

The SPIRIT

SUMMER 2016

CatholicCharitiesTrenton.org

More Than a Rest Stop

*Great-grandmother
and retired trucker
finally finds home*



Catholic Charities
DIOCESE OF TRENTON

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



from the BISHOP OF TRENTON

Dear friends of Catholic Charities,

In the pages that follow you will read of the work of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Trenton. I am quite sure that you — as I — will be amazed and inspired by all that is achieved and accomplished within a year's time. The outreach of Catholic Charities is so extensive throughout the four counties that one does not have to go far before hearing how people's lives have been deeply and personally affected by the dedicated staff of Catholic Charities here in central New Jersey. Of course, their efforts are a labor of love which would not be possible without the generosity of so many people who partner with them.

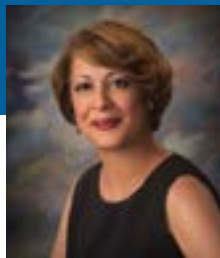
As Bishop of the Diocese of Trenton, I am so grateful to Mrs. Marlene Laó-Collins, Executive Director, and the members of the Board of Catholic Charities for their leadership and oversight. The staff, too, is incredibly dedicated to the service of all who come to them in

need. Sr. Joanne Dress, D.C., is my personal point of contact with all Catholic Social Services in the Diocese and we are all truly blessed by her presence, wisdom and commitment. These pages bear out their impact as well as that of all who support the Diocese's works of charity through their deeply appreciated contributions.

I hope this Annual Report will inspire you as it has inspired me to lift up the clients of Catholic Charities in prayer and to recognize the presence of Christ in our midst, not only in the poor and suffering but in those who offer their lives in service to them. May God bless Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Trenton and, with our support, may it "bear fruit that will last (John 15: 16)."

Respectfully,

Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M., J.C.D.



from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It's the extraordinary Jubilee year of Mercy! Pope Francis' burning desire is that people like us enter more deeply into the heart of the

Gospel and rediscover the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. In this issue, you will learn about a few people who give of themselves to offer mercy and compassion to others in varying ways. Why not join Catholic Charities and become an active agent of mercy by volunteering your time and talents to help people in your community? As longtime Board member George Reilly recently observed, "When I get a call from Catholic Charities asking for help, I believe I am getting a call from God." He went on to explain that

since Catholic Charities provides assistance to more than 100,000 people each year, regardless of religious background and financial status, he believes we are carrying out a sacred mission.

I invite you to bring your particular skills and talents to Catholic Charities. With your support, we can continue to insure that **Hope Starts Here**. Check out volunteering opportunities and all that Catholic Charities offers online at CatholicCharitiesTrenton.org.

Marlene Laó-Collins
Executive Director

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Pictured on cover: Janet Lehner (see full story on page 3).

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RAPID REHOUSING PROGRAM Helps Senior Achieve Stability

Janet Lehner is not your typical senior. This energetic widow who also happens to be a mother of seven, grandmother of 24 and great-grandmother of 29, fell on some difficult times, but never gave up trying to improve her situation.

When she lost her home to foreclosure she found a trailer to reside in temporarily. Lacking heat, the approaching winter soon rendered it uninhabitable. So she left it to stay with family members, but later found herself living in her car — not a great situation for a 75-year-old with diabetes and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disorder (COPD). But Janet was accustomed to living in a vehicle since she and her husband were over-the-road truck drivers. "The only state I didn't get to

when I was a trucker is North Dakota," recounted Lehner.

Janet recalled how she came to find her way to Catholic Charities: "I pulled into St. Ann's parking lot in Browns Mills, sat there crying and when I looked up, saw Catholic Charities phone number on a sign at the Rectory," Lehner recalled.

Within an hour of her first appointment at Community Services, she was in a warm hotel room and a few weeks later, she was in a brand new apartment.

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

"Try and imagine a spunky and hilarious 70-something biker chick," is how Janet's rapid rehousing case manager Cynthia Coleman describes her. After Lehner was accepted into the rapid rehousing program, she commenced the search for an affordable rental unit.

HOME AT LAST

After a brief stay in a rental unit, the Rapid Rehousing coordinator negotiated a move to income-based housing where Lehner is paying



▲ Community Services also provided Janet with essentials for her new apartment. Annette Thomas (left) and Cynthia Coleman (right) offer her some household necessities.

affordable rent.

