



The

Hopeliner

October 2020

A PUBLICATION OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES

IT'S ALL ABOUT
You!

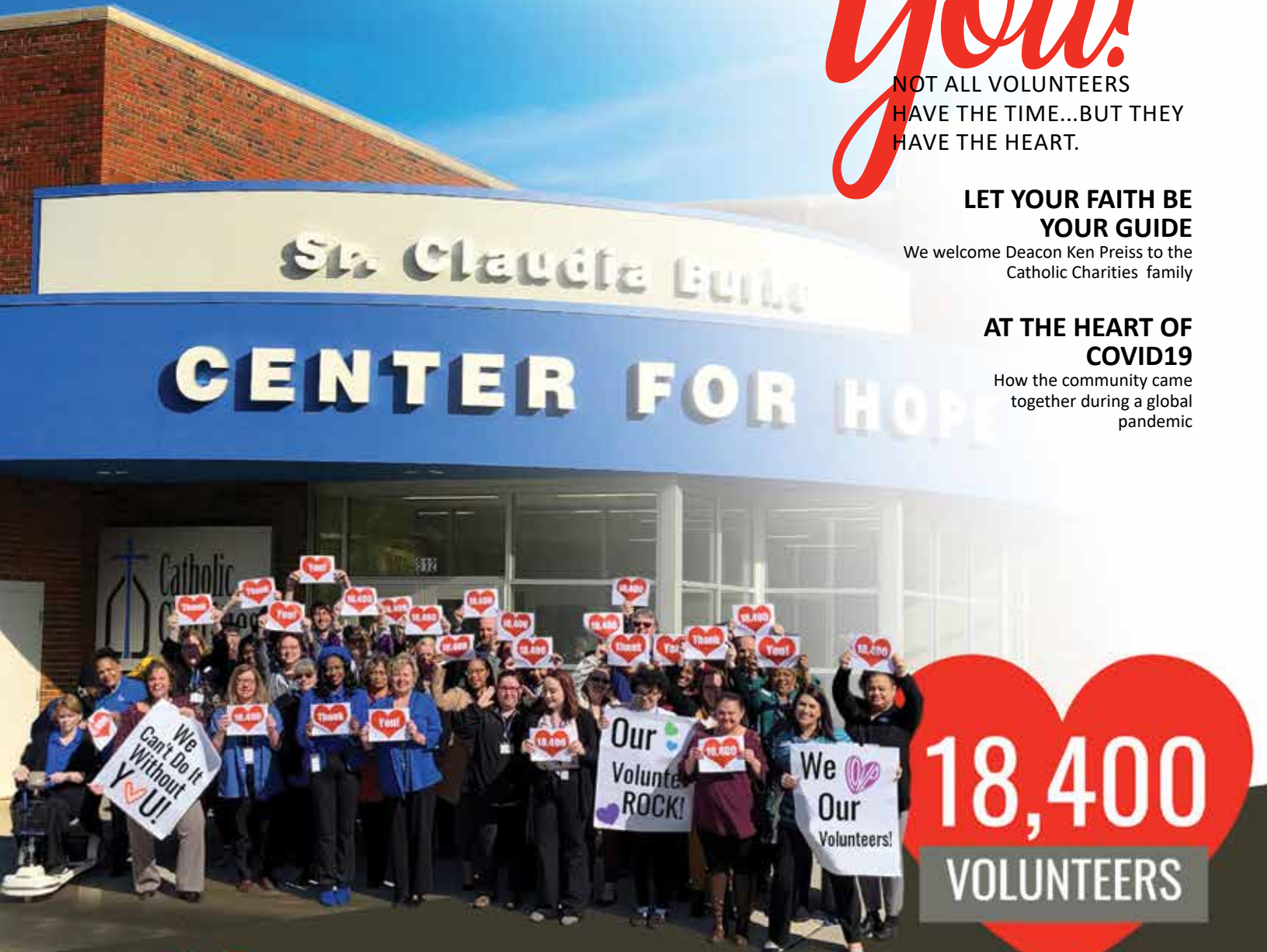
NOT ALL VOLUNTEERS
HAVE THE TIME...BUT THEY
HAVE THE HEART.

LET YOUR FAITH BE YOUR GUIDE

We welcome Deacon Ken Preiss to the
Catholic Charities family

AT THE HEART OF COVID19

How the community came
together during a global
pandemic



18,400
VOLUNTEERS

WE  OUR VOLUNTEERS!

It would be easy for us to take all the credit for the good works we do here at Catholic Charities but the reality is, without YOU, we could never do what we do. Thank you!

