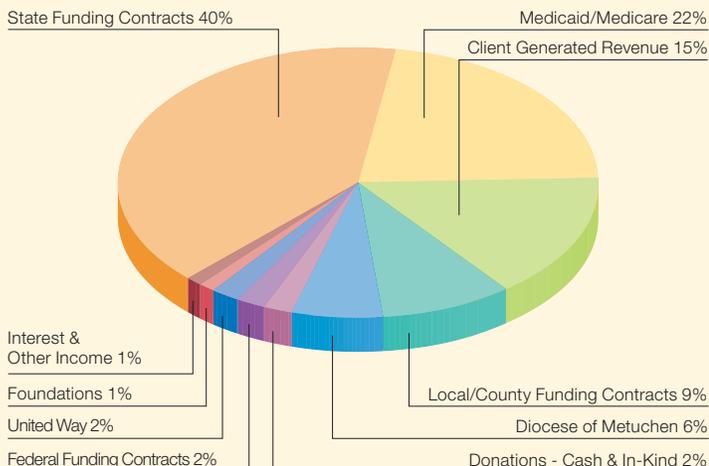
Christine Benitez, M.B.A., C.P.A.
Chief Financial Officer

Total Revenue FY 2011

40%	State Funding Contracts	\$16,209,714
22%	Medicaid/Medicare	\$8,834,564
15%	Client Generated Revenue	\$6,287,967
9%	Local/County Funding Contracts	\$3,575,529
6%	Diocese of Metuchen	\$2,464,851
2%	Donations - Cash & In-Kind	\$754,625
2%	Federal Funding Contracts	\$745,459
2%	United Way	\$682,744
1%	Foundations	\$430,115
1%	Interest & Other Income	\$82,389
100%	TOTAL	\$40,067,957

Total Expenses FY 2011

39%	Behavioral Health & Youth Services	\$15,715,736
16%	Housing & Social Concerns	\$6,546,299
15%	Childcare Services	\$5,853,465
10%	Residential Services	\$4,138,124
8%	General & Administration	\$3,286,321
8%	Foster Care	\$3,267,451
3%	Health Services	\$1,357,666
1%	Fundraising	\$60,943
100%	TOTAL	\$40,226,005



THE FINANCIAL INFORMATION REPORTED ABOVE WAS DERIVED FROM THE AGENCY'S AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2011.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, D.D.
Bishop of Metuchen

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Chairman

Mr. Thomas G. Toolan
Secretary

Mrs. Marianne Majewski
Executive Director

Mr. Tab M. Chukunta

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Mrs. Maryanne Guenther

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Sister Florence Edward Kearney

Deacon John F. Kenny

Rev. Joseph Kerrigan

Mr. Joseph Powell, Jr.

Hon. Mathias Rodriguez

Rev. Msgr. John B. Szymanski, P.A., V.G. Em.

Mr. Gordon M. Ur

Ms. Thomasina Wyatt

Mr. Anthony Zarillo

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Marianne Majewski, LCSW
Executive Director

Julio Coto, LCSW
Assistant Executive Director

Joan Lorah, LCSW
Assistant Executive Director

Christine Benitez, MBA, CPA
Chief Financial Officer

Douglas J. Susan, JD
Director of Compliance

SERVICE AREA DIRECTORS

Ann Basil, LCSW
Middlesex Behavioral Health

Marci Booth, LCSW
Out of Home Placement

Elena Boyle, MA, LCADC
PACT

Luann Dias, LCSW
Somerset Behavioral Health/Youth and Middlesex Youth

Krista Glynn, BA
Child Care

Wesley Moore, M. Div., CSW
Housing and Homeless Prevention

Ernie Revoir, M.B.A., CHE
Social Justice

Martha Rezeli, MA, CSW
Hunterdon/Warren Behavioral Health



About Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, incorporated in 1982, is a non-profit Agency dedicated to service, quality and outreach for members of the community, especially those who are poor, devalued and in need of help. The Agency, which evolved from the Catholic Welfare Bureau of Trenton founded in 1913, provides programs to the four counties of the Diocese of Metuchen with selected services that reach throughout the State of New Jersey.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen began with seven sites that offered nine programs. In 29 years, it has grown to include more than 22 sites and over 114 programs. This expansion is the direct result of the Agency's aim to provide service to all those in need regardless of race, religion or ethnicity. To fulfill this commitment, Agency administration has consistently created new, innovative programming that would serve to extend the work of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen.