The program provided her with bedding, blankets, towels and personal products and Lehner continues to visit the food pantry on a regular basis which also helps reduce her living costs.

Although no longer formally in the rapid rehousing program, she periodically drops by the office to visit with her former case managers and new friends. "I'm proud to tell you Catholic Charities changed my life," asserted Lehner.

FOR INFORMATION about Rapid Rehousing, contact Mosudi Idowu at 609-394-8847 x2527.

COMMUNITY SERVICES 2015 HIGHLIGHTS

41,683

Individuals received food, including 19,275 children

423

Individuals received assistance with food stamps

1,120

Children received an Easter basket

2,004

Households received food and gifts for Christmas

1,100

Individuals provided with legal assistance through immigration support services

363

Elderly residents received help with home repairs

191

People assisted in obtaining permanent housing





BISHOP O'CONNELL Visits El Centro

What started out as a quiet Monday morning turned into an exciting and lively event when the Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M., J.C.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Trenton, made a surprise visit to El Centro, located on the Sacred Heart campus in downtown Trenton.



"I am here to learn more about what El Centro does and to encourage your emphasis on ESL classes and providing other types of assistance to help newcomers adapt and become self-sufficient," said Bishop O'Connell. He then engaged in a conversation with El Centro's director, Roberto Hernandez (pictured above, at right) regarding ways to better serve the pastoral needs of Hispanic Catholics and addressed an ESL class in session during his visit.

CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER Opens in Monmouth

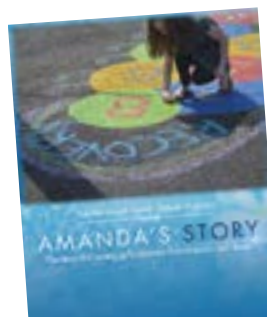
A lead provider of specialized counseling for child victims of sexual abuse and trauma, the team from the Monmouth Family Growth program was on hand for the recent ribbon-cutting commemorating completion of the county's Child Advocacy Center (CAC) in Freehold. "We are honored to serve as part of this multidisciplinary program, bringing healing to families at the most difficult time in their lives," said Jane Meyer, Monmouth Family Growth Program director.



▲ Staff from our Monmouth Family Growth Program at the CAC ceremony.

A Story of Resiliency

For a more comprehensive appreciation of this challenging but rewarding work, watch for the short film on child abuse and recovery at CatholicCharitiesTrenton.org. It includes one child's story and interviews with Jane and other clinicians from the Family Growth Program as well as the CAC, including Thomas Fichter, the Director of the Special Victims Unit.

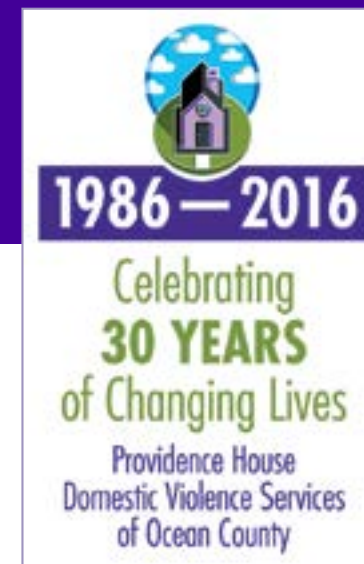


Gift Auction Celebrates Providence House 30TH ANNIVERSARY in Ocean County

Providence House Domestic Violence Services in Ocean County has started off its 30th anniversary year in a big way, by organizing another successful gift auction. Due to circumstances beyond their control, the event was held in a smaller venue. But that did not stop the more than 420 guests and dozens of staff and volunteers from having a blast while netting roughly \$45,000. Some of the raffle prizes included an Apple iPad, flat screen television, kayak and camping gear, Kindle Fire, Coach bag, Go-Pro camera and assorted jewelry.

"We are grateful to Georgian Court University for allowing us to hold this event on their campus and to

our sponsors," said Mary Pettrow, CSW, associate director of Providence House. "The monies raised make it possible for us to continue to offer the emergency Safe House, 24-hour hotline, individual and group counseling, a children's creative arts therapy program, legal advocacy, and community education at no charge to those who need the services."



