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The

Hopeliner

Summer/Fall 2014

A Publication of Catholic Charities

email: givehope@ccsgc.org

A Big Thank You to Our Summer Volunteers!

July is always an action-packed month here at Catholic Charities. Many youth groups, not only from the Flint area, but from around the country, come to dedicate part of their summer to helping those in need. More than 200 students spent countless hours doing work for our agency and the clients we serve. Without these fantastic young people, many of these tasks and repairs would have gone undone. These amazing volunteers scrubbed walls and floors, painted, pulled weeds, prepared meals, made laundry soap, distributed clothing, and even poured a sidewalk! We are so thankful for their hard work. Needless to say, they are welcome back anytime!



St. Mary, Ann Arbor

Catholic Heart Work Camp

Mission Flint

Holy Cross, Deerfield IL

Holy Family, Grand Blanc

St. Thomas Moore Academy,
Burton



Thank you for your service!



Pub Parties for the Hungry



Looking for program information, upcoming events, and ways to get involved? Check out our updated website!



www.ccsgc.org

Local businesses are coming together for those in need. Through October 25, local bars, pubs and restaurants are enjoying some friendly competition, while raising much needed funds for Catholic Charities three Soup Kitchens and three Sack Lunch Programs. Each business is hosting its own fundraising event, vying to see who can collect the most donations. The winning locations will be announced at the annual Harvest Hoe-down for the Hungry on October 25.

"I think the competition will be fierce, but in the end, the real winner is our Soup Kitchens," commented Jon Manse, Director of Community Services.

You can help those in need by coming out to support the Pub Parties for the Hungry events. Punch cards can be picked up at any of the participating locations. Patrons who have their card punched at ten pub party events, can bring it to the Harvest Hoe-down for the Hungry to be entered into a drawing. The **grand prize, provided by FOX 103.9**, is tickets for two at the **Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio**; a **four-night hotel stay**; dinner at the **Hard Rock Café**; and an **Excursion Cruise**. Second prize is a **50" Flat Screen HD TV**, and third prize is an **outdoor storage container and solar lights**. The punch card holder must be present to win and must show valid ID to claim a prize. Employees of Catholic Charities and their families are not eligible to win.

The Pub Parties for the Hungry event will wrap up at the third annual Harvest Hoe-down for the Hungry, at Wild Spurs, 5270 Perry Rd., at the Jewel of Grand Blanc, Saturday, October 25. From 6:00 p.m. to midnight, guests will enjoy great music, dancing, food and drink specials, as well as prizes and a silent auction. Dance the night away, or just tap your toes to music from **DJ Dan of WKCQ**, and the country band **Wildfire**. Georgeann Ricketts of Independence Promotions, is generously organizing this third annual event.

For a complete listing of Pub Party events, visit our Facebook page, Catholic Charities Flint and Owosso.

From the Desk of **Our President**

Each year, Catholic Charities serves thousands of people in need. This is possible only through continued support from our friends in Shiawassee and Genesee Counties. In the past few years, several individuals and groups have come forward to hold fundraisers to benefit our programs. From Dave Burton's World Class Bar-B-Que Benefit, to Georgeann Rickett's Harvest Hoe-down for the Hungry, and even children with lemonade stands and pop can drives, concerned individuals are stepping up to help those in need. I am amazed by the creativity and caring our community demonstrates.

Pope Francis said, "Among our tasks as witnesses to the love of Christ is that of giving a voice to the cry of the poor." Through your support, you answer the cry of the poor. I encourage you to explore ways you can personally help those in need. Maybe you could hold a garage sale, a neighborhood food or clothing drive, or a even benefit dinner. Possibly your talents lie in quilting blankets, or crocheting hats and mittens for the homeless. Or, maybe you can pray daily for our clients and staff. Whatever your contribution, you help to touch the lives of those in need. Please join us in our mission to **Provide Help** and **Create Hope**, changing one life at a time.



Vicky L. Schultz
President/CEO

World Class Bar-B-Que is Giving Back!

September 4 through 7, World Class B-B-Que will host its third annual, four-day benefit for Catholic Charities' North End, Holy Angels and South Flint Soup Kitchens! Located on north Saginaw Street at Pierson Road, the BBQ will be open each day from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Last year, Dave Burton, owner of World Class B-B-Que, and his staff, raised more than \$20,000 to help those in need. Dave and his BBQ crew can also be found volunteering throughout the year at the North End Soup Kitchen, preparing delicious meals for the hungry.



Dave Burton, owner of World Class B-B-Que, stands with Vicky Schultz, President/CEO of Catholic Charities.

Thanks in part to community support and fundraisers like this, Catholic Charities was able to provide more than 157,000 meals last year. If you would like to hold your own benefit or food drive for Catholic Charities, give us a call.

What is Your Legacy?

Have you thought about how you will touch the lives that come after you?