In its effort to provide the highest levels of service to all its clients, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen uses the principles of quality, creativity, respect and empowerment as the guiding forces behind the Agency's mission. When reaching out to those in the community needing service, particular attention is given to the poor, undervalued and those who are disenfranchised. Administration and staff design programs that focus on the value of family, individual knowledge and the right of every client to be treated with dignity and respect.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen Mission Statement

Driven by the social teachings of the Church, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen provides quality services with dignity and respect to the poor, vulnerable and all people in need, and partners with families and communities to improve the quality of life.

Catholic Charities Vision

To be a vibrant, dynamic agency dedicated to helping all individuals and families reach full potential while advocating for a more just and compassionate society.

Catholic Charities Values

We value the:

- Freedom of each individual to pursue their full potential
- Dignity and fullness of all human life
- Poor, the vulnerable and the devalued
- Differences of others
- Sanctity of the family

We are committed to:

- Service to individuals in need
- Service to individuals no one else will serve
- Justice and compassion
- Standards of excellence
- Continuous improvement and measurable outcomes
- Success through partnership
- Integrity and honesty

Health Services

In a country recognized worldwide for its wealth of opportunity, a staggering number of people do not have health insurance or have health insurance that is inadequate. The Health Services of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen strive to provide high-quality health care to those who would not otherwise have access.

The Health Center

St. John's Family Health Center, located in New Brunswick offers services to the poor, uninsured and disenfranchised. Health Center patients establish a "medical home" for primary and preventive medical care, child and adult immunizations, and laboratory specimen & medication assistance. St. John's offers HIV medical treatment, clinic-based case management, and patient liaison services. St. John's Health Center is open Monday through Friday, including one evening to better serve the needs of the patients.

Medical Outreach

The Medical Outreach service is community-based, serving the 37-block Unity Square neighborhood that adjoins St. John's Health Center. This service emphasizes the use of a "medical home" for routine medical visits for all ages, instead of overcrowded hospital emergency departments. The bilingual Outreach Worker identifies adults and children in this neighborhood that have not been receiving proper medical attention and assists in connecting them with primary medical care. Parents are provided with consultation about the importance of having children immunized, receiving routine medical attention, and being screened for lead poisoning.

HIV Services

For those in the community afflicted with or affected by HIV, life can be made even more difficult by a lack of access to much needed medical and social resources. St. John's Family Health Center provides primary medical care for persons living with HIV/ AIDS. Clinic-based case management services are also available at St. John's for these individuals. Additionally, St. John's offers the HIV Testing Program. The testing is private, confidential, free of charge, and timely; preliminary results are available 20 minutes after the test is taken.

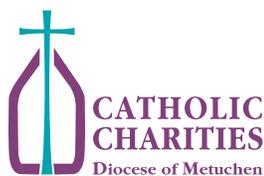


In Fiscal Year 2011

- **50,028 people in need were served by Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen**
- **1,432 children received Child Care Services**
- **Immigration Services assisted 587 people with the naturalization process**
- **The Ozanam Family Shelter and the Ozanam Inn provided 610 men, women, and children with a place to stay**
- **158 people received services for the treatment of HIV**
- **The Boarder Babies Program provided loving, nurturing homes for 41 infants**
- **54 people were treated by the Family Violence Program**
- **65 volunteers in the Senior Shopper Program shopped for 95 people**
- **Vital healthcare and immunization services were provided to 913 individuals at the St. John's Health and Family Service Center**
- **213,314 hours of service were provided by eight service areas and over 114 programs across the four counties of the diocese**

