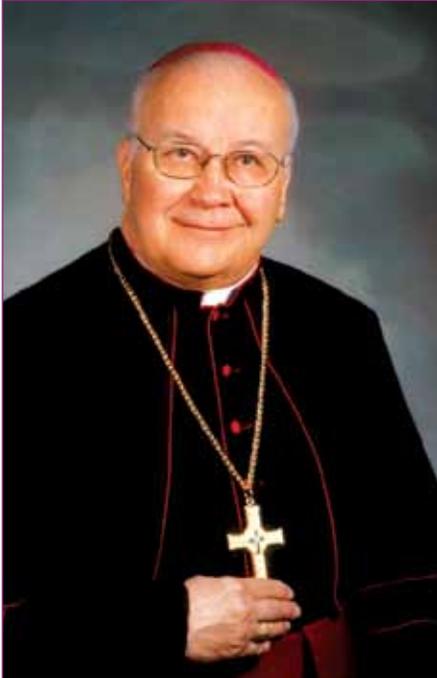


Ordinary people
doing extraordinary work



**Catholic Charities
Diocese of Metuchen**

Annual Report | 2009



Dear Friends,

As 2009 comes to a close, I am pleased once again to participate in the Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, Annual Report by reflecting on the accomplishments of the past year.

This year's economic challenges reminded me more than ever how the men and women of Catholic Charities represent the unlimited potential that comes from a group of individuals working together for the common good—so many thousands of hours of compassionate service rendered; so many hundreds of individuals saved from falling into the abyss of poverty and despair; the futures of so many hundreds of children assured because they received essential preventative medical care.

This tireless commitment to the mission of the Gospel not only aids the marginalized and vulnerable. It is for us a sign of God's abiding presence and an example on which to model our own lives.

I am grateful to all benefactors, partners, Board Members and volunteers for your generous support of the Agency's mission of charity. As you read this Annual Report, I hope you will be inspired to be part of the Catholic Charities team for another year. There has not been a time in recent memory when your presence was more urgently needed.

Sincerely in the Lord,

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

Dear Friends,

Generosity can be expressed in many ways. It can be seen, perceived, or just understood. At its core, generosity is a gift of the Holy Spirit that moves us to be more than just comfortable inhabitants of this world.

A generous heart is one of the defining characteristics of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen. The work of each staff person is set apart by a spirit of generosity, which compels him or her to give comfort and guidance, in addition to professional service, to all who come to Catholic Charities seeking help. This is, I believe, what makes Catholic Charities unique—its goal of showing every client the dignity and respect that is theirs as children of God.

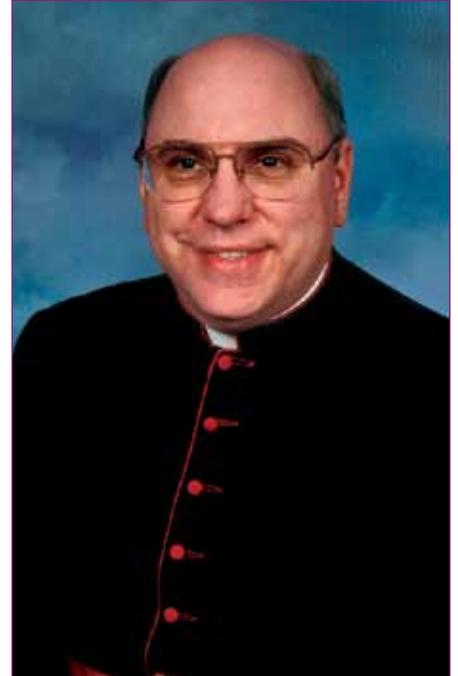
I have witnessed this generous heart. I have witnessed clients walk away with a smile on their face because they experienced genuine professional care at the hands of a stranger, who became a friend.

As you read this Annual Report, I hope you will be inspired by the great work that is done by the staff of Catholic Charities for “the least” of our brothers and sisters. Jesus told us that the poor will always be among us (Matt 26:11). He said that, however, not to excuse us from trying to make a positive difference with our own lives, but to remind us of the necessity of strong, caring neighbors to stand by the impoverished and vulnerable in our midst. Please accept my deepest gratitude for the support you have shown in the past to the work of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, and please consider continuing to assist the Agency and its clients with your own generous heart.

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 2009 Annual Report of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen. This report was created not only to inform you of the Agency's services and finances, but also to convey to you the essence of Catholic Charities, and its mission to be the essential resource for the working poor and the less fortunate living in the Diocese of Metuchen and beyond.