62,351 HOURS

equivalent to 30 full time employees
saving us \$602,160 a year in salaries.

Catholic Charities

of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties

The Most Reverend Earl Boyea
Fifth Bishop of Lansing

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Director of Finance
Quintin Williams
Director of Counseling

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Flint, MI 48503
810.232.9950

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Owosso, MI 48867
989.723.8239

Community Closet
810.232.9950 ext. 712
Meal Programs
810.785.6911
Foster Care and Adoption
810.232.3418
www.ccsgec.org
email: givehope@ccsgec.org



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

During a time when the world seems upside down, I find my heart full of gratitude.

I understand that the pandemic has impacted each of us differently. I want you to know that I pray for you daily. At Catholic Charities, we have watched COVID-19 bring out the best in people.

As you can imagine, the need for our services, especially our Soup Kitchens, Personal Needs Room, Counseling and Foster Care grew dramatically when the pandemic hit. I am both proud and grateful to say that our staff and volunteers never waived.

Our doors remained open and we quickly made adjustments to meet the increased demands for our services.

We added food bag give-aways every Friday for 3 months, fresh produce give-aways, converted our soup kitchens to take out, implemented tele-health for counseling and made accommodations for the added children who needed a safe place to call home.

I recognize none of this would have been possible without your prayers, time and generosity. Not just during this unprecedented time, but always. That is why we are dedicating this Hopeliner to you. Without YOU, we would not be able to meet the needs of our clients. We are grateful and blessed.

Sincerely,

 Vicky L. Schultz, President & CEO

Black Minds for Humanity

On August 19th, Michellene Bonney and Kiven Williams from Gaithersburg, Maryland drove 10 hours and 555 miles to help the people of Flint. As a result of the pandemic and all of the social unrest that followed, they started a group called Black Minds for Humanity, dedicated to being a positive force for young people to make a difference.

They got their friends together and started a water drive in their front yard, which quickly got bigger than they ever anticipated. They set up an on-line fundraiser as well, which resulted in them being able to bring so much more than water to the community.

They brought a U-Haul with water, back packs (for our Offender Success program) with essential items like t-shirts and soap, play packs for children in Foster Care, and a selection of personal hygiene products and face masks for our Personal Needs Room. But they



didn't stop there! They also delivered a monetary donation with the funds they had left.

"We decided, with what's going on in our country that a lot of young people are not focusing their energy on the right things so we wanted to create an outlet for them to come together and help any community that needs help. We're called Black Minds for Humanity but we are about helping all people and spreading love everywhere", said Williams.



We at Catholic Charities are touched and inspired to see young people out there making a difference in the world. It means so much to the people we serve!

Let your Faith be your guide!

Catholic Charities Welcomes Deacon Ken Preiss as Chaplain



Deacon Ken Preiss is just a normal guy. He lives in Fenton with his wife of 31 years, Karen. His daughter Madeline is a Neonatal Nurse living in Texas and his youngest, Kate is a senior at

Kettering University studying chemical engineering. Before becoming a deacon, he worked as a Project Manager at General Motors for 33 years.

WHAT IS A DEACON?

Pope Francis says "Deacons were created for service. The deacon is not a second-class priest. No, no, no, he is something else. The deacon is charged with service in the church."

While a deacon shares many of the responsibilities of a priest, he is not able to perform all sacramental duties. With a shortage of priests, the roll of a deacon is to reach out to people in need. Their lives are filled with performing the Works of Mercy, like visiting people in the hospital or in jail. Most importantly a deacon must have an open heart and listen.

When asked what made him decide to become a deacon, he answers frankly, "I didn't. I was a youth minister at St. Pius X and Catechist. I wanted to be better at it so I called Lansing to see if there were any courses I could take."

He began his journey getting a degree in Theology with a focus in Religious Education. "The class was a big commitment, so I made a deal with God that I would try it and if I didn't like it I would quit. I went to the first class and was totally hooked", he said.

Everyone else in the class was doing their Deacon Formation studies and assumed he was as well, but he had no intention of getting ordained, it was just not on his radar.

After finishing his degree in Theology, he applied for a position as the full time Youth Minister at St. Pius X. Pastor, Fr. Robert Copeland, wouldn't give him the job, claiming that Ken would soon become a deacon.

He managed to dodge the calling until one day Fr. Copeland and Deacon Gary Gallagher cornered him after mass insisting that Ken call the director of the deacons in Lansing and just get started with the process of becoming a deacon. He found himself making the same deal with God. "I'll try it but if I don't like it I'm quitting."