SERVICES OFFICES

		HIV/AIDS Services	Behavioral Health	Child Care/School Age	Health Care/Outreach	Housing Search/Advocacy	Immigration	Information/Referral/Advocacy	In-Home Services for Abused/Neglected Youth	Material Needs/Disaster Relief
BRIDGEWATER FAMILY SERVICE CTR Bridgewater, NJ	908.722.1881		•	•		•		•	•	•
COMMUNITY HOUSE Old Bridge, NJ	732.251.0022									
EAST BRUNSWICK FAMILY SERVICE CTR East Brunswick, NJ	732.257.6100		•					•		
EDISON FAMILY SERVICE CTR Edison, NJ	732.738.1323							•	•	
FLEMINGTON FAMILY SERVICE CTR Flemington, NJ	908.782.7905		•					•	•	
INDEPENDENT LIVING Phillipsburg, NJ	908.454.0414					•				
MAPLE STREET FAMILY SERVICE CTR Perth Amboy, NJ	732.324.8200							•	•	
NAOMI'S WAY New Brunswick, NJ	732.565.7974					•		•		
NEIGHBORHOOD CTR Perth Amboy, NJ	732.826.0788							•		
OZANAM FAMILY SHELTER Edison, NJ	732.985.0327					•		•		
OZANAM INN New Brunswick, NJ	732.729.0850					•		•		
ST. BAKHITA HOUSE Phillipsburg, NJ	908.454.0912									
PHILLIPSBURG FAMILY SERVICE CTR Phillipsburg, NJ	908.454.2074		•	•				•	•	
PHILLIPSBURG THRIFT STORE Phillipsburg, NJ	908.859.5447									•
ST. AGNES HOUSE Bridgewater, NJ	908.704.3401									
SOCIAL SERVICE CTR Phillipsburg, NJ	908.859.5447					•		•		•
SOMERSET STREET EARLY LEARNING CTR New Brunswick, NJ	732.545.1789			•						
STATE STREET TRANSITIONAL HOUSING Perth Amboy, NJ	732.826.7711					•		•		
ST. JOHN'S HEALTH & FAMILY SERVICE CTR New Brunswick, NJ	732.745.9800	•			•					
TRINITY FAMILY SERVICE CTR Perth Amboy, NJ	732.826.9160		•			•	•	•	•	•
YES EARLY LEARNING CTR New Brunswick, NJ	732.249.3881			•						



Administrative Offices
319 Maple Street
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
Ph: 732.324.8200
Fax: 732.826.3549

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & YOUTH SERVICES			
Behavioral Health			
Middlesex	800.655.9491	Warren	908.454.2074
Hunterdon	908.782.7905	Somerset	908.722.1881
Youth Services			
Middlesex	732.324.8200	Warren	908.454.2074
Hunterdon	908.782.7905	Somerset	908.722.1881

CHILD CARE SERVICES	
Middlesex	908.725.1912
Hunterdon & Warren	908.454.2074
Somerset	732.545.1789

DIRECTORY

PACT Services	Parenting Education	Parish/ Outreach	Youth Partial Care	*Maternity Services	Residential Services for Youth	Services for the Disabled	Services for the Elderly	Shelters for the Homeless/ Transitional Housing	Substance Abuse Services	Supervised Visitation	TFC/Boarder Babies	Youth Mentor/ Recreation/ Tutoring
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OF SERVICES

SOCIAL JUSTICE & HEALTH SERVICES

St. John's Health Center – New Brunswick	732.745.9800
Immigration	732.826.9160
Parish Social Ministry	732.257.6100
Unity Square	732.545.0329

HOUSING & HOMELESS PREVENTION

Men's Shelter	732.729.0850
Family Shelter	732.985.0327
Naomi's Way	732.565.7974
State Street Transitional Housing	732.826.7711

OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT

Foster Care Services	732.324.8200
Resource Family Inquiries	866.247.HOME
Maternity Services	732.324.8200
Residential Services	908.454.2074

HOUSING AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Housing and Social Justice programs assist individuals and families who are hungry, need shelter, or lack the financial resources to meet their basic needs. Over 20 programs are available to provide short-term assistance that will lead to self-sufficiency and an improved quality of life.

Ozanam Family Shelter in Edison provides emergency shelter for 16 single women and 26 families. The Ozanam Inn, located in New Brunswick, provides shelter to the homeless men of Middlesex County. The facility has 14 emergency shelter beds and 26 transitional housing beds. While living in the shelter, program residents work with case managers to improve their earning capacity and obtain permanent housing.

