



The

# Hopeliner

Spring 2018

A PUBLICATION OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES



## Holy Moley

COMPASSION THAT TASTE GOOD!

**H**ilda McShane, Bay City native, moved to Flint in 1982. She has worked with nonprofits for many years and was looking for a way to give back to the community when she was laid off from her position as a marketing specialist at the Genesee County Health Department last September. Getting laid off would squelch many people's altruistic dreams of helping others, but McShane took it as a sign that it was time to do something different. It had always been her dream to do something special with her family's enchilada sauce

recipe, and perhaps getting laid off was the perfect time to make that dream a reality. McShane's parents were migrant workers from Texas, and she grew up eating traditional, home-cooked Mexican food. They had a strong sense of community, as do many migrant families, and McShane says for as long as she can remember, her family was always fundraising for a good cause. Her mother was a founding member of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Bay City, and she believed good food and community went hand-in-hand.

Not one to sit around for long, she approached Vicky L. Schultz, President/CEO at Catholic Charities in Flint with a unique idea—one that would not only provide a fundraising opportunity, but a platform to test her sauce with the public. Her idea was to sell cheese enchiladas smothered in her delicious sauce, with a side of homemade beans and rice, every Friday during Lent. If you are getting hungry, you might have missed out, because McShane's sauce, "Holy Moley" is divine! Although she intended for all proceeds to go to Catholic Charities, the project is more than just a fundraiser. She created surveys and did sampling sessions to use the fundraiser as a testing ground for creating a Catholic Charities' Holy Moley signature enchilada sauce.

# Catholic Charities of Shiawassee & Genesee Counties

The Most Reverend Earl Boyea  
Fifth Bishop of Lansing

## Board of Directors 2017-2018

Ed Benning, *Chair*  
Karen Church, *Vice Chair*  
John Zintsmaster, *Immediate Past Chair*  
Secretary/Treasurer *Co Chairs:*  
Mark Brock  
Jeff Sabolish

Renae Banks-Rowser  
Fr. Thomas Firestone  
Lakeisha Glover  
Ethel Hooker  
Sue Kelly  
Tim Lamb

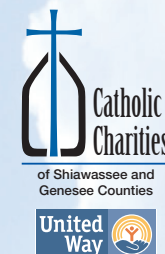
Fr. Robert McGraw  
Robert Sibilsky  
George Wilson  
Deacon Jim Kasprzak, *Ex-Officio Director, Catholic Charities Diocese of Lansing*

## Executive Staff

Vicky L. Schultz  
*President/CEO*  
Janis Cameron  
*Director of Fund Development and Marketing*  
Joan Clarke  
*Director of Development*  
John K. Manse  
*Director of Community Services*  
Melissa Mehalko  
*Director of QA and HR*  
John Schafer  
*Controller*  
James Schepper  
*Director of Counseling Services*  
Mary Stevenson  
*Director, Center for Hope*

## CONTACT US

In Genesee County:  
**Main Office**  
901 Chippewa St.  
Flint, MI 48503  
810-232-9950  
In Shiawassee County:  
1480 N. M-52 • Suite 1  
Owosso, MI 48867  
989-723-8239



**Community Closet**  
810-265-7025  
**Meal Programs**  
810-785-6911  
**Foster Care and Adoption**  
810-232-3418  
www.CCSGC.org  
email: givehope@ccsgc.org

**Catholic Charities Flint and Owosso**  
**@CCFlintOwosso**  
**Catholic Charities Flint Owosso**

## HOLY MOLEY CONTINUED



"I believe that nonprofits should be self-sustaining," says McShane. "So why stop at a fundraiser? My dream is to turn my sauce into a viable product in which a portion of the sales goes back to Catholic Charities, similar to how the Newman's Own Foundation sells salad dressings."

But the potential for this project didn't stop there. As with most good ideas, once they are out of the proverbial gate, they tend to take on lives of their own. To make the fundraiser happen, McShane had to find a reliable source of chili anchoes (dried poblano peppers, the key ingredient in her sauce), and discovered that there is not one in Michigan. She approached Ben Phillips from the MSU Cooperative Extension in Lapeer to get confirmation that Michigan indeed does not produce chili anchoes.

