Providing Help. Creating Hope.
“Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer.”
Romans 12:12

Agency Council and Staff
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Agency Advisory Council in Fiscal Year 2010
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Melanie Castillo-Cullather, Council Vice-President
Patrick Clune, Council Treasurer
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David Siler, Executive Director, Secretariat for Catholic Charities
William Spangler, Ambassador Catholic Charities Executive Board

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Catholic Charities Bloomington
Diana Aguilar, Office Manager
Laura Ingram, L.M.H.C., Staff Therapist
Peggy York-Garcia, L.S.W., Staff Therapist and School Counselor
Jeremy Voyles, M.S., Staff Therapist

Contract Therapists
Elisa Duncan, L.M.H.C.
Constance Krueger, L.C.S.W.
Jay Simmer, L.M.F.T.
Jessica Hersch, L.M.F.T.
Amy Balcam, L.M.H.C.
Jacki Jordan, L.C.S.W.
Craig Barnhart, M.S.

Psy. D. Students
Carrie Brosmer • Sarah Brown
Lindsey Duncan • Emily Johnson
Kristen Joyner

Becky’s Place
Cami Pritchett, Director

Volunteers
Patricia Agnew, Ph.D., H.S.P.P.
Thomas Gerkin

Undergraduate Interns
Catherine Gregory
Melissa Harris • Kathleen Politz

School Psychology Students
Ashley McGinn • Kelly Thomas

Counseling Interns
Andrea Alban • Weilen Chen
Kim Goad • Adrienne Gorlen
Carolyn Kwok • Sungjae Kwon
Erin Reagan • Jingyuan Zheng

Recognizing mental health care as an essential service in a flourishing community, Catholic Charities strives to remove barriers to quality mental health counseling by providing these services on a sliding fee scale, by reaching out into the community to persons experiencing homelessness and other consequences of poverty, and by providing counseling support within school settings.
Dear Friends,

On June 30th Catholic Charities completed its 2010-2011 fiscal year. It was a year of growth, a year of reflection, and a year filled with gratitude for all the support we received from the communities we seek to serve. We grew in increased counseling hours and numbers of persons served, as well as in programming that required both special staff training and increasing the number of students being trained. We were also pleased to expand our partnerships with other agencies, allowing us to take our work out of our offices and into the wider community.

The growth we have experienced during the last few years began to create stresses on an administrative structure that worked well when we were very small but was becoming inadequate for the organization we had become. An organized process was recommended, which would allow us to evaluate every aspect of how our agency went about its work. David J. Bethuram, director of Catholic Charities in Indianapolis, facilitated this Agency Review, which involved not only the efforts of our staff and our Advisory Council, but also many generous friends and colleagues from the community. The work, though arduous at times, was fruitful and has allowed us to begin the new fiscal year with a renewed sense of our mission and an ongoing strategic plan for how our agency can sustain its growth as we continue to provide excellent mental health services – as well as expanding into a new service area of providing residential shelter to those in need.

Catholic Charities has been a respected provider of professional mental health services for over 30 years. The importance of protecting the quality of those services was uppermost in our thoughts as we took on the challenge of developing a residential program for women and children who are experiencing the reality or immediate risk of homelessness. This opportunity was offered to us by the Lawrence County community and a group of tireless individuals from that community who saw the need to provide shelter to some of its most vulnerable citizens. They fostered the vision of a program that would do more than simply shelter women and children; and they put their time, talent, and treasure into making the vision a reality.

We do none of this alone. We do it in partnership with many – and with the guidance of a provident God. To all who have supported, challenged, and helped us in many ways, we say again . . .

Thank you.

Marsha R. McCarty
Agency Director
Catholic Charities Bloomington
Child and Family Services

Catholic Charities offers a variety of services aimed at helping children and their families. These services encompass both preventative care and treatment and can address concerns such as anxiety, depression, ADHD, conduct problems, and social and familial discord, among others. Individual, play therapy, family and group session are available at locations in Monroe, Brown, and Lawrence counties.

Catholic Charities also aims to partner with other agencies and programs in the area in order to lower the barriers to accessing mental health services. Over the past year, CCB worked with Head Start, Middle Way House, Circles, Milestones, and Stepping Stones. We believe that partnering with fellow agencies whose goal is helping children and families is vitally important to providing the families in our community with the best care possible.

Head Start

Through Catholic Charities’ work with Head Start, we have been able to reach a population that was previously difficult to serve. Head Start in Monroe County has 11 different sites with 17 classrooms. Most recently a program was initiated to serve children from birth to three years old. In all, approximately 267 children are served per year. These children often come from low-income backgrounds due to Head Start’s requirement that families “meet federal poverty income guidelines though some exceptions are made” (http://www.insccap.org/pages/head_start_early_head_start) This has reduced the barrier of transportation and, by report of the teachers, some of the stigma that surrounds mental health services.

In addition to offering on-on-one traditional therapeutic services, we have also facilitated classroom observations, teacher education, psychological testing, interventions on several levels and student supervision. Our partnership with Head Start as their Mental Health Consultant has increased awareness of Catholic Charities services as well as helped to reduce the obstacles that can get in the way of those seeking mental health services.