Catholic Charities serves the most vulnerable living among us. To witness this Agency's work, as you will in these pages, is to see God's love and compassion in every interaction. Those who come to us for help aren't just faceless names – they are our neighbors, our friends, our co-workers.

So many of the individuals that we see each day have lost their job, have no health insurance, need affordable housing, and struggle to provide their families with basic necessities. The problems that our clients face are often multiplied by the fact that they are alone, and do not have a support system. It is Catholic Charities that becomes their supportive companion on their journey toward self-sufficiency.

Our response to need is to make important connections for our clients that will help to restore their dignity and respect and lift them out of the cycle of poverty... but we cannot respond to the more than 77,000 requests for assistance without your support. Your dedication helps us to touch lives when it matters most. Your generosity allows Catholic Charities to be a safe haven in the midst of their personal storm.

I hope this report will inspire you to continue to support Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen in its never-ending work of seeking social justice for those less fortunate.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marianne Majewski". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marianne Majewski, LCSW
Executive Director

Financial Summary – FY09

In fiscal year 2009, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, began to see and feel the effects of the declining economy. Demand for client assistance services increased, particularly in the food pantry, homeless shelters and in programs which offer assistance payments for rent, mortgages and utilities. There was a significant loss of vital funding for the agency's health clinics, ultimately resulting in the closure of one of the clinics by the end of the fiscal year. Investment earnings, a valuable source of discretionary revenue over the past few years, decreased steadily throughout the year.

Although limited, continued growth was achieved through new and expanded funding contracts. Funds to subsidize child care services to the working poor were further increased. The agency also expanded its child care services in Somerset County for before- and after-school care for working families.

The largest funding increases came 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. Catholic Charities was awarded \$1 million toward its plan to revitalize Unity Square in New Brunswick.

While the economy is expected to continue to weaken throughout the coming year, and the demand for services will be stronger than ever, Catholic Charities remains committed to finding ways to meet the needs of its clients.

Christine Benitez

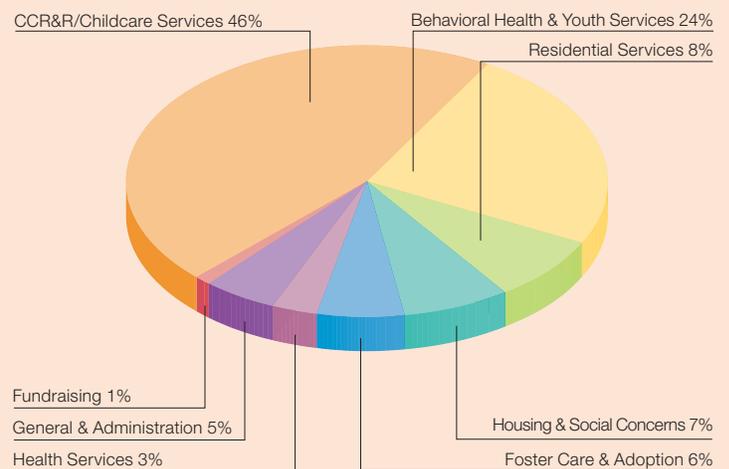
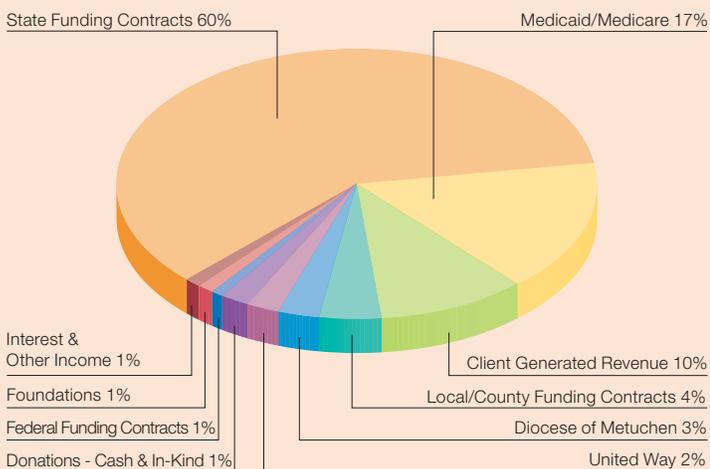
Christine Benitez, M.B.A., C.P.A.
Chief Financial Officer

