

Catholic Charities

Providing Help. Creating Hope. Serving All.



ARCHDIOCESE
OF INDIANAPOLIS
The Church in Central and Southern Indiana



Working to Reduce Poverty in America.



Community Partner



2019-2020 Annual Report

Dear Friends of Catholic Charities,

The past year has brought many challenges to our community, our country, and throughout the world. The unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted daily life for us all, but especially for those families already struggling to survive.

COVID-19 has affected so many families in so many ways. Thousands became ill from COVID, others lost their jobs, many are facing eviction, and some of our neighbors were unable to be near their loved ones as they passed away. Life-changing times indeed, yet we have hope because we know that God loves us, cares for us, and trusts us to care for our sisters and brothers who are less fortunate.

Through the grace of God and your ongoing support, not even a pandemic can keep Catholic Charities from providing our life-changing services. Because of you, we touched the lives of over 257,000 people through our network of social service programs.

We adapted our services during this time of great need to ensure we could help the people who needed it most: the restaurant server without a job who picked up food for his family through our drive-thru distributions; the young single mother who had diapers delivered to her home; or the isolated senior who received food, supplies and a warm visit from a friendly volunteer.

We are people of faith relying on God's protection as we all struggle to weather this crisis. But with you walking alongside us, we can continue serving as the hands and feet of Christ to the poor and vulnerable. Thank you to our donors, partners and friends who join us in our mission to change lives.

Sincerely,



David J. Bethuram

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Executive Director

Secretariat for Catholic Charities

IMPACT:
258,847

People served by the Secretariat of Catholic Charities



39,538

Served by Crisis Relief and Shelter Services



4,381

Assisted with pregnancy and adoption services



4,097

Served through Family Counseling and Social Work Services



842

Served through Youth Programs



5,388

Served by Christmas Stores



19,986

Clients received information and referral services



1,145

Served by Refugee and Immigration Services



604

Assisted through Senior Services



182,866

Meals served to the hungry

Bloomington

Abigail* was referred to Catholic Charities Bloomington (CCB) following a suicide attempt and feeling an overwhelming sense of hopelessness. After working with her CCB therapist, she was diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder, which likely went undiagnosed due to her alcohol use which other providers focused on. Therapy has enabled Abigail to start repairing relationships with her adult children.

Now, Abigail is sober, more reliable and performs well at her job. Abigail says her therapist was “the first person to weed through all the clutter to see who I was and what was really going on.”



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Indianapolis

Sam* and his wife, Sara* struggled to get by on his veteran disability benefits. They eventually found themselves on the streets of Indianapolis. In their 50s, being homeless quickly took a toll on their health and they ended up in the emergency room. The hospital social worker referred them to Holy Family Shelter where the shelter staff admitted them and provided hygiene supplies, a hot meal and a warm place to sleep. They also met with a case manager to complete an assessment of barriers to permanent housing and created a plan to overcome them.

During their stay at Holy Family Shelter, they participated in life skills classes to increase their potential for self-sufficiency. Sam and Sara left Holy Family Shelter with a new set of life skills and gratitude for the lessons learned.

New Albany



St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities
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While staying in the shelter, Heather* took a job in manufacturing and was doing great progressing through St. Elizabeth's three tiers of housing programs, achieving goals, learning how to manage a budget and becoming more self-confident and self-sufficient.

As Heather was preparing to move out on her own, she was laid off from her job indefinitely due to COVID-19. She made a very brave decision to view this as an opportunity rather than a setback. Seeing all of the news about the pandemic and the important role of healthcare workers inspired Heather. A paid medical training program was still available and she began her journey to become a Certified Nursing Assistant. She recently passed her test, received a diploma, and will continue taking classes and learning on the job. She is so excited to be on this career path.

*Names changed for confidentiality

Success Stories

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Terre Haute

After the new year, a single father and his two children were referred to Bethany House by their social worker. This common referral was quickly made critical by the fact that without adequate housing, the children would be removed from the father's custody.

With assistance from other local agencies, the family was able to be taken into Bethany House Emergency Shelter. The youngest child was enrolled in pre-school at Ryves Youth Center and his older sister, already in school, maintained a consistent schedule. Stability and routine quickly impacted the family in a positive way and the children flourished.

Reach Services stepped up to assist with the state-mandated processes that led to long-term, safe housing for the family. The family now resides three blocks from the Bethany House and the staff enjoys being able to see them often.



BECKY'S PLACE

Providing Shelter, Creating Hope

Becky's Place in Bedford

When Kristie* first arrived at Becky's Place from Lawrence County Jail, she was determined not to follow the rules nor build relationships with staff. She did not trust most people or like being told what to do.

She started attending self-help meetings with the encouragement from staff and other residents. Kristie finally let her guard down and started to work her program.

Kristie loved the self-help meetings so much that she started a meeting at Becky's Place. She was recognized by the courts and Becky's Place for her dedication to helping others with similar struggles. Kristie saved her money and found her own apartment and continues her self-help meeting at Becky's Place to teach new residents how to cope with hard times and to show them that recovery is possible.

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Tell City

Richard's* wife has developed a mental illness that leaves her unable to be alone with the children. He stays home to take care of his wife and four children and they live on her meager disability income. They do pretty well in stretching their dollars, never buying new clothing or toys for the children. But sometimes the utilities run too high and they reach out for help. Catholic Charities gives them that immediate help and also make sure they are taking care of themselves. They have graduated from Catholic Charities' Budget Basics program arming them with budgeting tools and hope for a brighter future.

*Names changed for confidentiality

Creating Hope and Providing Help Across Central & Southern Indiana