PROVIDENCE HOUSE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES 2015 HIGHLIGHTS

32,740
Counseling hours provided to domestic violence victims and their children

401
Victims and their children were provided shelter

3,584
Calls fielded by the domestic violence hotline

8,426
Individuals received domestic violence training/education

1,114
Individuals received therapy

A Partner in Peace

Nuss Construction from Marlton was one of many local businesses and organizations to partner with Providence House in 2015. The builder donated time and materials to help build a secure entrance at the Outreach Center in Delran. Nuss Construction President Tammy Herbert (left) is pictured with Ruth Jackson from Providence House.



22ND ANNUAL TASTE of Burlington County
BENEFITING PROVIDENCE HOUSE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2016
6 to 9:30 PM
The Merion, Cinnaminson, NJ

Featuring food from over 20 local restaurants, gift basket auction, 50/50 raffles and much more!

For ticket information, to learn about becoming a sponsor or donating gift auction items, contact **856-824-0599**.

This year, tickets will also be available online for purchase!

CatholicCharitiesTrenton.org
(click on the "Events" section on our home page)

PAYING IT FORWARD

Former Client Now Peer Advocate

Susan's journey along the road to recovery actually began with an ending: the dissolution of a 28-year marriage. "Despite having endured 28 years of escalating abuse, it was all I knew and the prospect of having to face the unknown caused me untold anxiety, grief and despair," Susan reflected. Her depression spiraled out of control and unable to work, Susan eventually ended up homeless and hungry and at her lowest point, frozen to a bench on which she had fallen asleep.

CHALLENGING TRANSITION

With the help of her father, a retired Master Sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps, Susan left the Texas area where she had once resided with her husband and made her way to Pennsylvania and later, New Jersey. She credits her therapists for helping her endure through this difficult and uncertain time, while she attempted to make the best of the temporary shelter provided in Burlington County, a "welfare" motel. "It was far better than living on the street, but my sobriety was tested by the "neighbor" who regularly banged on

my door asking if I wanted some vodka," she recounted.

HELP TO THRIVE

In order to move on and rebuild her life, she knew she would need help so Susan came to Delaware House to better manage her mental illness and addiction. Susan said that the professional support and compassion she received from staff at Delaware House allowed her to do much more than survive, it enabled her to thrive. Susan began attending college and earned an Associates' Degree from Burlington County College.

Her resume gaps made finding a job more challenging than she had anticipated so Susan enlisted the assistance of Arlene Campbell, Supported Employment program supervisor at Delaware House. "With Arlene's help, I was successfully screened for acceptance into New Jersey's Department of Vocational Rehabilitation," said Susan. While refreshing her resume and honing her interview skills, Susan entered into a peer advocate training program offered by the New Jersey Mental Health



Association. Before she had even completed the training, Susan was offered a job at Catholic Charities. "There could have been no better way to show their confidence in me and no better way for me to give back to an organization that gave me my life back," Susan observed.

AN ADVOCATE FOR OTHERS

Since August 2013, Susan has worked as a peer advocate at the Early Intervention Service in Trenton, an innovative crisis response counseling program. In addition, Susan has lent her voice and mental health advocacy skills as a member of the Catholic Charities Social Policy Committee. "My favorite means of introducing myself to legislators has become, 'I am your tax dollars at work!'"

Without any hesitation, Susan

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES 2015 HIGHLIGHTS

3,117

People served through our counseling/
mental health focused programs

576

Individuals received addiction
focused treatment

584

People served through employment
related services

100

People served through health related services

148

People served through housing services

credits Catholic Charities with empowering her to turn tragedy into triumph. "Without Catholic Charities, I don't think that I would be here today."

FOR INFORMATION on Supported Employment, contact Arlene Campbell at 609-267-9339 x5113.