Total Revenue FY 2009

60%	State Funding Contracts	\$37,413,197
17%	Medicaid/Medicare	\$10,676,887
10%	Client Generated Revenue	\$6,202,953
4%	Local/County Funding Contracts	\$2,495,473
3%	Diocese of Metuchen	\$2,059,724
2%	United Way	\$944,036
1%	Donations - Cash & In-Kind	\$872,063
1%	Federal Funding Contracts	\$774,991
1%	Foundations	\$836,617
1%	Interest & Other Income	\$343,698
100%	TOTAL	\$62,619,639

Total Expenses FY 2009

46%	CCR&R/Childcare Services	\$28,604,943
24%	Behavioral Health & Youth Services	\$14,713,033
8%	Residential Services	\$5,147,192
7%	Housing & Social Concerns	\$4,154,337
6%	Foster Care & Adoption	\$3,735,011
3%	Health Services	\$1,928,416
5%	General & Administration	\$3,360,898
1%	Fundraising	\$51,078
100%	TOTAL	\$61,694,908



THE FINANCIAL INFORMATION REPORTED ABOVE WAS DERIVED FROM THE AGENCY'S AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2009.

Executive Team

Marianne Majewski, L.C.S.W.
Executive Director

Julio Coto, L.C.S.W.
Assistant Executive Director

Joan Lorah, L.C.S.W.
Assistant Executive Director

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

Douglas J. Susan, J.D.
Director of Compliance

J. Patrick Byrne, B.S.
Director of Administrative Services

Division Directors

Marci Booth, L.C.S.W.
Residential Services

Mary Jane DiPaolo, B.S.
Child Care Resource, Referral and Services

Lysa Fritz, M.S.
Foster Care & Adoption

Wesley Moore, M. Div., C.S.W.
Housing and Social Concerns

Sharon Oshatz, M.P.H., M.T. (ASCP)
Health Services

Ernie Revoir, M.B.A., CHE
Behavioral Health and Youth Services

Board of Trustees

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

Rev. Msgr. William Benwell, V.G.
Chairman

Mr. Thomas G. Toolan, *Secretary*

Mrs. Marianne Majewski
Executive Director

Mr. Tab M. Chukunta

Mr. Hector Escobar

Mr. Anthony Giancristofaro

Mrs. Maryanne Guenther

Mrs. Bernard Hanafin

Mrs. Marney Schenck Jeney

Sister Florence Edward Kearney

Deacon John F. Kenny

Rev. Joseph Kerrigan

Mr. Joseph Powell, Jr.

Rev. Msgr. John B. Szymanski

Mr. Gordon M. Ur

Ms. Thomasina Wyatt

Mr. Anthony Zarillo



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 28 years, it has grown to include 30 sites and over 125 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 Catholic social teaching, 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 have health insurance that is either inadequate or non-existent. The Health Services Division of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen strives to provide high quality health care to those who would not otherwise have access.

The Health Centers

In the first half of 2009, the Health Services Division operated two health centers in Middlesex County: the Trinity Health Center, located in Perth Amboy and the St. John's Health Center, located in New Brunswick. The centers offer services to the poor, uninsured and disenfranchised. Regretfully, Trinity Health Center ended services in July, but services at St. John's continue.

Health center patients establish a "medical home" for primary and preventive medical care, child and adult immunizations, on-site laboratory services, and medication assistance. St. John's offers HIV medical treatment and clinic-based and intensive case management services. St. John's Health Center is open Monday through Friday with a schedule of evening hours to better serve the needs of the patients.

Medical Outreach

The Medical Outreach Program is a community based program that teaches community members on an ongoing basis about the importance of acquiring timely immunizations for children. The Outreach program identifies children who have not been receiving proper medical attention and ensures they are reconnected with their doctors or clinics. The staff provides parents with education about the importance of having their children immunized and screened for lead poisoning. Families also receive reminders to schedule medical appointments when immunizations are due. Additionally, the Outreach Worker emphasizes the use of a "medical home" for routine medical visits for all ages, instead of overcrowded hospital emergency departments.

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 and intensive case management services are also available at St. John's for these individuals.

Additionally, the Health Services Division offers the HIV Counseling and Testing program. The testing is private, confidential, free of charge and timely; preliminary results are available 20 minutes after the test is taken. The testing centers are located at Trinity Family Services Center in Perth Amboy and at rotating community locations.