The Incredible Years

The Incredible Years is an evidence-based skill-building program for children ages 3-6 and their parents. This program focuses on positive reinforcement and aims to create a strong bond between parent and child. Additionally, children learn skills such as feeling identification, anger management, and problem solving. Learning such skills at a young age can prevent children and families from having psychological and social struggles later in life.

The Incredible Years is a new program that has been implemented over the past fiscal year. In order to provide greater accessibility to this program, we joined forces with Middle Way House and Head Start this summer to provide this program on site to their families. Catholic Charities received a grant through the Jack Hopkins Foundation for the necessary materials and training. During the first cycle, the Incredible Years program reached 10 families. Parents reported positive change in their children’s behaviors and the functioning of their families.

Training Site for Students

Catholic Charities is proud to serve as a training center for both Indiana University and the University of Indianapolis. Master’s and doctoral level students serve under licensed therapists and are given an opportunity to work with individuals, couples, families, and groups. Catholic Charities also works with Indiana University’s Departments of Child Development and Family Studies, which place at our agency undergraduate interns at our agency who are interested in learning more about mental health services. Over the past year, we have had over 15 students placed at the agency. These individuals are vital to continuing to expand services and maintain our partnerships with other agencies in the area.

Mental Health Counseling Services

Requests for mental health counseling continued to rise this past fiscal year. Catholic Charities therapists provided 3,788 hours of counseling during the year; nearly 1,000 more hours than the 2,790 hours provided during the previous fiscal year. Approximately 44% of this year’s counseling hours were provided on a sliding fee basis. An additional 36% were covered by Medicaid or the Healthy Indiana Plan. These plans reimburse at about one-half the cost of providing an hour of professional mental health counseling.

The counseling hours provided served 212 individual children and 350 adults. Children 5 years old or younger made up 7.25% of the persons served, while children ages 6 to 12 made up 16%, and teens aged 13 to 17 made up 13%. One percent of our clients were 65 years or older, with other adults making up 63% of all individuals seen.

School Counseling Program

Catholic Charities provided School Counseling Services to three local area schools during the 2010-2011 school year – making it possible for these small private schools to have on site school counseling services which they would not be able to afford otherwise.

St. Vincent de Paul School in Bedford

At St. Vincent de Paul School, Catholic Charities’ staff therapist Peggy York-Garcia, L.S.W ., provided a total of 77 hours of counseling during the school year. A total of 30 students were seen, including 13 sixth grade students who were involved in an ongoing group to work on conflict resolution skills.

Pinnacle School in Bloomington

Pinnacle School is designed to primarily serve students experiencing dyslexia or other significant challenges to their ability to benefit from a traditional classroom. Catholic Charities’ staff therapist Laura Ingram, L.M.H.C., provided 120 hours of school counseling during the school year, serving 20 students.
St. Charles School in Bloomington

Catholic Charities’ contract therapist, Jacki Jordan, L.S.W., provided 5 hours of counseling at St. Charles School, per week totaling 225 for the school year. As a part of the school guidance program at St. Charles, the counselor does individual, small groups and classroom guidance. We served a total of 129 students: 84 for classroom guidance, 33 for small-group counseling, and 12 for individual counseling.

Individual sessions tend to address academic and social needs of the child. Small groups have been conducted to address friendship skills and have also been conducted with boys only or girls only to address gender-specific challenges. Classroom guidance is provided to address larger issues, such as bullying, study skills, peer pressure, character building and suicide prevention. The eighth grade had a lesson using Jason Foundation materials to raise awareness of the warning signs of suicide and to provide guidance to children regarding whom they can contact when they are concerned about a friend. The third grade had lessons in character building using video vignettes, worksheets and discussion. They discuss Respect, Responsibility, Trustworthiness, Citizenship, Caring and Fairness.

“My class really enjoyed the times that Mrs. Jordan came to work with us last year. They learned about the pillars of character and participated in discussions and classwork to help them retain the knowledge. We all enjoyed getting [the] papers back at the end of the year and remembering all we had learned.”

– Erin Leake, third grade

Catholic Charities serves any person in need of our services, regardless of their religious, social or economic backgrounds.
Meet Grace, a young mother striving to provide the best possible life for her daughter and to end the cycle of poverty within her family. When Grace first sought help, she was struggling with difficult circumstances – and yet she was determined to turn her life around and move in a positive direction – both for herself and for the well-being of her 15-month-old daughter.

Grace was living in an unhealthy environment with the father of her child and was unaware of any positive alternatives available to her. Her need for safe, secure housing was great, but her only potential option was to stay with family members who were dealing with issues of addiction and who would likely attempt to take advantage of the financial assistance Grace was receiving for her child. Without a strong support system, she lacked knowledge about the resources that were available to her as she pursued a life of self-sufficiency.