BREAKING THE SILENCE

Robert busts mental illness stigma and stereotypes

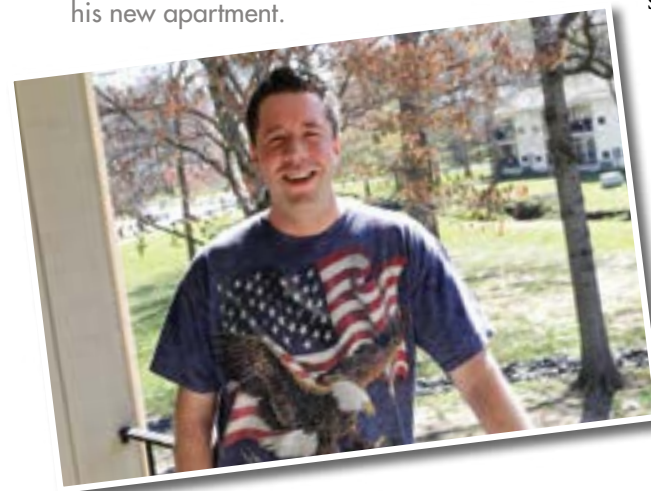
Robert Hedden, a consumer of the Family Guidance Center in Hamilton, was diagnosed with bipolar disorder while in his late teens. Three years ago, he faced one of the most difficult challenges in managing his illness when he was suddenly faced with the prospect of being homeless. His counselor suggested that he seek assistance through the Transitional Housing program at Catholic Charities and that turned out to be a true silver lining.

"Lashonda Montgomery was like an angel to me, because she was welcoming, patient and able to locate the very last housing spot available," said Robert. When the Transitional Housing program was phased out one year later, Sharron Bellamy and her On My Own Supportive Housing program staff located an affordable apartment that Robert has enjoyed residing in for the past two years. "I finally have the freedom and opportunity for the first time in my life to work through things on my own, in my own space. I intend to use this opportunity to dedicate my life to helping others."

An enthusiastic public speaker and mental health advocate since his college days at TCNJ, Robert now serves on the Board of NAMI Mercer and completed a three-day NAMI National training in Washington DC to "train the trainers," as Robert puts it. Robert was also recently accepted into the Garden State Leaders program where he is focusing his advocacy work on statewide issues. His plans include using these new skills to train and mentor others to serve as advocates for de-stigmatization of mental

illness and increased access to services. "We have come a long way with mental health treatment, but not very far in terms of how people affected by mental illness are treated."

▼ Robert proudly stands outside his new apartment.



FOR INFORMATION on Supportive Housing, contact Sharron Bellamy at 609-890-2527.

Hope Starts Here

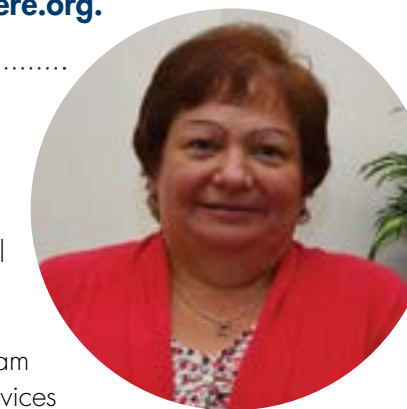
Catholic Charities has always been known for providing help with basics such as housing and food. In order to encourage greater awareness of its quality professional behavioral health and other specialized services, agency staff created a campaign — **Hope Starts Here** — featuring real clients, staff and volunteers.

The campaign, including video interviews with those who provide and receive services, can be seen via ads on Comcast and NJ Cablevision networks. While Catholic Charities provides many different types of professional services, all share a common trait: by assisting those in need, staff provide clients with hope. Services are tailored to meet the unique needs of each individual, enhancing the positive outcomes each client achieves.

A complete gallery of stories demonstrating how Catholic Charities puts people first and creates hope for so many people across every service we provide will soon be available at: Hope-Starts-Here.org.

After 20 Years at Catholic Charities a New TASK Awaits

After 20 years at Catholic Charities, Joyce Campbell recently left to join the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK) as its new executive director. Campbell started her career with Catholic Charities as a Program Coordinator at what was then called Emergency Services of Burlington County. Soon after she was appointed to Division Director where she remained until 2005, at which time she was appointed Associate Executive Director of External Affairs at Central Administrative Services. She has been a significant contributing member to organizations such as the Anti-Poverty Network of New Jersey, NJ SHARES and NAMI Mercer. Earlier this year, Campbell was recognized for her "record of professional achievement and community service" by the NJ Assembly Majority Office during Women's History Month. She will be missed at Catholic Charities, but left a lasting legacy of compassion for all those served by the agency.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Volunteers and Donors Both Essential to Continuing Our Work

Volunteer Gives Talent and Time

Since 2012, the nursing department at Delaware House has had some very capable helping hands.