"I just went with the flow. If I'm supposed to be here I will and if I'm not I'm ok with that. I didn't struggle, everything just all fell into place, which is of course how you know when you are doing the right thing," he says.

A few years later Ken retired from General Motors and planned to spend his time enjoying retirement, when he wasn't tending to his

duties as a deacon. But of course fate was not done with his journey.

Bishop Boyea was visiting for Confirmation at Holy Redeemer and told him someone from his office would be calling; the diocese was looking for a new Director for the Permanent Diaconate.

Ken has been a deacon at Holy Redeemer in Burton for 7 years, and worked for the Bishop for over three years. He truly has a servants heart and is looking forward to seeing

where his new role at Catholic Charities leads.

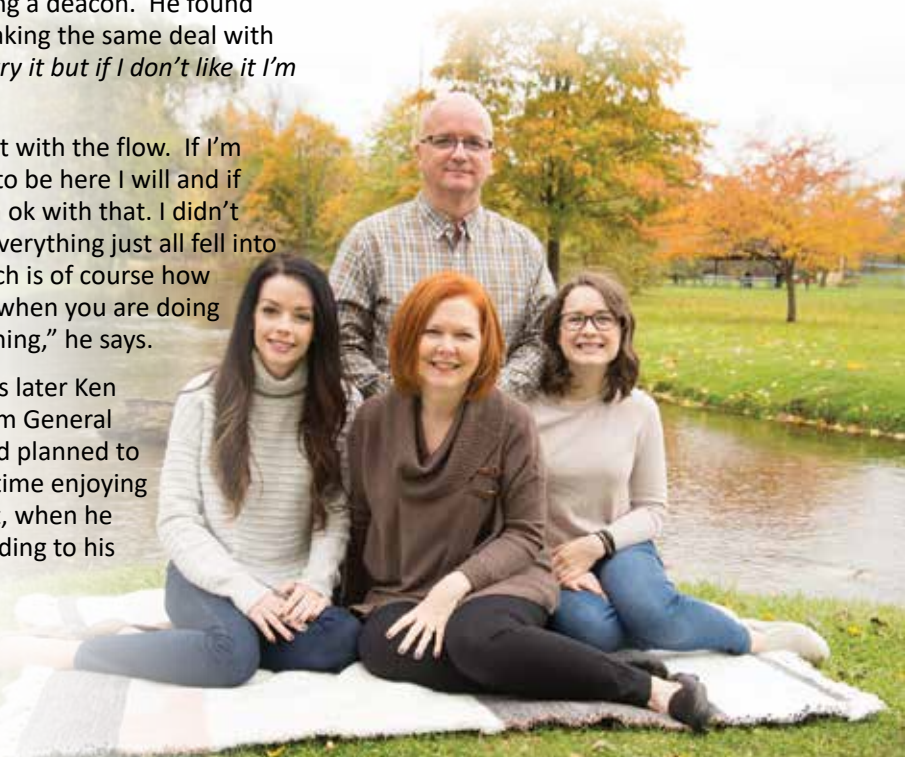
Deacon Ken can be found at the Center for Hope in Flint, on Wednesdays and Fridays, 11am-3pm.

He is the first chaplain to be

assigned to any Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Lansing. The hope is that eventually all Catholic Charities in the Diocese will have a chaplain of their own.

"I'm here to listen, not to judge. It starts with faith and meeting people where they are at," he said, "I want to help people see that God is in their lives, even in hard times."

"The class was a big commitment, so I made a deal with God that I would try it and if I didn't like it I would quit."



FOSTER CARE



When children are removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect, or an unsafe environment, it is a traumatic experience. All of their possessions are put in a single garbage bag and they leave immediately. This is how many start their journey in search of a caring, safe foster home.

When they arrive at Catholic Charities' door, we want it to be as warm and welcoming as possible so that the children begin to associate the Children's Center with a place of safety and happiness.

"Our building is quite old and hasn't had a lot of renovation since it was built, so we have been looking for opportunities to improve it's functionality and appearance for the last few years," says Vicky Schultz, CEO of Catholic Charities.

The visitation rooms where biological parents spend time with their children,

were cinder block rooms that felt more like cells in the dungeon than joyful places for healthy family time. This is why Blue Cross Complete stepped in to help!

Thanks to their funding, we were able to hire Carol Severn, a local mural artist, to decorate the walls with fun, playful imagery. "It makes such a difference to the emotional state of the children to have the murals in place," says Debra Pettway, Director of Child Welfare, "They have been traumatized enough due to the unfortunate circumstances in their lives. When they come here we want them to be excited to see their parents and spend time in a place associated with healing, knowing that they will eventually be permanently reunited with their families."