Grace was intelligent and educated and had previously worked as a nurse. Her hope was to pursue additional education, but she was unfamiliar with the process of receiving financial aid as an independent adult. She was also dealing with health issues and struggling to find appropriate medical attention. She found herself dealing with the consequences of being unable to separate from her surroundings. Grace realized that she needed to turn her life around before her daughter was further impacted by the results of her decisions. She was ready to take responsibility for her own life, but understood that she would need assistance and a safe, secure place to make a new start . . .

Somewhere like Becky’s Place . . . a place that provides shelter and creates hope for women and children in need. Grace is just one of the many examples of those we have met this year who would benefit greatly from the shelter and services provided by Becky’s Place. She is just one example of a life that could be forever changed by a sense of security and the possibility of a better tomorrow which comes from a structured environment, a connection to necessary resources, and a caring and supportive community. Without Becky’s Place, Grace and many like her will most likely continue to struggle – homeless and alone.

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**Overview of Services Provided**

- Shelter
- Meals
- Case Management
- Support Services
- Counseling
- Educational Resources
- Vocational Training
- Life Skills
- Compassionate, dedicated staff & volunteers

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**Advisory Board**

Shawna Girgis, Co-Chair, Mayor, City of Bedford
Judge Michael Robbins, Co-Chair, Lawrence Superior Court I
Darla Anderson, Community Volunteer
Kevin Andry, LifePoint Church
Bob Dailey, Pastor, First Christian Church
Father Rick Eldred, Pastor, St. Vincent & St. Mary’s
Patty Ford, Community Volunteer
Brenda Jones, East Oolitic Community Church
Shelley Kenworthy, Bedford Federal Savings Bank
Sister Becky Ryan, Chapel on the Hill
Jamie Wildman, Hoosier Uplands – Head Start

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Our building is being converted into a residential shelter – which includes the installation of a kitchen, dining area, accessible restroom facilities, and a sprinkler system throughout. Many changes are being made to ensure that we meet all appropriate codes and that we are able to provide a safe, secure environment to our residents.
“This past year has been yet another year full of tremendous challenges and opportunities all throughout the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. In every part of the 39 counties that make up the Church in Central and Southern Indiana the economy has challenged individuals, families and communities up to and beyond the breaking point. In nearly every program that we operate to provide the most basic human needs, we have seen increases in demand for our services by anywhere from 25 – 45%.

Indiana has been marked with the unfortunate distinction of having the highest home-foreclosure rate in the entire country! Homeless families continue to be the fastest growing population among those experiencing homelessness.

The needs of those in harm’s way far outnumber the resources available to them, but Catholic Charities continues to be committed to do our part to provide help and create hope for as many as we can.

The opportunity that exists in the midst of such desperate need and despair is the opportunity to demonstrate the love and compassion of Jesus Christ. Our staff and volunteers get to assume the role of the hands and feet of Jesus in service to the “least among us.” It can be easy to become overwhelmed by the sea of need that only seems to grow, but we must stay focused on our mission – which is the mission of Jesus – to bring good news to the poor, liberty to captives, new sight to the blind and to set the downtrodden free.

Thank you for your support of your local Catholic Charities agency. We could not continue to serve the least among us without you.” -David J. Siler, Executive Director, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Inc.

The Secretariat for Catholic Charities encompasses five agencies:

- Catholic Charities in Indianapolis
- Catholic Charities in Bloomington
- Catholic Charities in Terre Haute
- Catholic Charities in Tell City
- St. Elizabeth – Catholic Charities in New Albany

Each agency serves any person in need in their respective deanery. In addition, we are licensed to complete adoptions throughout the states of Indiana and Kentucky.

Collectively last year all five agencies served more than 179,900 persons with combined revenues of $10.76 million and expenses of $11.1 million. In 2010, we served nearly 20% more people than the previous year – with an additional 8% increase in service in 2011 – mostly due to the skyrocketing needs of those seeking food, transportation assistance and help paying for basic living expenses. (These financial figures are unaudited and a full audited statement is available at www.archindy.org/finance/archdiocese.html.) For a detailed look at each agency’s services and operating funds, visit CatholicCharitiesIndy.org.

Secretariat for Catholic Charities Staff

David Siler, Executive Director for the Secretariat for Catholic Charities and Family Ministries

David J. Bethuram, Associate Executive Director

Thomas Hirschauer, President of the Catholic Charities Board of Directors

William Spangler, President of the Secretariat Advisory Council

We invite you to stay informed about all the happenings and opportunities available within the Catholic Charities agencies by signing up for our quarterly e-newsletter. To subscribe, simply visit us online at: www.archindy.org/cc

“The Church’s deepest nature is expressed in her three-fold responsibility: of proclaiming the Word of God, celebrating the sacraments, and exercising the ministry of charity. These duties presuppose each other and are inseparable.”

Pope Benedict XVI, Deus Caritas Est
Justice can reduce differences, eliminate discrimination and ensure the conditions necessary for respect for the dignity of the person. Justice, however, needs a soul. And the soul of justice is charity, a charity which places itself at the service of every person.

Pope John Paul II