Dolores Slavis has been volunteering twice a week, helping out the nursing secretary, working with consumers to update their medical releases, assisting with scheduling appointments and collecting health histories for new consumers. Additionally, Dolores helps with care coordination by scheduling appointments and transportation for consumers to and from medical visits within the community.

A retired registered nurse herself, Dolores earned a Master's degree in health administration and served as a head nurse in the intensive care unit at Philadelphia's Jefferson Hospital. She finished out her career working in a corporate setting as a medical case manager.

When not helping staff and consumers at Delaware House, Dolores can be found volunteering at her local library. She is also a proud member of the Medical Reserve Corps, a community representative for bioethics at Lourdes Hospital in Willingboro and a member of that hospital's pastoral ministry program.

► Pictured from left to right: Delaware House staff Kellie Cassidy and Jackie Seay, RN, with Dolores.

In whatever spare time she has left after volunteering duties, Dolores enjoys travel with her sister Judy, going to the theatre and reading. Her membership in a local book club insures that she always has a list of must-reads.

The entire nursing department at Delaware House, led by Jackie Seay, RN, Health Care Coordinator, is grateful for all that Dolores does and they enjoy having her as part of their team.

FOR INFORMATION on volunteering, contact Carol Spiker at 609-394-5181 x1164.



Donors Support Programs

Catholic Charities was always a presence to Tony and Judy Persichilli but it wasn't until they truly got to know the organization that they sought to deepen their connection. The couple lives in Mercer County where Judy rose through the ranks to become President and CEO of St Francis Medical Center in Trenton and then served as the CEO of Catholic Health East, a large multi-state Catholic Health Care System.

Tony, a retired human resources director for a large telecomm company now serves as Pennington's mayor on a volunteer basis. After Judy was honored by the agency in 2008, both she and Tony got more involved on an ongoing basis. In 2013, Tony was also honored. This busy couple recently took the time to reflect on why they support Catholic Charities.

"Our first impression was sheer astonishment that this organization was able to accomplish so much with so little spent on administrative support," said Tony. "Another surprising discovery we made, in getting to know agency staff, is the humility with which all carry out their work," observed Judy.

"Catholic Charities is a living example of Pope Francis' call to walk with the marginalized among us," Judy continued. "The mission and work of Catholic Charities lifts all of us up as donors, volunteers, and employees."

"Given that the epidemics of homelessness, mental illness, opiate abuse and domestic violence



are not abating but rather, increasing, there is heightened need for the services Catholic Charities provides. So, we need to do more to support Catholic Charities," said Judy.

According to Tony, "When you support this agency, as a donor or volunteer, you receive so much more than you give. As a couple, we have benefitted greatly from being a part of the Catholic Charities family, responding to the Gospel call found in the parable of the Good Samaritan, to alleviate suffering. We view it as a privilege to think that we have helped Catholic Charities carry out their mission."

In addition to supporting Catholic Charities, the Persichillis also support other causes throughout the Trenton Diocese and Archdiocese of Philadelphia, including St. Francis Medical Center, St. James Parish in Pennington, Trenton Catholic Academy and Georgian Court University. The couple enjoys traveling with friends and spending time with family in Bay Head and Marco Island, Florida.

FOR INFORMATION on becoming a donor, contact Nancy Tompkins at 609-394-5181 x1161.

27th Annual Guardian Angel Dinner Dance

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2016 ★ 5 to 10 PM ★ HYATT REGENCY PRINCETON

Our 27th Annual Guardian Angel Dinner Dance honors individuals, parishes and corporations whose involvement has been significant in helping us fulfill our mission. This year's honorees include:

★ *Richard J. Hughes, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton Humanitarian Award:*
David and Patricia Wright

Light of Hope Award Recipients

★ *Burlington County:* **St. John Neumann Parish**

★ *Mercer County:* **Peter Haas**

★ *Monmouth County:* **Church of St. Robert Bellarmine**

★ *Ocean County:* **Component Hardware Group, Inc.**

★ *Corporate Citizen of the Year:* **NJM Insurance Group**

★ *Client Achievement Award:* **Susan Parker**



Proceeds generated by the event help 100,000 individuals annually, regardless of religious affiliation.