FREE Foster Parent Training 2020-2021 3rd Thursday of Every Month 5pm-7pm Children's Center, 575 Louisa St., Flint

October 15
Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorder

November 19
The Impact of Trauma on Foster Children

January 21
Catholic Charities' Foster Parent Handbook

February 18
Parenting for Effectiveness

March 18
Cross Cultural Fostering

April 15
Navigating the Court System

May 20
Positive Discipline Methods

June 17
Determination of Care (DOC)

July 15
Preparing Children for Visitation

Heart Art Kits 4 Kids



You may have seen the plea on social media for items that we can let our Foster Care kids use that they can take home to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 by not having shared toys during visitations.

Several of you have answered our plea bringing art supplies and small toys. Our Foster kids have been so grateful!



We wanted to highlight two little ones with BIG hearts. Bowen and Charlie have gotten to work creating a greeting card business and use the proceeds to donate art supplies to other kids in need. We have to admit, kids helping kids makes our eyes a little damp!



In Memory of...

When you give a gift in memory of a loved one you are not only honoring your loved one but your contribution will carry their legacy forward and help us continue to provide vital help to those in need in our community. Thank you for this meaningful gift. We feel privileged to be able to honor the memory of so many wonderful people, and their commitment to helping others. Donors collectively raised over \$16,000 in their memory.

To those who have joined our heavenly Father, we thank you for the blessings you continue to bestow on those in need.

Agnes Qualman	Kenneth Ferguson
Amelia Urbeck	Kevin Gilbert
Anthony Virgilio	Larry A. Turner
Betty J. McBroom	Lois Martin
Bill Byrne	Marian Mulcahy
Bob McGovern	Marilyn Alleva
Bonnie Cowen	Marilyn Pelzel
Carole A. Jozwick	Mark Bachman
Cleo Salmon	Mark Giles
Cynthia Bowns	Mary Stechschulte
David Stechschulte	Melki Family
Don M. Ashley	Mildred Hearsch
Donald & Maureen Kennedy	Nora Crego
Dorothy McClanahan	Pat Bundy
Elizabeth "Betty" Bissonnette	Pearl Nicolai
Evelyn Neall	Rita Heller
Evelyn Weston	Robert Allen Sr.
Frances Chrastek	Robert J. Rhyne
Francis P. Hartner	Robert Owen
Frederick S. Ruhala	Ronald Brownrigg
Gary Wagner	Sally Sabo
George Bachman	Sharron Williams
Jack & Patricia Chatterson	Shirley Rau
Jacob Spolarich	Steve Pachota
Jane A. Perry	Ted Fraim
Janice H. Rudich	Thomas K. Hyde
Jeffrey McGlinchey	Vic Torres
Jessie Pugh	Viola MacDonald
John & Julia Bobicz	William Wheeler
Kathleen Stevenson	Wm. & Lila Howard

Tribute Gifts

What ever you're doing keep it up!
Someone thinks you're pretty awesome
and has made a donation in your name!

Arthur Tinetti	Mark Spender
Brian Cooney	Mattie Donlan Milne
Dan Chatterson	Meg Engleman
Dan Czmer	St. Anthony
Fr. Joseph J. Krupp	Virginia T. Rhyne
Jim Hurley	William & Stashia Nicols
Jodi Cuneaz	50th Anniversary
Karen Church	William Lawler
Linda Dibble	Wise B. Joseph

Would you like to show your appreciation for someone awesome in your life? Visit www.ccsgec.org/donate to make a donation in their name.



While we appreciate every donation you make at any time of the year to help us carry out our work, by giving regularly you can help us have a greater impact. It ensures we can better plan our future support as we know we can rely on regular funds from recurring donors.

Relying on single donations, we have to predict how much money we will receive from an event or campaign,

and sometimes the funds raised are lower than expected. With recurring donations we have the certainty of a regular amount of support coming in.

If you are a frequent giver, becoming a monthly donor also helps you spread the cost of your support over the year instead of donating larger sums at infrequent intervals.

To set up a monthly donation plan please visit www.ccsgec.org/donate or contact:

Theresa Hurley
810-232-9950 ext. 710
email thurley@ccsgec.org

www.ccsgec.org/donate

Putting Food on the table!

Volunteers, food pantries and soup kitchens are on the front lines ensuring everyone has the food they need during this difficult time. Between March and June, roughly 4 in 10 people visiting food pantries had not received food assistance before the pandemic.