Phillips immediately saw the potential for the project and contacted John Leaman of Green Applebarn in Freeland. Leaman had recently purchased a commercial dehydrator and was looking for new products to dry. After doing some experimental dehydrating, Leaman provided samples of the chili anchoes to Chefs Mark Handy and Matthew Cooper of Mott Community College's culinary department.

By January, McShane was knee-deep in chili anchoes and the community was rallying to be part of the project. Judge Geoffrey Neithercut from Genesee County's 7th Judicial Circuit Court and his team, all members of the Genesee County Bar Association, spent a Saturday processing the chilies.

The dried poblano peppers have a concentrated flavor, and the drying process slightly sweetens the pepper. The dried

poblanos (chili anchoes) are then cleaned and the seeds and stems are removed. The chili anchoes are then rehydrated and milled into a puree, creating the base for the sauce. "It was so great to have Judge Neithercut and his team! They cleaned and processed more peppers in a few hours than I could have done myself in a week!" says McShane.

Even a group of seniors from Powers Catholic High School got in on the action! As part of their senior year "Capstone Project," students are given an opportunity to put the Catholic Social Teaching Principles into real-world action. The focus of the Capstone Project is to remind students that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person. It also emphasizes that we are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic and ideological differences. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world and our love for all people demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict.

The Powers group was required to do volunteer hours within the community and, when they heard about Holy Moley, they jumped at the opportunity to participate. When asked why they chose this project over those of several other local charities, they said that it was because of the diversity of services offered at Catholic Charities. They loved the idea of getting in the kitchen to make sauce, and that the proceeds are used to help the most disadvantaged people in Flint.

Grainne Caughey is Vice President for the National Honor Society at Powers Catholic High School. She wants to be a pediatrician, but also dreams of taking trips to South America or other disadvantaged parts of the world to offer help. "It breaks my heart to see and hear about kids who don't even have shoes on their feet, much less all of the other things that we take for granted here," said Caughey.

Her classmate Alise Haddad agreed, and was also very passionate about the project. "I was very excited about Holy Moley because it is a great way to get us involved in the community. I did some volunteering last summer and realized that that's what life is—helping people. I get my happiness from seeing the smile on people's faces."

Young people can bring a lot of hope to situations because they haven't been hardened by life, and while they might not be as wise as their elders, they have something to say. When they are given an opportunity to see how much they take for granted and how lucky they are, they can really make a difference to society.

At the conclusion of the fundraiser, McShane considered it a complete success. People loved the sauce; it raised additional funds for Catholic Charities, and her dream of creating a sauce born out of compassion is well underway. But she has more than a secret recipe that she holds close to her heart.

She has learned one of the secrets of life: when we use our God-given talents to do good in the world, amazing things can happen. "In a recent homily, my parish priest, Father Anthony from St. Pius X Church, reminded me of the parable Matthew 25: 14-30. It is one of my favorite parables because it is a constant reminder to me that my blessings need to be used for a greater purpose," says McShane about the Parable of the Talents. "Well done, good and faithful servant," is the Master's reward.

What started as an idea for a fundraiser to help the people of Flint has become much, much more. McShane, creating an enchilada sauce and a new poblano pepper product, will eventually bring two new industries, and human compassion activity, to the Mid-Michigan area!



[LEFT PAGE] TOP PHOTO - Powers Catholic High School Students BOTTOM PHOTO Judge Neithercut  
[THIS PAGE] TOP PHOTO John Leaman and Ben Phillips BOTTOM PHOTO Members of the Genesee County Bar Association



Helping Flint Residents Through Water Recovery Efforts

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality announced Friday, April 6, it was ending the free water program after testing showed Flint's water quality has been below federal action levels for lead for two years. According to the State, current testing puts the 90th percentile at 4 parts per billion of lead, which is below the federal action level of 15 parts per billion.