FOR TICKETS, event sponsorship or to donate an item for the gift auction, contact Sarah Macken at 609-394-5181 x1159.

Walk of Hope Raises More Than \$21,000

Despite cold temperatures, a bit of rain and even a few snow flurries, our Third Annual Walk of Hope was again a huge success. Thanks to all the sponsors and walkers who braved the weather and made our event extra special. The event raised more than \$21,000 to help Catholic Charities continue its mission of reducing poverty, promoting recovery and strengthening families. Pictured at right are members of the team from Stark & Stark.

Special thanks to our generous event sponsors:

- Finish Line Sponsor: **The Bank of Princeton**
- T-shirt Sponsor: **Stark & Stark**

- Mile Marker Sponsor: **Reilly Financial Group**
- Silver Sponsors: **Investors Bank and Mark Susi**



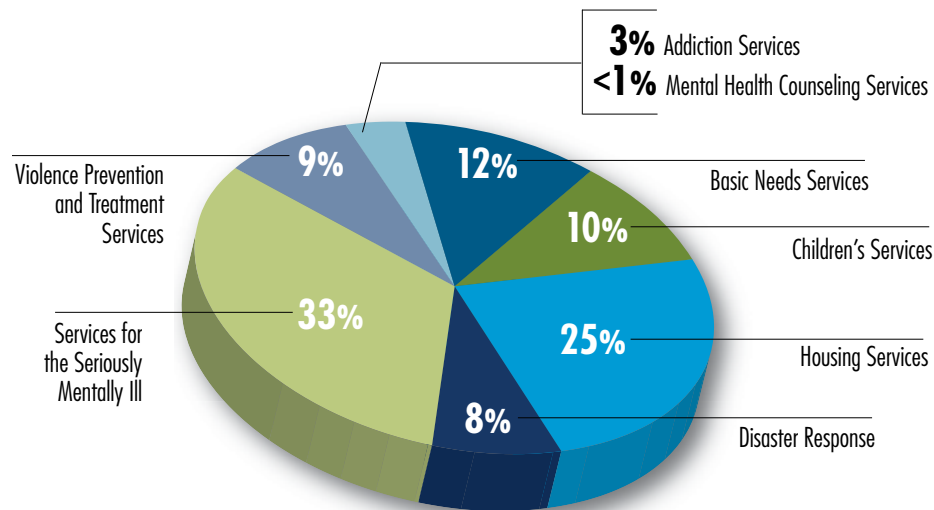
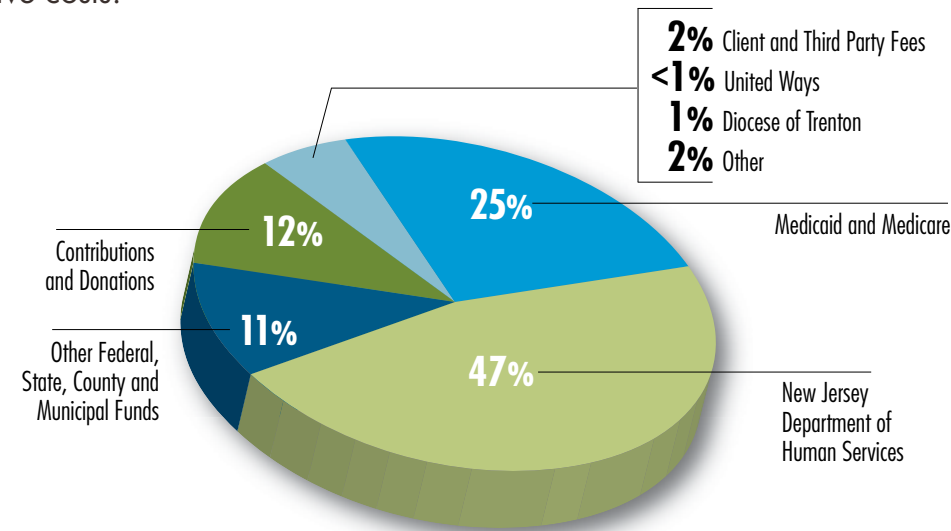
ANNUAL REPORT 2015

REVENUE + EXPENSES. Following is a pre-audit summary of revenues and expenses for the 12-month period ending December 31, 2015.* Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton, continues to be fiscally responsible, fulfilling the stewardship expected by our funders and donors. Approximately 9.2% of our budget is spent on centralized administrative costs.

