In December 2010 Bethany House received a call from a local business regarding a new employee named Melanie. Having recently moved from Florida – and happy to have found work – Melanie was staying with a friend in a nearby town, but was having a very difficult time making ends meet. Melanie’s “friend” was charging her most of her paycheck for rent and gas. Melanie was placed on the Bethany House waiting list and in a short time, a bed opened up for her. Melanie found a coworker who was willing to give her rides to and from work, but her goal was to get an Indiana driver’s license. We took her to the BMV and she received a perfect test score. Unfortunately, Melanie’s birth certificate name didn’t match the last name on her Florida driver’s license – which required obtaining a copy of a 20 year old marriage certificate that proved her name change. Soon after, her valid license came in the mail and she was eager to buy her own car in order to secure her independence. Melanie had saved enough to buy a decent used car or to place a deposit for rent on a place of her own – but not both.

During this time, Melanie’s 17 year old son, Richard, was still living with friends in Florida so that his mom would have time to get on her feet. Melanie and Richard share a close relationship and had never been apart like this. Although the Bethany House computers enabled them to keep in touch via Facebook and email, the separation was very difficult for both of them. When Richard could stand it no longer, he emailed his mother to inform her that a friend had loaned him enough money for airfare to Indianapolis, and his school had packed up a big care package with warm clothes for Indiana climate. As only God can orchestrate, a family just so happened to be leaving the shelter at the same time – opening up a family room for Melanie and Richard. It was a truly heartwarming mother-son reunion.

Richard was enrolled in school, while Melanie continued to work and save. After just three months, Melanie was able to place a deposit on a house for rent – a joyous new beginning for her family. As she prepared to leave Bethany House, Melanie expressed her appreciation: “The staff and environment at Bethany House allowed me the time and direction to stabilize my living and financial situation. This enabled me to get to where I am today – capable of caring for myself and my son. I will be forever grateful for the opportunities my stay at Bethany House presented to me and my family. Thank you.”

Catholic Charities in Terre Haute exists to serve the poor, the hungry, the homeless, the elderly, the neglected children and the needy. Our goal is to relieve suffering and hardship for people in the community regardless of nationality, race, creed, or religion.
Here at the Terre Haute Catholic Charities Foodbank, we often recruit volunteers to help organize and facilitate various efforts within our organization. Recently, the ISU Women’s Soccer Team volunteered their services during our monthly Bread and Produce Market. Needless to say, the Team loved their service so much, many of the girls now volunteer their time on a weekly basis. Through the compassion of these volunteers, our reach extends far beyond what we could accomplish on our own. The service that they offer to us now on a consistent basis is invaluable. The ISU Women’s Soccer Team has provided us with many hours of much needed sorting, organizing, cleaning, palletizing commodities for our agencies, and everyday tasks that arise.

We welcome all groups who wish to learn more about volunteer service and what it means to those we interact with everyday to contact Tom at (812)235-3424. As Jesus says, “Whatever you do for the least of your brothers and sisters, you also do it for me.”
Since January, the children of Ryves Youth Center have found a variety of activities and programs that not only improve their knowledge, but also provide purpose in their lives. In January 2011 the Youth Center hosted the regional five states Silver Gloves Amateur Boxing Tournament. Boxing will continue throughout the year with the Indiana Junior Olympics Tournament in May and the Indiana Silver Gloves Tournament held in December. Other sports that children participate in are boxing leagues and soccer.

In addition to sports, the children are fed both physically and emotionally. They receive evening meals, and backpacks filled with nutritious food each Friday to help fend off hunger during the weekend. Each day children are tutored and receive help with their homework. They are taught how to be drug free by participating in the Afternoons R.O.C.K. in Indiana and the Too Good for Drugs program.

Indiana University Medical Students conduct a Science Club where many young children participate with hands-on projects that teach science and medical knowledge. Children have also begun to work in the Ryves Kitchen, learning how to make homemade noodles. Other children have participated in a theater production that focuses on human rights. These children work with the Human Rights Day Committee for the Human Rights event that is held each April on the ISU campus.

This summer, children and their families will attend two theatrical performances provided by the ISU Crossroads Repertory Theatre. On June 25, Godspell will be performed, and on July 12, A Thousand and One Arabian Knights will be brought to Ryves. For the past several years, the children have enjoyed watching performances at Ryves. Many thanks go to all of the cast and staff from the Crossroads Repertory Theatre for their on-going support to enrich our children’s lives.