It would seem that the residents of Flint are not so confident in the safety of Flint's water, as the news sent people rushing to distribution sites to stock up on water before the state-funded supply ran out. Although there has been progress made, as of January this year, Mayor Karen Weaver confirmed that there were still 12,000 pipe lines to be replaced over the next 2 years.

While the State might be stopping free water distribution, Catholic Charities intends to keep its two water filling stations open to the public indefinitely. "We encourage individuals in need of water to come by our Center for Hope or North End Soup Kitchen to get the water they need," says Vicky Schultz, CEO of Catholic Charities. "Our Bluewater filtered water kiosks are helping us bring peace of mind to families who still have concerns about the safety of their water."

Donated by Bluewater, a Swedish based company, approximately a year ago, both sites are home to reverse osmosis filtered water kiosks, where those in need can bring their own containers and fill up to five gallons per day.

## NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN

Main Entrance  
735 E. Stewart Avenue • Flint, MI 48505  
Monday-Friday 11:30am – 5:00pm

## CENTER FOR HOPE

Donation Entrance  
812 Root Street • Flint, MI 48503  
Monday -Friday 9:00am – 4:00pm

The City of Flint is still supplying free faucet filters and replacement cartridges, and water testing kits are available until water service line replacement in Flint is complete. Residents can call Community Outreach Resident Education at 810-238- 6700 to arrange for filter installation and inspection. Filter replacement cartridges and water testing kits are also available at Flint City Hall.

As you can imagine, supplying clean water to the residents of Flint has caused an increase in our water bill. If you would like to donate to this ongoing recovery please contact Mary Stevenson 810.232.9950 ext. 712



# Manuel Woods PROOF OF REDEMPTION

There comes a point in everyone's life when we have a 'Come to Jesus' moment. A moment of epiphany, enlightenment, and intuition regarding the truth of the situation. For many of us it comes in the form of a midlife crisis when we evaluate all the choices we have made and realize that if we truly want to live the life we were meant for...some changes must be made.

For Manuel Woods that moment came with the sound of a gavel dropping and the voice of a judge saying, "Manuel Woods, I sentence you to 180 to 300 months in prison." It was a cold day in January, 2003 and he was only twenty-five.

Woods first walked through the doors of Catholic Charities in Flint on February 8, 2018. He was referred to the agency by the State of Michigan Offender Success Program whose mission is to connect post incarcerated individuals with the services, supervision, and opportunities they need. The goal is to provide every offender released from prison with the tools to succeed in the community and the opportunity to utilize those tools to be productive, self-sufficient citizens. Many of the parolees who come to Catholic Charities initially come seeking food, clothing and personal needs items.

But Catholic Charities has much more in mind than just supplying basic needs to this group

of individuals who are at risk of reoffending if they don't get the help they need. Dennis Weinand, Executive Director, brought his mission of empowering citizens with felonies through coaching, education, and employment to Catholic Charities in 2015. Re-Connections was created to assist post incarcerated individuals transition back into their families and communities.

The program instills leadership and character building through life coaching and work-related activities within the community. Individuals are provided with a Life Coach to help guide them on their journey to reconnect in their community in a healthy and productive way. The agency then helps participants obtain employment skills for long-term success in their lives.

"Genesee County has about 700 parolees returning home every year," says Weinand. "To put this in perspective, the average movie theatre holds 250 people. When they return, they are all hoping to make the best of their new-found freedom; however, against staggering odds, and without support, many will not succeed. They will become victims of circumstance. My mission is to make sure that they are provided the support they need to turn things around and not let their past mistakes define the rest of their lives."

Wood's story isn't so different from many

growing up on the north end of Flint in the 80's and 90's. One of 21 siblings, his father -in and out of prison - was absent through most of Woods' childhood. When he returned, Woods was 19. "The first thing my father taught me, (while handing me a gun), was '... you need to learn how to lie. You're not going to be able to survive in this neighborhood without being able to lie.' The second thing he told me was, 'do NOT get yourself killed, because I don't want to see the look on your mammy's face when I have to tell her you're dead.' Unfortunately, he was right about the neighborhood, either you become hard or you die on Edmund and Saginaw Street. That started the callus building inside me."