Naomi's Way is the Service Area's newest program. The facility, located in New Brunswick, has 16 one or two bedroom units. The program offers

support to homeless mothers who are employed or engaged in job training. Stays at Naomi's Way can last up to 24 months. While in residence, the women are provided with case management and life skills training.

The State Street Program has a total of 56 units including studio apartments, single rooms and low-income housing apartments for singles and couples. Many of these tenants once resided in Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen shelters. Tenants are offered case management, life skills training, transportation, counseling and linkage to substance abuse and mental health counseling.

The Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) is designed to assist mentally ill individuals who are homeless. The project provides assistance securing entitlements, mental health treatment and housing. Services are provided to clients in the community in train stations, hospital emergency rooms, shelters and soup kitchens.

Immigration

The Immigration Program assists immigrant individuals and families in adjusting their legal status in the United States, reuniting their family members, becoming free from abusive living situations, or becoming United States citizens. Services are also available to assist those seeking asylum and refugees who are fleeing from oppressive governments to seek freedom in the United States. Services to immigrants in need of credible information are offered by appointment in Perth Amboy, Phillipsburg, and New Brunswick; and open house sessions are offered weekly in Perth Amboy. Individuals eligible for citizenship are guided in the steps that will lead to legalized residency. Services are available in English, Spanish, French and Creole.

Social Services

Social services are provided in several different areas throughout the four counties. In Phillipsburg, a Thrift Shop and a Food Pantry are available. Also located in Phillipsburg is the Social Service Center. The Center has become a lifeline for many of the working poor who cannot afford to provide for themselves or their families. Additional services that are provided include counseling, life skills, case management and job readiness training.

The Family Financial Stabilization Program and LIHEAP are programs that are provided in Somerset County. Case Managers provide financial counseling, as well as assistance with rent, mortgage and utilities.

Services to the Elderly

Volunteer services are provided by community volunteers to seniors and the disabled in Somerset County who need assistance with the activities of daily living. A comprehensive needs assessment matches the client with a volunteer to provide services such as shopping, household tasks, yard work or friendly visits.

Multi-Service Program

The Multi-Services Program provides financial assistance and case management to low-income residents of Middlesex County who are having financial difficulties. Areas of assistance



include rent, mortgage and utilities for those who are facing eviction, foreclosure or utility shut-off. The program serves the lowest income earners in the community and those who have the most difficulty accessing services and resolving problems. All applicants are screened for eligibility, and are provided with a rapid response to their needs.

These services are consistent with the mission of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen which is to provide for those in need who are economically disadvantaged or who may not be protected by society's "safety net."

Parish Social Ministry

The Parish Social Ministry Office serves as the connection between Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen and the 99 parishes in the Diocese. This office works to increase and maintain a collaborative relationship with the parishes in an effort to better meet the needs of those coming to us when they are experiencing hardship of any kind. Parishes support our efforts particularly during major holidays by collecting food and gifts. The Diocesan Emergency Assistance Program provides financial assistance to individuals and families referred by local parishes, while providing other Agency resources and referral in the areas of mental health, physical health and basic needs. Assistance is provided through local community parishes, and is inclusive of all faiths.

The Office, as part of the Social Justice Service Area, partners with the Diocese to support and facilitate social justice education and awareness throughout the Diocese. We are active on committees on the Diocesan level and at an Inter-diocesan level, including the NJ Catholic Conference, NJ Catholic Coalition for Environmental Justice and the Metuchen Diocese Global Solidarity Team. Through this Service Area, the agency disseminates information, support and direct services to the pastors, social ministers and parishioners of 99 parishes in the Diocese of Metuchen.

Unity Square Neighborhood Revitalization Project

The Unity Square Neighborhood Revitalization Project is part of the Social Justice Service Area at Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen.

Unity Square is a 37-square block neighborhood in New Brunswick between Commercial and Livingston Avenues and Sanford and Welton Streets. The office is located on the Sacred Heart Church campus. This neighborhood, which is composed of a mix of African Americans who have lived in the area for many years and are predominantly homeowners, and new immigrants mostly from Mexico who are predominantly renters. The neighborhood has an estimated population of 10,000 people, of which 24% live below the federal poverty limit.