REVENUES BY MAJOR SOURCE	2015
Medicaid and Medicare	\$11,851,578
New Jersey Department of Human Services	\$22,073,021
Other Federal, State, County and Municipal Funds	\$4,987,313
Contributions and Donations	\$5,606,189
Client and Third Party Fees	\$771,748
United Ways	\$267,751
Diocese of Trenton	\$527,141
Other	\$847,957
TOTAL PROGRAM REVENUE	\$46,932,698

EXPENSES BY SERVICE GROUP	2015
Addiction Services	\$1,249,240
Basic Needs Services	\$5,487,142
Children's Services	\$4,713,160
Housing Services	\$11,622,641
Disaster Response	\$3,727,475
Mental Health Counseling Services	\$395,499
Services for the Seriously Mentally Ill	\$15,369,727
Violence Prevention and Treatment Services	\$4,280,701
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$46,845,585

PROGRAM SURPLUS **\$87,113**



* A full financial statement may be obtained by writing to: Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton; Attn: George Bontcuc, Associate Executive Director of Fiscal Affairs; 383 West State Street, PO Box 1423; Trenton, NJ 08607-1423



OUTREACH TO PARISHES

In 2015, nearly 300 individuals were provided with financial assistance and other critical services requested through parishes in the Diocese of Trenton.

These services also include:

- Case management
- Immigration information sessions
- Project Hope: Paths to Wellness and Self-Sufficiency

Project Hope: Paths to Wellness and Self-Sufficiency is a program that offers workshops for the Parishes geared toward strengthening individuals and families through empowerment activities.

DISASTER RESPONSE STILL ACTIVE

1,235
Total households served.

286
Number of cases successfully closed.

265
Number of recovery plans created.



DONATION BINS CONTINUE TO BE SUCCESSFUL

The total revenue generated in 2015 from the donation bins was:

\$34,728

\$20,000 of which was disbursed to:

- Community Services
- Helping families with rent/mortgage payments
- Providing emergency shelter
- Security deposits and utilities

\$14,728 was used to purchase a van to transport clients and donations.



HOW WE CHANGED LIVES

30,426

People received non-food essentials from Community Services, such as clothing, appliances and furniture.

4,546

People were offered interventions through Behavioral Health Services to help them manage mental illness and substance abuse challenges.

4,465

Individuals received life-saving assistance from Providence House Domestic Violence Services to escape violence in their homes.

4,940

Individuals received disaster recovery services through Children and Family Services.

30,047

Hours were donated by 353 Catholic Charities volunteers.

2015 DONORS



▲ Jennifer Leip, Development Fundraising Manager with Paul Kolano, member of the Board of Trustees and Chair of the Mercer County Board.

Why Join the Circle of Friends Annual Gifts Campaign?

Are you looking for an investment that will yield long term dividends benefitting generations to come? Consider your gift to Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton as such an investment.

Your gift will make a significant and positive impact on the lives of more than 100,000 individuals each year, regardless of religious affiliation, ensuring people affected by trauma and adversity receive compassionate and professional care.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact Nancy Tompkins at 609-394-5181 x1161.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton, would like to thank the individuals, corporations and foundations that supported our mission in 2015. The following list contains donors who contributed \$250 or more.

The giving levels indicated reflect those of our 2015 Circle of Friends Annual Gifts Campaign. We extend our sincere gratitude to ALL who give generously throughout the year. Please know that each contribution is valued and appreciated.



LEGACY CIRCLE Planned Gifts to Catholic Charities

Estate of Mr. George H. Baumgart
Estate of Mary Ellen Blackwell
Estate of William E. Doyle
Estate of Vincent A. Grimaldi
Estate of Marion S. Jans
Estate of Marion Ploessel
Estate of Marie Radack
Estate of Marjorie Whaley

