



## **Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Harrisburg E-News July 2015**

Welcome to the e-newsletter from Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Harrisburg. This brief publication will give you an update on the latest news and happenings from our agency.

### **Message from the CEO**

Dear Friends,

The mission of Catholic Charities is to put our faith into action by caring for those who come to us in need, regardless of their circumstances, background, religious preference or ability to pay. Every day, we help homeless families, pregnant women, children who need a home, those overcoming addictions, the sick, the elderly, the hopeless and the poor. We never turn a client away. Furthermore, most of our services are offered at minimal or no cost to the client. This is possible through the generosity of our funders, the Diocese of Harrisburg, the contributions of parishioners, individual donors, corporations, and religious and civic organizations.

We strive to provide the highest quality in social services and the most comprehensive array of programs available in our communities. I will continue to work closely with our Board of Directors, management and staff to achieve our strategic goals and make the most of our financial and human resources.

The socio-economic and political landscape is constantly changing. Our challenge is to effectively respond to the complex needs of the communities we serve, while competing for limited public and private dollars.

We encourage you to get involved through prayer, volunteerism, advocacy, and giving. [Learn how you can get involved](#) and help us share the love of Christ by helping those less fortunate.

May God bless you,

Mark A. Totaro, Ph.D.  
Executive Director/CEO

## **75 Years of Service**

Did you know that Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Harrisburg has provided human services to the people of the Diocese of Harrisburg and South Central Pennsylvania for more than 75 years?

It's probably safe to say that just about everyone has heard of Catholic Charities, but most people probably don't understand the full scope of what Catholic Charities does. Catholic Charities USA is the largest provider of social services in the United States. Our organization is a national network of over 170 agencies across the country providing programs and services to more than 8 million people each year. Here in our Diocesan community, our agency helped nearly 6,000 men, women, and children last year within the 15-county service area of the Diocese.

Our services include:

### **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNSELING**

- Licensed outpatient therapy and psychiatry for children, adolescents, and adults, including individual, family and marital counseling

### **RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS**

- Evergreen House for women recovering from addiction; Willow Way and Crescent Way for women in recovery
- Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families
- Lourdeshouse Maternity Home

### **IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES**

- Refugee resettlement, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, job search assistance, and immigration legal counseling

### **YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES**

- Family Based Mental Health Services and Intensive Family Services designed to prevent out of home child placements or to reunite children and their families
- Intensive Day Treatment offering an alternative to residential treatment for at risk youth

- Adoption services and Specialized Foster Care assisting families seeking to adopt or foster children
- Paradise School providing education instruction and emotional support programming for students in grades K-12

## **Featured Program – Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families**

Since 1992, the Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families has been providing a safe, secure environment for families facing a homeless crisis. Click [here](#) to read about the important work being done each day at the program.

### **Do you have clothing to donate?**

The Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families is a partner with [Community Aid Pa](#). If you have clothing to donate, please consider utilizing the tan collection bins at Keller Williams Realty (530 N Lockwillow Ave, Harrisburg), St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church (310 Hertzler Rd, Mechanicsburg), or at the Derry Township Recycling Center (650 Clearwater Rd, Hershey).

We are also looking for additional locations to house donation bins. If you can help, please contact Christopher Meehan at [cmeehan@cchbg.org](mailto:cmeehan@cchbg.org) or 717-657-4804 (ext 284).

### **Shelter Shuffle 5K – September 12<sup>th</sup>**

The 11th annual Shelter Shuffle 5K Run/Walk will take place on Saturday, September 12th on the grounds of the former Harrisburg State Hospital (across from the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg). Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. Racetime is 9:00 a.m. The registration fee is \$20 per person if received on or before September 5th (\$25 per person after September 5th). Registration is free for participants who collect \$50 or more in sponsorships. All proceeds benefit the Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families. Visit [www.cchbg.org/events/shelter-shuffle-5k-runwalk-91215](http://www.cchbg.org/events/shelter-shuffle-5k-runwalk-91215) to register or to make a donation to this important event.

### **Come and See Dinner – September 29<sup>th</sup>**

Mark your calendars for the annual Catholic Charities Come and See Dinner which will take place on Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg. The evening includes a reception and auction, buffet dinner, and remarks by Dr. Carolyn Woo, President and CEO of Catholic Relief Services. Catholic Relief Services is the official humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States. Each year Catholic Relief Services reaches more than 130 million people in nearly 100 countries. All proceeds from the Come and See Dinner will benefit the Catholic Charities Homes for Healing – Evergreen House, Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families, and Lourdeshouse Maternity Home. All are welcome! Visit <http://www.cchbg.org/events/come-and-see-dinner-92915> to register or to make a donation to this important event.

## **Support Catholic Charities**

Catholic Charities relies heavily on the generous financial contributions of those who support us with their charitable gifts. All of the services offered by our agency are provided regardless of age, creed, religion, or ability to pay. Please consider supporting our important work. Your financial contribution will provide help and create hope for those in need.

There are various methods to make your gift to Catholic Charities. For more information, visit our [Donation Page](#).

## **Connect With Us**

There are numerous ways to stay connected with Catholic Charities:

- For a list of our various office and programs, visit our [Contact Page](#)
- Check out our [website](#)
- Visit our [FaceBook Page](#)
- Follow us on [Twitter](#)

## **Thank You!**

Thank you for your continued interest and support of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Harrisburg. We are blessed by the work we do each day to provide help and create hope for those in need and grateful for the generosity of our benefactors.