The diversity of the neighborhood reflects the richness and opportunities in this area, which have been captured in the revitalization projects.

Catholic Charities, together with Sacred Heart Parish, began organizing the neighborhood in 2004 and has formed partnerships with many local civic, religious and governmental organizations. A grass-roots neighborhood plan has been completed and approved by the NJ Department of Community Affairs for the purpose of obtaining tax credit funding for projects that reflect the goals within the plan. Some of the goals include the development of affordable housing for families that earn between 35% and 50% of the median income in order to alleviate some of the overcrowded living conditions the residents are experiencing; improving access to healthcare for those without insurance; economic development; improving recreational activities for youth, particularly reducing crime; and the development of a Community Center. To date, seven affordable housing apartments were acquired through NJ Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit funding. Five additional single-family homes have been constructed and are available for occupancy. Funding for these homes has been made available through municipal HOME monies and NJ Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit dollars. In addition to affordable housing development, program funds

Community Development and International Solidarity

These programs reach beyond the Diocese of Metuchen and provide direct assistance and stimulate local community response to disaster and long-term poverty:

- The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is the United States Catholic Church's official antipoverty program. Over 4,000 projects have been funded in the past 30 years through the support of Catholics residing in the Diocese of Metuchen and nationwide.
- Within the Diocese of Metuchen, Unity Square Community Development in New Brunswick, support of New Labor outreach for immigrants, and The Intersect Fund's promotion of micro-finance/local entrepreneurship are examples of local projects.
- The Solidarity Team (CCST) works with the local community, and the national Catholic Relief Services (CRS) headquarters, to advance global solidarity and social justice. CRS is the official overseas arm of the U.S. Catholic community, sponsoring education, advocacy and fund-raising programs for at-risk communities in over 95 countries. Our Solidarity Team also sponsors local Operation Rice Bowl and Justice for Immigrants (JFI) activities and events.

are being used for various initiatives such as increasing the hours at the neighborhood's St. John's Family Health Center.

This past year, vast improvements were made with neighborhood community gardening in three locations that served 52 families. The Feaster Park garden was completely renovated and transformed with the help of all of the gardeners. Thus, the gardeners were able to enjoy a bountiful season of fresh vegetables and beautiful flowers that were admired by everyone who visited.

Our focus now is to work on leadership development within the community. Through this organizing effort, we will build bridges between the African American and Latino communities. Our goal is to find common ground on the issues that affect both communities and identify solutions for the betterment of the entire Unity Square neighborhood.

Unity Square also has held a number of very well-attended community events including Earth Day, Night Out Against Crime and safe Halloween events for children.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Residential Services believes something miraculous is possible for troubled youth when they receive structure, caring and specialized services. Guided by this belief, Residential Services serves children and teens requiring extra assistance to successfully transition from childhood to adulthood. These children come from chaotic or abusive homes that lack sufficient guidance and direction. Too often, these children are left unattended, raising themselves without parental support or intervention. Yet, with vigilance, faith, support and care, their possibilities are endless and achievement is possible.

Independent Living Program

The Independent Living Program is for youth who are approaching adulthood, yet remain unable to return to their families. This program provides a supervised apartment type setting to facilitate the transition from a group home to living in the community without adult supervision. While in the facility, youth receive case management services and opportunities for real life experiences in a supportive

environment. The program provides education in household maintenance, food shopping, meal preparation, money management, methods for accessing community resources and assistance obtaining employment. Program participants are required to maintain employment and contribute financially to rent and groceries. All program components prepare participants to live independently in the community.

Residential Treatment Program

A temporary out-of-home placement often provides the opportunity for participants and their families to identify and work through issues that led to placement. St. Agnes House provides a highly structured environment that is designed to target specific treatment needs. St. Agnes House is located in Somerset County and provides intensive, short-term treatment in a community setting. The focus of the program is to reintegrate a client, who has often been in the system for many years, to the least restrictive community setting. The program focuses on individual and family therapy with a behavior modification component. Clients are encouraged to earn unsupervised time in the community and to participate in community service projects. The program works with the client to help them become a productive member of the community.