SHAREHOLDER CIRCLE \$50,000+

United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey

HERITAGE CIRCLE \$25,000-49,999

Anonymous
Anonymous
Walmart Foundation
United Way of Ocean County

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE \$10,000-24,999

The Allied Group
Mr. and Mrs. J. Mark Baiada
Betty and Lou Balzereit Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard J. Berlik
Church & Dwight Co., Inc.
Circle BMW
Component Hardware Group, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Durso
Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Griffin
Horizon Foundation
Investors Bank
Investors Bank Foundation, Inc.
Janssen Pharmaceutica, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. John Kuchinski
Lockheed Martin Corporation
Mr. Daniel F. Lundy
Merrill Lynch Wealth Management
Bank of America Corporation
Ocean County Partnership for Children
Oceanaire Women's Golf Assoc.
Hon. and Mrs. Anthony Persichilli
Princeton Area Community Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. J. George Reilly
Mr. Benjamin Stridick
Mrs. Frances K. Wallace

INVESTOR CIRCLE \$5,000-9,999

Amboy Bank
Anonymous
Anonymous
The Beneficial Foundation
Ms. Joan M. Birchenall
Catholic Human Services Foundation
Dynatec Systems, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Gordon
Jersey Shore Running Club
Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies
Ms. Margery A. Kalmes
J. Knipper and Company, Inc.
The Little Star Foundation
Ms. Elizabeth Miranda
Mrs. Elaine Murphy
Ms. Ann C. Neary
New Jersey Hospital Association
New Jersey Shares/Verizon NJ
Mrs. Caroline Olbis
Phoenix Packaging and Fulfillment
Ray Catena Motor Car Corporation
Ms. Suzanne Richer and Mr. Jean-Pierre Geronimi
J. W. Parker, Riverview Studios
Roma Bank Community Foundation
Ms. Elizabeth A. Ryan

St. Francis Medical Center
St. Robert Bellarmine Church
Staples, Inc.
Ms. Rita M. Szatny
Mr. and Mrs. David A. Tierno
Township of Lakewood
Wawa, Inc.

AMBASSADOR CIRCLE \$1,000-4,999

Advanced Coring and Cutting Corporation
Alpha Baptist Church, Inc.
Anonymous
Archer & Greiner, P.C.
Freeholder Thomas Arnone
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.
Atlantic Lining Co., Inc.
Avnet Electronics
Father Ronald Bacovin
The Bank of Princeton
Barnegat Monthly Meeting Religious Society of Friends
Battle Against Hunger
Mr. Richard Benner
Michael R. Berman, Esquire
Dr. and Mrs. Howard B. Bernstein
Beth El Synagogue

Mr. John A. Binko
Mr. and Mrs. John R. Bourbon
Dr. Edward A. Brennan, Jr.
Ms. Mary C. Brennan
Brewer Direct, Inc.
Bristol Myers Squibb, Employee Giving Program
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Ms. Margaret Carrig
Catholic Charities USA
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Charity Resale Shop
Mr. Arthur J. Christian
Ms. Tina Cilurso
Circle Auto Group
Mr. Michael Clear
Mr. Anthony F. Colao
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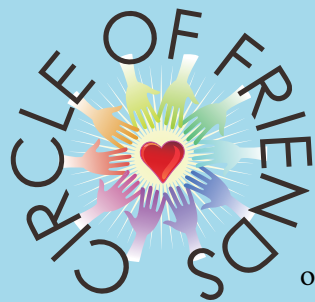
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BEING FRIENDS Has Many Benefits

Catholic Charities' annual stewardship campaign, the Circle of Friends Annual Gifts Campaign, kicked off the year with an engaging program featuring presentations and a video offering testimony to the positive impact programs make on peoples' lives.

Janet Lehner (*see story on page 3*), described how Community Services staff transformed her life, providing affordable housing, essential needs and hope. A brief video interview with two domestic violence survivors offered a powerful demonstration of the work done by Providence House staff and volunteers. George Reilly, a Board of Trustees member for more than 20 years

also shared some heartfelt and personal reasons for his generous support of Catholic Charities, saying, "When I get a call from Catholic Charities, I believe I am getting a call from God."

The Most Reverend Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M., J.C.D. attended and offered his encouragement, observing that "the beautiful stories shared by those helped by Catholic Charities remind us that caring for the vulnerable, the poor, and the neglected is our Gospel mandate."

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, about the Circle of Friends Annual Gifts Campaign, contact Nancy Tompkins at 609-394-5181 x1161.

► Old and new friends gathered at our Circle of Friends Annual Gifts Campaign event in May.



Photo courtesy of Jay Mayer