COVID19 may be starting to show signs of retreating but the impact of the pandemic has far-reaching consequences beyond the spread of the disease itself, including political, cultural, social and economic implications.

It is often the case that communicable diseases affect populations unequally, with the most vulnerable often being the ones most negatively impacted. Indeed, early





evidence indicates that the health and economic impacts of the virus are being borne disproportionately by low income families. This is believed to be due to lesser access to adequate health prevention and care, lower resistance or compromised immune systems, stigma or bias, or lack of information about proper nutrition.

While many things are

uncertain about how the future will unfold, Catholic Charities remains a constant resource within the community.

“Even before COVID-19, no community was free of hunger, but during the pandemic, many hard-working Americans suddenly found themselves needing support. We are focused on making sure that we can help everyone who

comes to our door,” says Vicky Schultz, CEO.

Keeping healthy and safe is not just about social distancing, a healthy immune system is essential, and the economic impact of the virus has made fresh produce unaffordable for many. This is why we have given away more fresh fruit and vegetables than ever before!





We Applaud You!

Not all volunteers have the time, but they have the heart!

EVERY AGENCY SAYS THEY HAVE THE BEST VOLUNTEERS, BUT WE REALLY DO HAVE THE BEST VOLUNTEERS, AND WE HAVE 18,400 OF THEM!

When COVID-19 struck in mid-March we had to cancel our annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in the interest of public health.

This was a major disappointment because the compassion you show to the people we serve is an inspiration for us all.

We want you to know, we've noticed how you treat everyone with respect and

understand how stressful it can be for people who find themselves in need of the services we provide. Your words and actions go a long way toward helping them keep their dignity.

Whether you've helped sorting and organizing all the donations we receive, in one of our Soup Kitchens, with one of our fundraisers or maintaining the grounds, we hope you now that you're such an important part of our organization.

You're doing more than just providing your time, you're showing our guests that people do care. That gives them hope and sometimes hope is just what people need to try to change their lives.

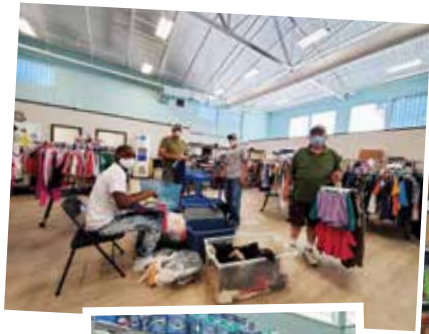
In life, there are no sure bets,

except that people like you will rise to the occasion and make the world a better place.

Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy...when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.

Perhaps we may not have told you lately, but it's true that every single day we are so gracious and thankful to God for having the best volunteers in town! Indeed, you are such a blessing from heaven!





You are the best!
Thank you for everything.

Thank You for *Making* a Difference!



***They may not be on the
frontline but they are still
heroes!***

We would like to show our appreciation for those who have donated masks as we continue to fight the spread of COVID-19.

Despite how difficult this pandemic has been on everyone, the generosity and dedication from our communities has been awe-inspiring.

Your generosity has provided hundreds of face masks. It has better prepared us to meet the challenges we face while helping

protect our clients, employees and volunteers by reducing the risk that this virus will spread.

Homemade masks continue to be an item of great need and we will continue to accept these for distribution to our clients, staff and volunteers.

A special thank you goes out to Veronica Husocki, Molly K. from Fenton High School, Trinity United Presbyterian Church, and Dave and Lorraine Pettit, Tracy Brown (and family), Tonya and everyone from PKSA Karate, Karen Jacobson and the Ann Arbor Sewing Center! Thank you for all of the beautiful masks!



Mid Michigan Re Source Warehouse

A Program of Catholic Charities

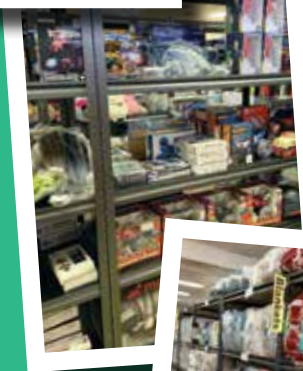
**ON SEPTEMBER 1ST, WE
CELEBRATED THE GRAND
RE-OPENING AT A NEW, LARGER
LOCATION!**

In January 2019 Catholic Charities teamed up with Good360 to become a Community Redistribution Partner to help Michigan non—profits get the resources they need. Since then the program has continued to grow!