Intensive Independent Living Program

St. Bakhita House, located in Warren County, is an intensive independent living program for female adolescents with limited family resources. These clients have lacked the positive life experiences necessary to prepare them to live successfully in the community. Many of these clients have a long history of out-of-home placements. St. Bakhita House focuses on intensive education to prepare the young adult for living on her own in the community through a curriculum diverse in nature and focusing on the strengths of the client. The program will not only teach the client life skills, but will also provide her with real life experiences to build upon as she enters the community on her own.

Education and training in independent living skills areas (including job readiness, grocery shopping, money management,

and personal hygiene) are provided on a daily basis. Most of this education will take place in the community as real life experience. Individual, group, and family therapy are provided on a weekly basis to help the client transition into the community successfully. Groups offered include therapeutic groups and psycho-educational groups. The clients are encouraged to obtain employment, as well as further their academic or vocational education. The clients earn unsupervised time within the community to practice being without adult supervision. Completion of the St. Bakhita House program culminates in clients living independently, either through family reunification or independent living arrangements in the community.

CHILD CARE SERVICES

Affordable quality child care is one of the services most frequently requested by the clients of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen. Child Care Services has assisted families through various child care programs within Somerset, Morris, Warren, and Middlesex Counties since 1995. Currently serving approximately 1,432 children, ages preschool to middle school, Child Care Services meets the needs of working families by providing their children a safe and supportive atmosphere in a quality child care setting. Programs are provided during the school year and year round to accommodate the needs of the communities.

PROGRAMS

Abbott Services

In the spring of 1999, the New Jersey State Supreme Court Decision *Abbott v. Burke* ordered the provision of preschool education for all three and four year old children in the poorest school districts in the state. These urban districts became known as Abbott districts. Research reports indicated that children by the age of three and four in the lower income Abbott designated districts are significantly behind their peers in school readiness. Therefore, their potential for future success was severely limited. The court order mandated programs to begin by the fall of 1999. Throughout the state, districts began to expand the capacity and capability to institute the early childhood urban education reform initiative.

In Middlesex County, New Brunswick was one of the designated Abbott districts. Catholic Charities' child care centers subcontract with the New Brunswick School District to provide high quality preschool education designed to enable children in these districts to succeed.

Using Creative Curriculum, teachers compose lesson plans that utilize eleven interest areas to demonstrate our commitment to the development of the children we serve. They are afforded opportunities to engage with their peers in an environment that promotes interaction and the sharing of knowledge in a fun and enjoyable fashion. Along with our two Abbott Early Learning Centers in New Brunswick, we also offer a preschool wraparound program in the Phillipsburg School District.

Partners School Age Care

The Partners School Age Child Care Programs, located in Warren, Morris, Somerset and Middlesex Counties, provide before and after school care for children, ages five through thirteen. Primarily located in local elementary schools, thereby eliminating transportation issues and greatly reducing parental stress, programs include enrichment activities and homework assistance supported by the "Links to Learning" curriculum through the National Institute on Out of School Time (NIOST). Programs are offered on a sliding fee scale to allow families at various economic levels to participate where available and local subsidies are accepted. Eight of the school age programs are nationally accredited through the National After-school Association (NAA) focusing on high-quality standards of care in an after-school setting. Currently, there are only 25 school age programs nationally accredited in New Jersey including the Catholic Charities' programs.

Summer Program Services

Child Care Services provides full day summer program services to communities located in Warren, Somerset, and Middlesex Counties. Summer programs offer weekly themes, field trips, special events, enrichment, onsite presenters, and weekly swimming. Approximately 300 children are served through the school age summer programs.

Additional Child Care Services

Holiday care, wraparound child care, and kindergarten enrichment services are additionally provided. Services are specific to the location and needs of the communities.

Family Outreach Program (FOP)

The Family Outreach Program, supported through the Early Childhood Abbott districts, the Division of Family Development, and Prevent Child Abuse NJ, collaborates with Family Workers, Child Care Directors, Family Worker Coordinators, Social Workers, PIRT Teams and Community Agencies in order to enhance children and their families' lives. Catholic Charities currently oversees two Family Worker Coordinators who provide support and mentoring to 38 family workers in both New Brunswick and Perth Amboy.