Call us today for a brochure on Legacy Giving opportunities, or talk to your financial advisor about how to leave a lasting gift to Catholic Charities in your will or trust. Please join us to provide for those most in need.



Parenting Is No Easy Job!

Take the first step toward improving your relationship with your child. Free parenting classes are forming now. Call today to register! **810-232-9950 Flint • 989-723-8239 Owosso**

Pregnant?



Are you facing an unplanned pregnancy? You're not alone.

There is Help for today and Hope for tomorrow, both for you and your baby. Call Katie today. 810-701-5949



Vicky Schultz, President/CEO with Kishore Jayabalan.

It Really is a Small World

Can you believe that our CEO, Vicky Schultz, met a Powers grad in Grand Rapids while attending the Acton University Annual Convention? The event drew attendees from 67 countries, including Kishore Jayabalan (Powers Class of '88), who is the Director of the Acton Institute in Rome, Italy. Vicky was excited to learn that Kishore still has family and close friends here in Genesee County. Vicky, and Sue Lewis, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of Jackson, Lenawee and Hillsdale Counties, are hoping to persuade him to come back from Rome to conduct a training here in Flint!

Work Ready Room Is Up and Running

Catholic Charities' new Work Ready Room provides interview and work apparel, along with resource information, for individuals who are job hunting. Persons in need of these services should get a referral from a partnering organization, and call for an appointment. Check our website, www.ccsgc.org, for a list of program partners.

You can help! Donate your clean, gently used work boots, collared shirts, dress pants, khakis, scrubs, and other work appropriate attire, to help those in need join workforce. Items are accepted at the Community Closet in the Center for Hope, or in the Christian Science Reading Room, in the Mott Building, in Downtown Flint. Contact Amy for more information, 810-232-9950 x143, or astart@ccsgc.org.



Faces of Hope



For Aresha, working at Catholic Charities' Community Closet is a way to give back a portion of everything the agency has given her over the past several months.

The 29-year-old single mother began working three days a week at the Holy Angels Community Closet in August 2013. It is the first time since the birth of her 3½-year-old daughter, Simmora, that she has been able to work outside the home.

Aresha was attending Baker College about four years ago when she found out she was pregnant and had to drop out of school. When her daughter was born prematurely, at only 1 pound, 13 ounces, Aresha's priorities suddenly shifted from pursuing an education to taking care of her daughter, who has several chronic health conditions. During the first few months of her life, Aresha had to take her daughter to the hospital more than 30 times.

Life still has its struggles, but things are looking up for Aresha. Simmora is attending a special needs school in Flint, and Aresha, once again, is able to focus on some of her longer-term goals. By working at Catholic

Charities three days a week, she receives cash assistance and food stamps through a Department of Human Services program.

And like the clients she serves, when Aresha needs clothing, personal, or household items, she is able to find what she needs at the Community Closet. Since she started working at Catholic Charities, Aresha has moved into her own home, and now is working toward becoming a CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant). Someday, she hopes to be a Registered Nurse.

Working at the Community Closet has "brought me hope," Aresha shares. "Since I started working here, I've been truly blessed. I look forward to coming here. It's a positive atmosphere."

Aresha also loves helping others, and she tries to pass on more than donated items to the people she serves at Catholic Charities.

"When clients come up here, I try to make them smile," she said. "That's what I love to do - I love to help people."

If anyone out there is struggling, Aresha has some advice: take advantage of the programs offered at Catholic Charities.

"And no matter what, don't let anybody steal your faith or hope," she said. "Remember, all you have to do to make it through the day is pray."

Easy Lasagna Bake

Meals by Manse



Jon Manse has managed our meal programs for more than 18 years. Check out this genuine North End Soup Kitchen Recipe that you can try at home!

The new school year is right around the corner. This twist on traditional lasagna makes a tasty and quick dinner on a busy school night.



Ingredients:

- 2 jars marinara sauce (your favorite)
- 3 -13-oz. packages frozen ravioli
- 8 oz shredded mozzarella cheese (or more if you are a cheese lover!)
- 1 package of frozen, chopped spinach, thawed and drained well
- ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese topping

Directions:

In a 9"x13" baking pan, spread a thin layer of sauce. Place ravioli in a single layer, then add layers of spinach, marinara, and mozzarella. Repeat layers. Top with Parmesan cheese. Cover pan with foil.

Bake at 375° for 30-35 minutes. Bake uncovered for 15 more minutes, or until cheese is bubbly and browned, and the ravioli is heated through.

You can help us make this meal for those in need by donating any of the above ingredients to Catholic Charities Soup Kitchens. Non-perishable food items are also accepted at the Community Closet and Food Pantry in Owosso, or you can use the enclosed envelope to make a gift.



Catholic Charities of Shiawassee & Genesee Counties

The Most Reverend Earl Boyea
Fifth Bishop of Lansing

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