All programming at Ryves focuses on improving the lives of our children. In April of 2011, David English, a young man that many met when he spoke at the 2010 Catholic Charities Terre Haute Annual Banquet, received his Eagle Scout Rank. This is the highest rank earned in the Boy Scouts and very few ever achieve this rank. David first came to Ryves when he was five years old and in February, he celebrated his eighteenth birthday. David immediately walked into Ryves and completed his adult volunteer application. David will graduate from Terre Haute North Vigo High School this year and plans to begin college in the fall.

### Good Neighbors - Walmart State Giving and Truck Donation

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation made a $2 billion commitment through 2015 to hunger relief efforts in the U.S. in order to support the record 1 in 6 Americans who do not know where their next meal is coming from.

Walmart proved their commitment to this cause, and to the work of Terre Haute Catholic Charities Foodbank, when the Walmart Foundation donated a 24’ refrigerated truck to the Foodbank program. The truck will be used to pick up food donations from local retailers and deliver food to member agencies. The truck is a much needed addition to our Foodbank fleet.

In addition, Walmart Associates provided a $70,000 Walmart State Giving grant to the Foodbank. The money will be used to provide more nutritious food to more than 75 member agencies throughout the Wabash Valley.

### A Neighborhood Assistance Program Tax Credit

Are you looking for an opportunity to reduce your state income tax liability while helping feed hungry individuals in West Central Indiana? If so, you may be interested in Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) tax credits. Unlike a tax deduction, NAP credits are applied to your Indiana state tax liability – the bottom line taxes owed after all deductions are taken. Catholic Charities in Terre Haute has been awarded NAP credits by the Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority. For every dollar you give ($100 minimum) to Catholic Charities in Terre Haute, you may receive up to 50% of the contribution as a direct tax credit on your state income taxes.

Additionally, because Catholic Charities in Terre Haute is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)3 organization, a NAP contribution may also be taken as a federal tax deduction. (Consult your tax advisor about your specific situation.)

Your NAP donation to Catholic Charities in Terre Haute will be used to support the Mobile Pantry program in West Central Indiana. The Mobile Pantry operates throughout our service area taking food directly to the communities in which our clients live. Currently, Catholic Charities in Terre Haute operates at least one mobile pantry in each county of its service area.

Tax credits are limited and are offered on a first-come first-served basis. Contact Jennifer Buell, (812)232-1447, for donation details.
Dear Friends,

The other day I received a call at my office from a woman who was obviously going through a tough situation. She told me her husband had been out of work several months and that she had three children—two daughters ages 4 and 3, and a son age 1. They weren’t sure how they were going to care for their children, as they expected to be evicted from their home in the next few days. Her voice gave every indication that she had completely lost all hope and had resigned herself to a very desperate situation. Since she and her husband could no longer provide even the most basic needs, she was interested in giving her children up for adoption.

I called one of the agencies in the social services group that we work with on a regular basis and was informed that this is becoming more common place than anyone knows. How do we find God in this situation? What would be required for any of us who have loved ones, especially children, to consider giving them up? It is heartbreaking—and yet we have to look deep within ourselves to find the grace and wisdom to refrain from judgment or condemnation because of what someone is going through. Instead, let us ask: what can we do to give them a second chance in life?

For some of us a second chance can be the difference between keeping a relationship together or not. It can be the difference between living on the streets—or finding a bed in a shelter. It can be the difference between staying in school—or dropping out, and it can be the difference between keeping your children—or losing them.

The fact is we don’t always “get it right” the first time. It takes time to learn, develop a skill set, and it often takes a patient friend, teacher, or mentor to guide us in these efforts. We can all make a difference in the lives of people right here in our community. Perhaps now, more than any other time in our generation, we are called together in community—to provide the help that is desperately needed, and create the hope that will bring a second chance.

John C. Etling
Agency Director

In November 2010, Terre Haute Catholic Charities Foodbank began operating a Bread and Produce Market every second Saturday of the month. In addition to the Deli Days – operating out of the Bethany House – which supplies similar food items on a weekly basis, our hope was to help those who could use a little extra assistance during difficult times.

In its first five months of operation, we have served over 500 families and 1,800 individuals. We have been able to provide a variety of items thanks to the generous donations of retailers and individuals throughout the community. If not for the compassionate assistance of our donors, we would not be able to provide this service to those in need. We are indeed grateful to those who have wholeheartedly supported this effort.

Those who come every month and stand in line waiting for their opportunity to pick out the various items, have been very appreciative of their bounty. Everyone walks away with a smile, and says they would not know where to go if we did not offer this Market. Our hope is to continue this Bread and Produce Market, as long as needed, to help alleviate hunger to all who come to us seeking help.