THERAPEUTIC FOSTER CARE

There are thousands of children in out-of-home placements in New Jersey. Catholic Charities provides stability and a sense of security for children placed in our foster care homes during a very difficult time in their lives.

The Foster Care Program serves children from birth to 18 years of age in need of temporary foster care and a structured, therapeutic foster home experience. The agency is committed to helping children maintain connections to their kin, culture and community while in care. Every effort

is made to reunite children with their family of origin, kin, or to place them into permanent homes as soon as possible.

To meet the needs of foster children in the state, the Home Study Unit specializes in the recruitment of potential foster families. Applicants complete a screening process that includes fingerprinting, local police checks, interviews, home visits and reference checks. The Home Study Unit also arranges for pre-service education and continued training of all TFC foster parents.

The Boarder Baby Program

The Boarder Baby Program offers temporary care to abandoned, drug exposed, or neglected children, from birth to five years old. Catholic Charities' foster parents provide love and stability in a nurturing environment to over 50 children annually. Children referred through the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) are the innocent victims of drug abuse, poverty, neglect, homelessness and abandonment.

The Medically Fragile Program

The Medically Fragile Program provides care to children between birth and five years of age who are in the DYFS foster care system and have specific medical needs. Foster families receive extra training to provide care for children with medical conditions and meet their specialized needs.

The Treatment Home Program

The Treatment Home Program provides not only traditional foster care services, but ongoing therapy and support to



children at risk. Many of the children have experienced abuse, trauma and multiple out-of-home placements. Treatment Home families who care for children are trained by agency staff to provide a stable, nurturing home with the level of structure and supervision they need to thrive.

The Adoption Support & Advocacy Program (ASAP)

The Adoption Support & Advocacy Program works with children in DYFS foster care and pre-adoptive homes to ensure a stable transition from foster placement to adoption. Program clinicians provide in-home behavioral therapy and case management support as the family moves towards adoption.

Maternity Services

The Maternity Services Program offers free options counseling to expecting or new parents in need of guidance and support. A clinician works with birth parents and their families to explore options available including parenting, foster care and adoption. Assistance is also provided with obtaining medical care for mother and child.

The Maternity Services Program also provides resources and referrals for parents exploring adoption as a way to grow their family. They will be provided with referrals to licensed agencies that provide adoption placements.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND YOUTH SERVICES

Life's challenges can affect any individual or family. The Behavioral Health and Youth Services area of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen serves adults and youths struggling to cope with life in the face of psychological, behavioral and/or addiction issues. Programs offered throughout the four Diocesan counties provide counseling, treatment, guidance and support to many who would not otherwise have access to these services.

Behavioral Health Outpatient

Outpatient Behavioral Health Programs provide short-term, outpatient counseling and treatment to individuals, families, and couples who may be impacted by depression, anxiety, the loss of a loved one, parenting difficulties and other common life stressors. Services are

provided throughout our Family Service Centers located in Perth Amboy, Edison, East Brunswick, Bridgewater, Flemington and Phillipsburg.

Specialized services include treatment for survivors of sexual abuse and/or domestic violence, counseling and case management for individuals who are developmentally disabled and are also suffering from a mental illness. Also provided are psychiatric/forensic evaluations. Specialized individual and family therapy is also available for Spanish-speaking clients in the Perth Amboy, East Brunswick, Bridgewater and New Brunswick offices. The East Brunswick Office offers services for adults and children who experience serious or chronic mental illness. Intensive outpatient treatment for Somerset and Hunterdon County residents who have a serious mental illness is available in the Bridgewater and Flemington Family Service Offices by referral from the County Screening Center. Parish counseling geared to faith communities with a Christian focus is offered upon request. Counseling to address the emotional distress associated with post-abortion issues is available Diocesan-wide.

Substance Abuse

Substance abuse has no boundaries and can affect anyone, regardless of age, race, religion or economic status. The programs in the Substance Abuse area serve adult individuals, families and adolescents who are struggling to overcome their addictions. Programs are offered on an outpatient basis and include substance abuse evaluations, individual and group counseling, education through the Intoxicated Drivers Resource Center (IDRC) and linkage to community support groups and 12-Step programs.