Community House

Located in a residential neighborhood of Old Bridge Township, Community House at St. Thomas is a supervised, shared residence for eight self-directed adults living with severe physical disabilities with onset after age 22. Community House offers a more appropriate, minimally restrictive and cost effective community based alternative to nursing home placement.

In Fiscal Year 2009

- **77,178 people in need were served by Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen**
- **1,949 children received Child Care Services**
- **Immigration Services assisted 1,342 people with the naturalization process**
- **The Ozanam Family Shelter and the Ozanam Inn provided 674 men, women, and children with a place to stay**
- **229 people received services for the treatment of HIV**
- **The Boarder Babies Program provided loving, nurturing homes for 82 infants**
- **26,554 families received assistance through the Child Care Resource and Referral Program**
- **79 families were treated by the Domestic Violence Program**
- **65 volunteers in the Senior Shopper Program shopped for 95 people**
- **Vital healthcare and immunization services were provided to 3,006 individuals at both the St John's Health and Trinity Family Service Centers**
- **183,860 hours of service were provided by six divisions and over 125 programs across the four counties of the diocese**

SERVICES		HIV/AIDS Services	Behavioral Health	Child Care/School Age (D)	Health Care/ Outreach	Housing Search/ Advocacy	Immigration (D)	Information/ Referral/ Advocacy	In-Home Services for Abused/ Neglected Youth (D)	Material Needs/ Disaster Relief (D)
OFFICES										
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					•				
NAZARETH HOUSE Perth Amboy, NJ	732.324.0331									
NEIGHBORHOOD CTR Perth Amboy, NJ	732.826.0788							•		
NICHOLAS HOUSE Jackson, NJ	732.408.0298									
OZANAM FAMILY SHELTER Edison, NJ	732.985.0327					•		•		
OZANAM INN New Brunswick, NJ	732.729.0850					•		•		
PETER & PAUL 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

DIRECTORY

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	
Child Care Services	
Middlesex & Somerset	908.725.1912
Hunterdon & Warren	908.454.2074

	PACT Services (D)	Parenting Education	Parish/ Outreach (D)	Youth Partial Care	*Maternity Services (D)	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 (D)	Youth Mentor/ Recreation/ Tutoring
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OF SERVICES

HEALTH SERVICES

St. John's Health Center – New Brunswick 732.745.9800

HOUSING & SOCIAL CONCERNS

Men's Shelter 732.729.0850
 Family Shelter 732.985.0327
 Immigration 732.826.9160
 Social Concerns 732.257.6100

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

908.454.2074

THERAPEUTIC FOSTER CARE & MATERNITY & ADOPTION

Foster Care Services 732.324.8200
 Resource Family Inquiries 866.247.HOME
 Maternity & Adoption 732.324.8200

*(D) Services offered Diocesan wide



Housing and Social Concerns

The Housing and Social Concerns Division assists 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.

Housing

- 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, 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 the men and women 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 to adjust their legal status in the United States, to reunite their family members, to become free from abusive living situations, or to become 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. Open house sessions are offered weekly in Perth Amboy to immigrants in need of credible information and services. 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 through the four counties. In Phillipsburg, a thrift shop and a food pantry are available. Also in Phillipsburg is the division's Social Services Center. The Center has become a life line 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 STEPS are programs that are provided in Somerset County. Case Managers meet clients in their homes and provide financial counseling, as well as assistance with rent, mortgage and utilities. The Multi-Service Center in Perth Amboy manages the distribution of federal and state monies to clients in need of 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, 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".

Social Concerns

The Office of Social Concerns serves as the connection between Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, and the 108 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. Working as partners in this ministry, parishes sometimes come to our assistance particularly during major holidays by collecting food and gifts. We offer assistance to parishes for emergency financial need through the Diocesan Emergency Assistance Program. We also serve as a resource by referring them to the Agency program that can offer the specific help the family in need is requesting in the area of mental health, physical health and basic needs. When we do not have the services to meet the need presented, this office strives to offer other options. Even though this help is offered through parishes, it is not limited to Catholics and is offered to all.

It is also the responsibility of this office to ensure that education and awareness in the area of social justice is offered throughout the Diocese both through



parish offices and the Vicariates. We are active on committees on the Diocesan level and at an Inter-diocesan level that includes NJ Catholic Conference, NJ Catholic Coalition for Environmental Justice and Metuchen Catholic Relief Services (CRS). The Office of Social Concerns is committed to actively participate in working for peace and justice and to serving those who come to us in need of the basic necessities of life.