Michigan's only Non-Profit Membership Warehouse stocks new merchandise items at 80%-99% off retail. This is an amazing opportunity for Pantries, Schools, Churches, and

Agencies that regularly help clients with items such as clothes, small appliances, shoes, boots, and hundreds of other items. The purpose of the warehouse is to help non-profits get the goods they need so they can spend more of every dollar on programs and services – in other words, helping more people and doing more good!

If you work for a non-profit or are a teacher and would like more information visit www.ccsgc.org/mmrw or call John Manse on 810-785-6911 or email MMRW@ccsgc.org to schedule a tour.



We Moved!

6430 N. Genesee Rd. Flint
Located in the plaza on the east side of the road
between Coldwater Rd. and Stanley Rd.



Getting Help in Hard Times Eviction Diversion

Designed to keep Genesee County residents who fell behind on rent during COVID-19 in their homes.

LANDLORDS

Have you filed a summons with the District Court or served a notice to quit?

Are you interested in preventing an eviction?

Is unpaid back rent your primary issue with the tenant?

Are you willing to forgive 10% of the back rent?

If you answered YES to any of these questions, please coordinate with your tenant:

- Complete Landlords Application
- Attach six month payment history
- Complete a W-9 Form

TENANTS

Have you received a notice to quit, Demand for Possession or a summons to appear in court?

Are you interested in preventing an eviction and possibly a judgement?

If you answered YES to these 2 questions and are in need of assistance, call 810-600-4525 to schedule an appointment with our Eviction Diversion Specialist.

Benefits:

- Opting into this program allows Landlord to get quick and substantial payment for back rent.
- Tenant may also have 2 future months rent paid.
- Tenant will get protection on their credit history by having conditional judgments with this program.

LANDLORD & TENANT

Must Agree Upon the Following:

- ✓ Amount of rent owed
- ✓ Agree to the terms of the Eviction Diversion Process
- ✓ To meet with an Eviction Diversion Specialist
- ✓ Sign an agreement to prevent entry of judgement and time to resolve issue

Bring the following to your appointment:

- Verification of any and all income for the last 30 days (including pandemic unemployment assistance and SSI)
- Driver's license or State ID
- Social Security Card for all household members
- Rental payment history since March 1, 2020 from your landlord

THE GINORMOUS TENT SALE WAS *Ginormous Success*



Catholic Charities' Board Chair, and CEO of ELGA Credit Union, Karen Church, would like to thank everyone who made the Ginormous Tent Sale a **GINORMOUS** success!

Karen is a leader and believer and stands behind the credit unions motto of "people helping people".

It took a lot of work, sweat and perhaps a few tears, but we managed to raise \$17,500 from the sale for Catholic Charities on behalf of ELGA Credit Union. But Karen didn't stop there, ELGA has matched an additional \$7,500 bringing the

grand total to **\$25,000!**

"I have always known it's important to give back. My husband and I both come from large entrepreneurial families who taught us that the more you give, the more you receive. There's such joy in seeing how your contribution has helped someone else," says Karen, "The scope of services Catholic Charities provides is unequalled in Genesee County, and I love being a part of an organization that works so tirelessly to help others".



Holy Moley

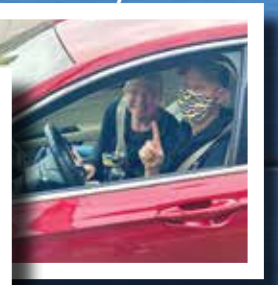
Those Enchiladas Are Divine!

We didn't know if we could pull it off. With the onset of COVID-19 and all of the uncertainty that came with it, we decided to change our annual enchilada sale from a six week sale during Lent to a one day event, with the goal of selling 1,000 meals on Cinco de Mayo!

The volunteers donned their hair nets and face masks and got to work making Hilda's secret family recipe sauce.

Everyone worked so hard to make over 800 meals (that's over 1,600 enchiladas) and raise \$6,930.18!

We want to thank Hilda and all of the volunteers who made the sale a HUGE success! Of course we would like to also thank everyone who supported the fundraiser by purchasing Hilda's divine enchiladas!



Giving is not just about making a *donation...*
It's about making a *difference!*

Every donation we get is a blessing, and we are so very blessed by your generosity! We would love to be able to thank every single one of you, but the list is just too long! Thank you for supporting us and making a difference to someone in need!

A convoy of four cars filled with amazing young people from Kalamazoo, Team LITTY, arrived at our door. After spending days dedicated to peaceful protest, this amazing group decided to continue their good work by delivering all their extra water to the Center for Hope. It was very appreciated during the July heat wave!