Catholic Charities has several locations to meet the growing needs of this service. The Bridgewater office provides an intensive outpatient group for adolescents that meets after school and is designed to facilitate the road to recovery, as well as an adolescent prevention group and community outreach. The East Brunswick Office offers traditional programming for outpatient substance abuse counseling and treatment in both a group or individual setting, including

group counseling for children impacted by substance abuse in the home. The Edison Office is the home base for the Child Protection Substance Abuse Initiative for the NJ Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) for the Counties of Middlesex, Union, and Essex. This program assesses families for substance abuse issues and makes treatment referrals in response to possible abuse and neglect situations.

Program for Assertive Community Treatment - The PACT Teams

The PACT Teams provide comprehensive, integrated rehabilitation treatment and support services to those individuals who live with serious and persistent mental illness. Services are delivered by a mobile, multi-disciplinary team that focuses on self-management of mental illness, as well as preventing unnecessary psychiatric hospitalization.

The three PACT Teams within the Diocese of Metuchen are located in Perth Amboy, Edison and East Brunswick.

Youth Partial Care

Youth Partial Care services are offered in Edison and serve individuals who need intensive behavioral and psychiatric care in an outpatient setting, while maintaining in-home and in-community functioning. The service is an adolescent program that serves youth, ages 9 to 17. The program serves those who are at risk of psychiatric hospitalization by providing three to five days of treatment each week. These services include psychiatric assessment, medication monitoring, behavior modification, social skills, and education in daily living skills, as well as individual, group and family therapy. Transportation services are provided to all participants.

In-Home Therapy

In-Home Therapy programs are designed to meet the needs of families with youth at risk of out-of-home placement and/or those who have been resistant to traditional outpatient treatment. The in-home component provides a familiar safe environment that helps the therapist observe real situations in order to be able to model healthier and safer parenting behaviors.

Case Management

Case Management services provide individuals and their families with a wide range of services, resources and

opportunities to enhance coping skills and promote self-sufficiency. Service coordination, supportive counseling, advocacy, linkages and referral services are provided to clients throughout the Diocese.

Mentoring

Mentoring is an opportunity for youth to partner with adults who will support their dreams and goals, and provide positive role models while sharing activities and experiences. Mentoring is provided in Middlesex County. Volunteer mentors work with youth experiencing a significant loss, medical problems or difficulty responding to traditional counseling.

Recreation

Recreation Enrichment programs are provided in the community for at-risk youth. The centers, which are found in Perth Amboy, Carteret and Woodbridge, offer homework assistance, tutoring, specialized sports, group activities, informal youth outreach and counseling, and an after-school recreation program. The centers provide a safe alternative environment, as well as positive role models.

Education and Training

Education and Training programs are provided throughout the Diocese and include Parent Education groups and

assault prevention workshops for teachers, parents and children, both in the schools and in the community (CAP). Anger management groups and domestic/family violence groups are also offered.

Visitation

Visitation programs provide supervised visitation and therapeutic visitation to families and youth who are either involved with the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) or Family Court throughout the four counties of the Diocese. Programs provide services to ensure safe visitation between children and their non-custodial parent, or to evaluate family reunification potential.

Planning and Advocacy

The Hunterdon County Children's Inter-Agency Coordinating Council (CIACC) convenes in order to identify resources and needs within the child behavioral health system. They also evaluate provider agencies funded through the Division of Child Behavioral Health Services and facilitate collaboration between provider agencies engaged in working with children evidencing behavioral and/or mental health problems. Leaders from the Behavioral Health & Youth Service area are involved in various planning and advocacy initiatives

surrounding behavioral health and the child welfare system on the local, county, and state levels.

School-Based Services

Through this program, counselors provide assessment and referral services, individual and group counseling sessions, crisis intervention, and substance abuse education and testing to school age youth in both private and public schools in Somerset and Middlesex Counties.

Post-Abortion Counseling Services

Catholic Charities offers hope and healing through post-abortion counseling and reconciliation programs. The programs offer private and confidential counseling services to those women/men experiencing post-abortion trauma. Individual counseling is available through the Project Rachel program. Project Rachel also offers post-abortion counseling services in Spanish through a weekend retreat program called Rachel's Vineyard.





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