Individuals choose from a variety of breads and produce to help provide nutritious meals for their families.

Bread and Produce Market

Advisory Council Members

Mary Chloupek, President
Bob Waelbroeck, Vice President
Laura Land, Secretary
Mary Lou Albert, Treasurer

Jennifer Garwood
David Grimes
John Heck
Sally Stewart
Louis Lenne, Jr.
Jennifer Peters
Mary Caye Pfister
Robert Prox, III
Henry Smith
Christopher Newton
Soup Bowl Benefit

On a cold snowy day in February the Wabash Valley Community hosted its first Soup Bowl Benefit. The event was modeled after a similar event in Bloomington which brings local artists, restaurants, caterers, businesses and community members together to fight hunger.

Local artists created one of a kind bowls and donated them to the event. Many local restaurants, caterers and businesses provided delicious soups and breads. The evening was topped off with wonderful music provided by local artists. This event was created to raise awareness and inform the community about hunger issues here in the Wabash Valley and services available to families and individuals. More than 200 people braved the icy weather to sample 15 different varieties of soup, hear local musical talent, share fellowship and learn what we can all do to reduce hunger in our community.

Proceeds from the event were donated to the Terre Haute Catholic Charities Foodbank. The next soup bowl benefit is scheduled for February 4, 2012.

If you are interested in helping the planning committee, donating food, or volunteering the night of the event, please call (812)232-1447.

Sponsors of the 2011 Event

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<tr>
<th>Baesler's Market</th>
<th>Indiana State University</th>
<th>McGuire Excavating &amp; Trucking</th>
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<td>Terre Haute Regional Hospital</td>
<td>Alorica</td>
<td>St. Mary's Village Church</td>
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<td>Wabash Valley Asphalt</td>
<td>Kevin and Vicky Burke</td>
<td>St. Joseph's Church – Rockville</td>
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<td>Good Samaritan Hospital – Vincennes</td>
<td>Earl C. Rodgers &amp; Associates</td>
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<td>Knights of Columbus – Father Ryan</td>
<td>Ralph Wagle</td>
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<td>Holy Rosary Catholic Church – Seelyville</td>
<td>St. Ann Catholic Church</td>
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Musical Guests:
- Tina Wautelet
- Women of Erin
- David Goodier

Special Guests:
- Peter Ciancone
- Sr. Joseph Fillenworth

Soup Donors:
- Sisters of Providence – Food Service
- Ambrosini’s Restaurant
- Aramark Catering – Rose Hulman
- Baesler’s Market
- Boo’s Crossroads Café
- Dan Snider – Ryves Youth Center
- Prairieton Women’s Auxiliary
- Saratoga Restaurant
- TGI Friday’s Restaurant
- Grand Traverse Pie Company
- Tuscany Restaurant
- The Dawg Leg Restaurant

Bread Donors:
- Harry and Bud’s European Cuisine
- JB’s Cakes and More
- Harvest Bakery

Coffee and Tea:
- Starbucks Coffee

Facilities:
- St. Patrick Catholic Church

Artists:
- Ray Chen
- Judy Ohmit
- Susan Tingley
- Michael Tingley
- Joe Goodrick
- Tobey Hutchinson

Special Thanks to:
- Arts Illiana
- Christina Blust
- Old National Bank Recognition Plus
- Woodburn Graphics

Guests enjoy conversation, warm soup, and delicious bread. (above)
Committee member Pat Martin and Catholic Charities Agency Director John Eting serve a bowl of soup to guest and contributing artist Mabel Morris. (right)
Join Us on Facebook:
Catholic Charities in Terre Haute is now on Facebook. Join our page to keep up-to-date about what’s happening in our programs. You can find us at: www.facebook.com/CatholicCharitiesTerreHaute.

We’ve Moved:
If you have yet to see our new administrative offices, we invite you to stop in and say hello. We are now located next to the St. Patrick Church Office at 1801 Poplar Street, Terre Haute, IN 47803.

We extend heartfelt thanks to St. Patrick’s parish for working so quickly to renovate the facility in order to accommodate us!

Save The Date:
- May 14 & 15 - Indiana Junior Olympics Boxing Tournament
- August 2 - National Night Out
- September - Hunger Action Month
- Nov. 14 - 18 and Nov. 28 - Dec. 2 - Christmas Store is Open
- Dec. 22 - Ryves Youth Center Christmas Party