The Quilt Ministry gets a standing ovation from us! Nancy K. and the Quilt Ministry of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Davison spent their COVID-19 time working hard to create 115 quilts: 41 quilt bags (quilt, pillow, matching bag) for the Foster Care Program, and 74 quilts for use in the Center for Hope this winter. Thank you to everyone at the Quilt Ministry who worked so hard to make this happen!



Easter Dinner was not the same with COVID-19 forcing us to do curbside service, but our amazing friend Ray and his wife were not about to let the Center for Hope go without a feast this year! They brought us hams, cupcakes and sweet potatoes. We are humbled by your generosity! God Bless!



6,763 Rolls

EDGERTON ELEMENTARY
REALLY GIVES A CARES!



Before COVID-19 struck and there was a world wide shortage of toilet paper, the students at Edgerton Elementary in Clio contacted us and asked how they could help.

You may know that we have a Community Closet but did you know that we also have a Personal Needs Room where we collect items such as laundry soap, shampoo, deodorant, toilet paper and other personal care hygiene products?

These items are things most of us take for granted. (Although after the toilet paper shortage I'm not sure any of us take that for granted anymore!) When you can't afford these items, every area of your life is impacted.

Personal hygiene products help children attend school feeling fresh so they feel comfortable in the learning environment and they assure adults have the dignity they need to can gain employment.

These items are not covered by government assistance programs yet they are vital to eliminating humiliation, bullying, and discrimination, while promoting learning and offering hope.

Toilet paper is one of the items that many people don't think to donate and therefore, we are always in short supply. Edgerton Elementary rose to the challenge and truly embraced the spirit of providing human dignity for all people.

Their generosity provided us with a 6 month supply of toilet paper and immediately reached low income families with small children, students, battered women, veterans, seniors, former prisoners and the mentally ill.



Thank You!

The Future

The future of our ministry will be built on today's planned and deferred gifts.

Since 1941 we have shared the love of Christ by providing support to anyone who comes to our door. Together, with our most faithful donors, we can continue to be a lifeline to the most vulnerable in our community for many years to come.

What is Planned Giving?

Planned giving serves a dual purpose. On the one hand, planned gifts help support worthy causes. At the same time, they can be useful in helping individuals make more substantial gifts, as well as address their own financial needs.

Planned gifts make use of legal and tax strategies and/or financial products to maximize the benefits both to the charity and the donor. In contrast, a charitable donation made from a person's cash flow is not defined as a planned gift.

Planned gifts take a number of forms. Some planned gifts are payable upon the donor's death such as a life insurance policy where the beneficiary is a charitable organization. Others are paid during the lifetime of the donor, the choice is yours and you have a lot of options! Here are a few more ways to donate:

- Donor Advised Fund
- Memorial Gift
- Charitable Gift Annuity
- Charitable Remainder Trust
- Charitable Lead Trust

We welcome the opportunity to assist you as you create philanthropic objectives into your estate plans. If you have included Catholic Charities in your estate plans, or would like more information on how to, please contact us so we can welcome you as a member of our Legacy Society.

*Please consult your financial advisor as tax laws change frequently.

Theresa Hurley
Director of Development
Phone: 810-232-9950 ext. 710

Charitable Giving Annuity

There is a way for you to support Catholic Charities and feel confident that you have dependable income in your retirement years. You can do this with a charitable gift annuity. This popular planned gift can provide you with secure lifetime payments and allow us to further our work on behalf of everyone we serve.

Charitable Endowment

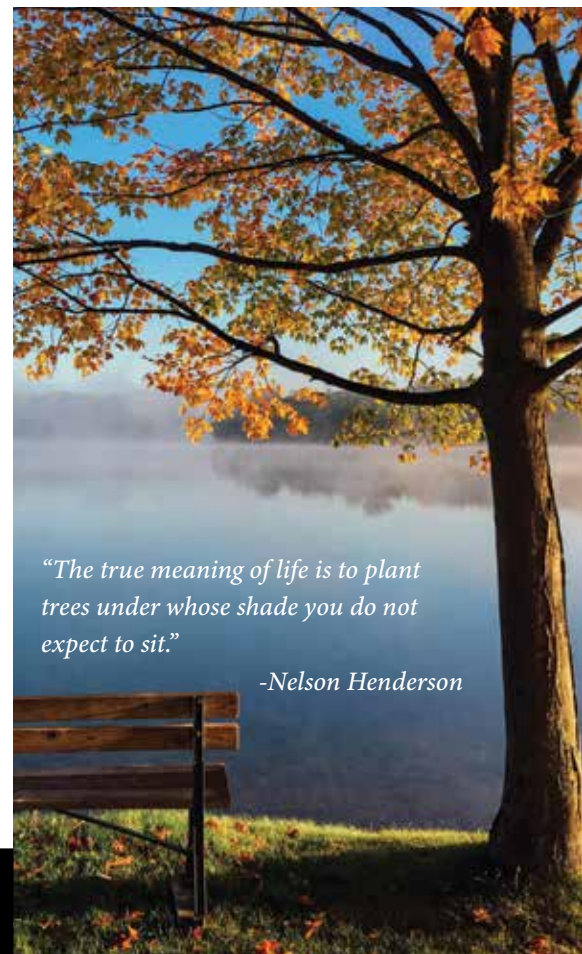
An endowment is a type of donation where the principal amount is invested so that a nonprofit organization can benefit from the income on a long-term basis. If structured correctly, endowments have the ability to make organizations more sustainable, better able to plan, and to enable them to move away from survival mode to a steady revenue source.