The Social Concerns Program is an alliance between Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, and the local parishes. Through this program, the agency brings information, support and direct services to the pastors, social ministers and parishioners of 108 parishes in the Diocese of Metuchen.

Unity Square Neighborhood Revitalization Project

The Unity Square Neighborhood Revitalization Project is part of the Housing and Social Concerns Division 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 predominately homeowners, and new immigrants mostly from Mexico who are predominately 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 based neighborhood plan has been completed, which has been 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 housing affordable to 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 health care for those without insurance;

economic development; improving recreational activities for youth, particularly reducing crime and the development of a Community Center. To date, one project, which includes the development of 11 units of housing and increasing the hours at the free health clinic, has been fully funded.

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

“ It’s not enough to say that Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, helped me back on my feet. They really gave me so much more than food, clothes and the means to get and keep a job. They gave me my self respect back, and that is something that is priceless. ”

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.
- * Unity Square Community Development in New Brunswick, support of New Labor outreach for immigrants, and the Intersect Fund’s microfinance projects for low income potential entrepreneurs, all in the Diocese of Metuchen , are examples of local projects.
- * Catholic Charities 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, food security (through Operation Rice Bowl), and fund-raising programs for at-risk communities in over 95 countries. Our local CCST efforts embrace and support this mission on the local Diocesan level, with current international outreach efforts ongoing in Guatemala and India.



“ Without the help of the Catholic Charities, I would have had to work two or three jobs just to pay for child care and take care of every day needs. I am so very grateful for the opportunities Catholic Charities has allowed me to have. ”

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

The Residential Services Division believes something miraculous is possible for troubled youth when they receive structure, caring and specialized services. Guided by this belief, the Division serves children and teens requiring extra assistance to successfully transition from childhood to adulthood. Too often, 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.

Therapeutic Group Home

Adolescence can be a trying time. For some youth, placement in a therapeutic group home setting is necessary to provide structure and redirection. The Peter and Paul House program is dedicated to working with youth in the context of their nuclear families and other community support networks. The program offers individual, group and family counseling with a behavior modification program that focuses on positive reinforcement and natural, logical consequences.

Group Home

Many of the children referred to the Residential Services programs have experienced severe trauma in their childhood due to abuse or neglect. Many have been exposed to drugs and alcohol as a result of the addictions of their parents. Add to these issues multiple placements in foster homes and hospital settings, and a picture emerges of an angry and troubled child with nowhere to go. At Nicholas House, the emphasis is placed on behavior stabilization and medication management as well as teaching children new coping strategies, anger management and communication skills. The goal is to discharge clients to the least restrictive setting 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 these youth to live independently in the community.

Residential Treatment Programs

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. Residential Treatment facilities provide a highly structured environment that is designed to target specific treatment needs. The focus is on stabilizing youth in order to reintegrate them into the most appropriate community placement.

The Residential Services Division operates two Residential Treatment Programs. St. Agnes House located in Somerset County and Nazareth House located in Middlesex County. These programs provide 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 become a productive member of the community.

CHILD CARE RESOURCE, REFERRAL CHILD CARE SERVICES

Affordable quality child care is one of the services most frequently requested by the clients of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen. The Child Care Resource, Referral and Services Division assists families in the community with various child care programs. Programs include: child care subsidy programs which are available to assist families with child care assistance, child care referrals, and direct care in Early Learning Centers and School Age Child Care programs.

The Division also offers extensive services to child care providers including family child care registration and training. The Division offers more than 800 hours of seminars, workshops, and conferences on early care and education topics annually to the child care community. Additionally, health professionals are available for technical assistance, one-on-one mentoring and training.

Child Care Resource, Referral and Services provides programs throughout Warren, Hunterdon, Somerset, Morris, and Middlesex counties

Programs

Abbott Services

Abbott Pre-school Services are provided to 195 three and four year old children in Abbott Districts. These school districts are covered by a New Jersey Supreme Court ruling that promises a fair and equitable education to children residing in the state's poorest districts. Payment services are provided to 1400 children attending Abbott wrap around programs in New Brunswick and Perth Amboy.

Partners School Age Care

The Partners School Age Child Care Programs, located in Warren, Hunterdon, 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). As part of School Age Child Care, the Division offers programs which supplement the school day as well as summer programs located in Middlesex, Somerset, and Warren Counties. Programs are offered on a sliding fee scale to allow families at various economic levels to participate.

