

**Catholic Charities**  
Providing Help. Creating Hope. Serving All.

Catholic Charities  
803 N. Monroe Street • Bloomington, IN 47404

**BECKY'S  
PLACE**  
Providing Shelter, Creating Hope

Becky's Place  
1108 5th Street • Bedford, IN 47421

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Indianapolis, IN  
Permit # 3096



Community Partner



Working to Reduce Poverty in America.



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The Church in Central and Southern Indiana

## Save the Dates

Becky's Place

### Run for Hope 5K & Family Fun Run

Thanksgiving Day, November 23 at 9:30 am  
Downtown Bedford

Becky's Place

### Christmas Open House

December 14, 2017 from 6 pm to 8 pm

Catholic Charities

### Open House

February 7, 2018 from 4:30 pm to 6 pm

Becky's Place

### Mardi Gras

March 3, 2018

Shamrock Center at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

Catholic Charities

### Annual Breakfast

April 11, 2018 at 7:30 am  
Hosted by St. Paul Catholic Center

As we enter this joyous holiday season, we continue to need your support! Won't you consider donating whatever you can during this joyous holiday season? Learn more by visiting [CCBIN.org](http://CCBIN.org) or [BeckysPlaceBedford.org](http://BeckysPlaceBedford.org).

#### Community Give Backs

For the entire month of November, Bedford Ford Lincoln Quick Lane is offering a \$1 donation for every oil change to benefit Becky's Place.

Every Thursday, Pappa's Bar & Grill in Bedford donates the entire cost of a slice of pie to Becky's Place. That's \$1.99 per piece of pie!

On Monday, November 6, 2017, Wings and Rings in Bedford will donate 5% of your total receipt (before tax and tip) to Becky's Place. They open at 11am and close at 11pm.

Sign up for our eNews or donate at [ccbin.org](http://ccbin.org)

# Catholic Charities

Fall Newsletter 2017

## Director's Letter



**Dear Friends of Catholic Charities,**

## Hope is our Future

When hopes are fulfilled, and prayers answered, it is a time of rejoicing. But when they are dashed, it may be a time of despair, discouragement or isolation. At Catholic Charities, hope is a gift and blessing that we hold in the highest regard. Hope is the foundation of serving in the name of God—a God who can make all things possible.

It is with this perspective that we recognize that the service to which we are called is not merely an action of assistance, but a solution rooted in providing hope to those who struggle to trust in its strength. The brutal truth is that the challenges of the people who walk through our doors are at times complex and intense. Our shelter and mental health services provide meaningful hope and assistance that enable individuals and families to overcome barriers and live productive and healthy lives in our community.

I am so grateful for our professional staff and dedicated volunteers who compassionately serve and bring hope to persons in crisis. There is but one solution for the challenge of each person looking for help and comfort: **hope**.

Hope is what keeps fear at bay, opens the doors to help and is our future. Hope is the echo in every client's thank you and knowing that our mission, despite the challenges and obstacles that come our way, is possible because of **you**, our faithful supporters and benefactors.

Thank you for believing in our mission of providing help and creating **hope**.

Sincerely,

**David J. Bethuram**  
Executive Director  
Secretariat for Catholic Charities



## From Depression to Hope

13-year-old Maggie is like most girls her age – trying to navigate life’s transitions from being a child to an adult, and struggling to fit in. She wanted so badly to fit in, but often felt as if she was not good enough. A once bubbly, happy girl became insecure and withdrawn within a matter of months. The more Maggie withdrew, the more her parents became concerned. While sharing concerns with a friend from work, Maggie’s mom was encouraged to connect Maggie with Catholic Charities.

When Maggie first came to Catholic Charities, her low confidence, depression and overall feeling of hopelessness were evident. We quickly plugged Maggie into our G.I.R.L.S.

(Girls in Real Life Situations) group and the change was almost immediate. Other girls in the group reached out to Maggie and made her feel included and valuable. By the third group, Maggie felt safe enough to share her experiences and struggles with others in the group and was met with support and encouragement from other girls who had felt the same way before coming to group.

By her fifth group, Maggie’s leadership skills emerged along with her personality. Her mood and confidence improved so much that she seemed like a different person. She began hanging out with the girls outside the group and even branched out of her comfort zone to join new activities at school and church.

Although Maggie loved G.I.R.L.S. group, she doesn’t come very much any more – she’s too busy! Maggie has gotten involved with her youth group at church, signed up for student council at school, and taken a more active role in the family by leading her two younger sisters. Maggie not only discovered her natural leadership skills, but also how to use them to make a positive impact on the community around her. Maggie’s parents were thrilled to have their daughter back and to see the hope and joy exuding from her on a daily basis. Thanks to Catholic Charities, Maggie has journeyed from a place of depression to an attitude of **hope!**



## Becky’s Place affects everyone even those who don’t complete the program

At age 13, Marla\* was hanging out with the wrong crowd. A shy introvert, she had not yet found her voice. She began using pills with her “friends.” At age 15, they convinced her to try heroin. She became a full-blown addict by age 16. Single motherhood followed. When her baby girl was 5 months old, Marla asked her mother to raise her daughter. She just couldn’t stay sober and wanted better for her baby.

After multiple drug-related arrests, Marla was referred to drug court, which gave her the opportunity to get clean and sober. If she could maintain her sobriety and complete the program, she would be given a fresh start.

Marla arrived at Becky’s Place under the strict supervision of drug court. She attended Becky’s Place groups and one-on-ones with staff. After working both programs for several weeks, Marla relapsed and was sent back to prison, but quiet Marla had been listening. The things she learned in the drug court program and at Becky’s Place finally “clicked.” Marla became determined get her life back on track.

Today, Marla has been clean and sober for four years. She is working on her bachelor’s degree in social work and has already completed two internships at Becky’s Place and was recently hired full-time. At her initial interview with Shelter Director,

Corrina Hayes, Marla apologized for not completing the program. “You guys did a lot for me and I’d really like to give back. I’m passionate about being a social worker because I saw how compassionate the staff was at Becky’s Place and how they never gave up on residents – even when the residents gave up on themselves.”

Marla is a valuable member of the Becky’s Place staff because she understands what it’s like to be a resident. She shares what she has learned with staff and residents alike. We look forward to celebrating her graduation from college in May 2019.

\*Not real name for privacy

## How You Can Help!

There are many ways you can partner with Catholic Charities and Becky’s Place: in-kind donations, volunteering, special events, community partnerships and financial gifts.

### Catholic Charities:

- Plastic (realistic looking) baby dolls
- Coloring books, crayons, colored pencils, paper
- Band-Aids (plain-with nothing on them)
- Play Doh
- Puzzles
- Children’s books
- Volunteer: Evening receptionist needed from 5 pm – 7 pm to answer the phone and greet clients

### Becky’s Place:

- New, packaged socks and underwear (girls and boys, all sizes)
- Anti-bacterial cleaning wipes
- Paper towels
- Toiletries

## Thank You To Our Partners: St. Vincent de Paul Society

Catholic Charities and Becky’s Place are blessed to have many key partners who make it possible to serve those in need in Bloomington, Bedford and the surrounding communities. One such partner is St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Since February 2017, St. Vincent de Paul Society has provided Becky’s Place with bus tokens, groceries, medication assistance, gasoline, office supplies and many other essentials to assist residents as they get back on the road to stability. St. Vincent de Paul Society also provides a storage unit that is used for holding furniture donations for women to use once they move out of Becky’s Place and into a permanent home of their own.

Thanks to the generosity of partners like St. Vincent de Paul Society and many others, Catholic Charities and Becky’s Place are providing help, creating hope and serving all in need.