Beneficiary Designations

A beneficiary designation gift is a simple and affordable way to make a gift to support Catholic Charities. After a person's death, retirement accounts are exposed as income, and in some cases estate taxes. The best way to avoid these taxes on your retirement plan is to give those assets to a charity. You can designate us as a beneficiary of a retirement, investment or bank account or your life insurance policy. By designating Catholic Charities as your beneficiary, you will ensure 100% of the value of your account benefits those we serve.

IRA Distribution

Did you know you can make a tax free contribution to Catholic Charities directly from your IRA? Annual withdrawals from traditional retirement accounts are required after age 70 1/2, and the penalty for skipping a required minimum distribution is 50% of the amount that should have been withdrawn. However, if you are in the fortunate position of not needing your distribution for living expenses and are charitably inclined, you can avoid income tax on your required withdrawal by donating your money directly to a qualifying charity.



"The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit."

-Nelson Henderson

To learn more about our services visit www.ccsge.org

Our Beloved Melissa

"The Sandwich Lady"

Melissa Atkins worked for Catholic Charities since 2007. She is officially retired May 30th, and boy oh boy is she missed!

Melissa made all the sandwiches for Bread of Life and 2 other sandwich programs Monday – Friday every week for over 10 years. That's a total of 1600-1800 sandwiches a week!

Over the years, thousands of volunteers have started their day at Catholic Charities' North End Soup Kitchen by helping her bag up snacks, sandwiches, and other goodies. Melissa rarely took a day off and was the epitome of the perfect employee.

John Manse, our Director of Community Services will miss her the most, "Melissa is missed by everyone here especially me. She became my second mother and always asked me for advise on many issues from getting mail scams to how to fix an appliance. All the staff loved her and were quick to pitch in to help Melissa with any help she needs."

The Staff and Volunteers planned a small celebration for Melissa on her last day of work. They all pitched in to get her gifts, cards, and flowers.



On behalf of everyone at Catholic Charities we would like to thank Melissa for her hard work and dedication. Enjoy your retirement!

amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Another way to support
Catholic Charities!

When you shop at smile.amazon.com

- ✓ Same prices and selection
- ✓ No cost to you
- ✓ Use your current Amazon account OR create a free account with an email and password
- ✓ AmazonSmile eligible purchases will be noted on the product detail page

To sign up:

- ✓ Go to www.smile.amazon.com
- ✓ Enter your amazon username & password
- ✓ Search for Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties
- ✓ Select Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties
- ✓ Shop amazon.smile to donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases



GRIEF & LOSS Support Group

At Catholic Charities, we understand grief and loss are difficult. We hope you will find healing, support, hope, strength, and understanding interacting with others who have had similar experiences.

Open to Everyone
Thursdays
5 PM - 6 PM
FREE

Catholic Charities
901 Chippewa Street

Contact Linda Itson to reserve your spot
810.232.9950 ext. 250





Catholic Charities
901 Chippewa Street
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Be the difference
this Christmas to
a family in need.



There are two
ways you can
make Christmas
special!

HOLIDAY GIVING SEASON

at Catholic Charities North End Soup Kitchen (NESK)!

ADOPT A CHILD OR FAMILY

Make sure no child wakes up on Christmas morning without something under the tree! Register to be matched with a family, then bring wrapped gifts to the North End Soup Kitchen December 14-16, 9am-2pm

NESK CHRISTMAS DINNER

Everyone who comes to Christmas Dinner at receives a gift! Your donation of toys for children of all ages and towels or socks for adults will help us make sure everyone receives a gift for Christmas!

To register to adopt a child or for more information, call or email John Manse at 810.785.6911 or jmanse@ccsgc.org