Resource and Referral

Resource and Referral provides child care referrals to families who live and work in Somerset and Middlesex counties. The program also offers technical assistance and resources to the community.

Work First New Jersey (WFNJ)

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and Transitional Child Care (TCC) provides child care subsidies to families currently on welfare or transitioning out of the welfare system.

New Jersey Cares for Kids (NJCK)

NJCK offers subsidy payments for child care to low-income working families.

• Kinship Child Care Program

Kinship caregivers are people who have taken on the responsibility of caring for their relative’s children. These children might be the caregiver’s siblings, nieces, nephews, or most often, grandchildren. The Kinship Child Care Program offers child care support and services to family members, other than parents, who are caring for an eligible child.

• Post Adoption Child Care

To help facilitate the adoption of children in foster placement, post adoption child care funds assist parents in paying for child care until their child begins attending school full time.

Infant/Toddler Quality Initiative

Supplies, resources, and consultation are made available to child care providers in

order to assist them in creating safe and healthy environments for children.

Quality Initiative

For child care centers that are in the process of earning national accreditation from the National Association for the Education of the Young Child (NAEYC), the Division provides technical and financial assistance, training, mentoring and support services.

Family Child Care Registration

Family Child Care Registration is a voluntary program for individuals who care for five or fewer children in their own home. The CCR&R program recruits and trains Family Child Care Providers and inspects and monitors family child care homes.

Parent Education

Parent Education provides technical assistance and resources to parents. These resources include information about child care quality standards, types of care and information for families with children with special needs.

Child & Adult Food Program

This program provides partial reimbursement to Family Child Care Providers for nutritious meals served to children in their care.

Training and Staff Development

The Division offers more than 800 hours of educational opportunities for family child care providers, child care center staff, school age programs, nursery schools, camps and special needs programs. Trainings are offered in locations throughout the counties.

- The Child Development Associate (CDA) is a year long instructional program leading to a nationally recognized credential for child care providers.
- The Director’s Academy - The vision, direction and quality of a child care center depends on its leader, the child care center director. The Director’s Academy, is offered annually, and incorporates topics most important to center management: staff

development, parent relationships, fiscal responsibility, curriculum, legal issues and more.

The Strengthening Families Initiative

The Strengthening Families Initiative (SFI) helps early childhood centers work with families to strengthen support systems that will prevent child abuse and neglect.

First Steps New Jersey

The goal of this program is to improve the quality of infant/toddler care in child care centers and family child care homes, as well as increase the availability of slots for the youngest children. This program offers caregivers free training, technical assistance and consultation, and resources to improve the quality of care.

THERAPEUTIC FOSTER CARE

There are over 9,550 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.

Foster Care

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 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.



Foster Care Programs

The Boarder Baby Program

The Boarder Baby Program offers temporary care to abandoned, drug exposed, or neglected children ages 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, homelessness, abandonment and ill-equipped parents.w

The Medically Fragile Program

The Medically Fragile Program provides care to children between birth and 18 years of age who are in the DYFS foster care system and have specific medical needs. Foster families are provided extra training to meeting the medical condition and needs of the children placed in their home..

The Treatment Home Program

Our 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 warm, nurturing home with the level of structure and supervision they need to thrive.

The Adoption Support & Advocacy Program (ASAP)

Adoption Support & Advocacy 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 & Adoption

Maternity & Adoption offers free options counseling to expecting or new parents in need of guidance and support. A Master's level 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 and Adoption Program also provides resources and referrals for parents exploring adoption as a way to grow their family. A clinician will prepare families for the process, waiting time and placement practices. They will be provided with referrals to licensed agencies which do adoption placements.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & YOUTH SERVICES

Life's challenges can affect any individual or family. The Behavioral Health and Youth Services Division 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 who experience serious or chronic mental illness. 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.

Catholic Charities has several locations to meet the growing needs of this service. The Bridgewater office provides an intensive outpatient group for adolescents that meet 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 a specialized program for dually diagnosed Mentally Ill Chemical Abusers (MICA), along with traditional programming for outpatient substance abuse counseling and treatment in both a group or individual setting. 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 for 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 a positive role model 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 Bridgewater offer homework assistance, tutoring, specialized sports, group activities, informal youth outreach and counseling. 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, assault prevention workshops for teachers, parents and children, both in the schools and in the community (CAP). Anger management groups and domestic 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 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 Services Division 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.

“ I truly appreciate the loving care they gave my child. I am so glad Catholic Charities is a part of my daughter's life. ”



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