In 2000 Woods' grandfather died. At twenty, the only responsible male figure in his life was gone and everything started to spiral downward quickly. Woods teared up as he recalled, "When my grandfather died in my arms, I started drinkin' and druggin' real heavy, which I had never done before. I became more violent and more arrogant until it apexed into a situation that was out of control."

Fueled by drugs and anger Woods found himself becoming more and more immersed in a world that most of us only see in the movies. "I was shot at seven times in 1999 and five times in 2000, twice at point blank range. All I could do was cover my face and protect my core to avoid a fatal shot. It's only by the grace of God I was never struck by a bullet. That's the only way I can explain it. I can clearly mark several times in my life where God decided I was not going to die like that, there was something different in store for me. I can go back and trace every time God was shielding me from my own ignorance, my own arrogance and just from circumstances of growing up in Flint on the north side."

In 2003, in the aftermath of almost losing her son to the spray of yet another semi-automatic rifle, his mother Rose said a desperate prayer, "Please God, before my son's blood is spilled on the streets of Flint, put him in prison." Rose knew that at least in prison he would be safe and in an ironic way, he would have opportunities that he would never get if he stayed on the North End. Three days later he was arrested. She chuckled bittersweetly as she admitted her prayer should have been more specific about the amount of time he would be sent away for.

Over fifteen years later Woods and his mother make an emotional trip back to the neighborhood where it all started. Neither his childhood home nor his grandfather's house have survived the blight that consumed North Flint. After his grandfather's death his house was sold and eventually demolished. Sadly, his childhood home was targeted by arsons and

burned to the ground in 2013. Rose recalls that the fire burned so hot that it even melted the bars on the windows that had kept her safe for decades.

Once a thriving neighborhood, today most of the street is void of any evidence there used to be a community there. One by one houses were abandoned and eventually bulldozed leaving vacant lots for nature to reclaim. The symbolic significance of this visit is not lost on Woods as he stands where his kitchen once stood with the ghosts of friends and neighbors still vivid in his mind's eye. He is no longer the angry young man that walked these streets. Just as time has evaporated the bricks and mortar he once called home, so has it worked its magic on his heart, and the life he lived back then is nothing but a memory.



Manuel Woods [RIGHT] with his mom Rose

**"Please God, before my son's blood is spilled on the streets of Flint, put him in prison."**

the trial, Genesee County Circuit Court Judge Archie Hayman asked Woods if there was anything he would like to say before he received his sentence. Without hesitation Woods said, "I am going to use every day that you have sentenced me to make myself better." Judge Hayman nodded, "I believe you will Mr. Woods."

Fifteen years later Woods has kept that vow. Today you would never know that he was capable of the crimes he went to prison for. He is the epitome of courtesy and respect. When he walked out of prison on January 23, 2018, he hit the ground running and hasn't looked back. He enrolled himself in the spring Re-Connections program at Catholic Charities, which he successfully completed on April 27, 2018.

"Once I went to prison I realized I needed to find myself again- and I was honest about it. I was honest about the progression of deviance- in all spheres that I became deviant- and I started to utilize the help that the State of Michigan Department of Corrections has to offer. I sought out every cognitive behavioral therapy class that I could find. I reframed the way I thought and I restructured the way I live," said Woods.

Already proficient in Japanese and Arabic, Woods has a talent for languages, and in May 2018 he will start full time at Mott Community College to obtain his Associates Degree in Spanish, which he hopes to transfer toward a Bachelors degree. He is also a very talented artist and has been busy channeling his creative energy into building his portfolio in hopes of selling his artwork to help pay for his education. While he was in prison, he drew his first color portrait with a set of Crayola colored



Like many growing up in North Flint over the last few decades, it would be easy for Woods to blame his situation on the environment he was raised in, however he doesn't see it that way. "I think a lot of criminals create themselves...giving in to the hopelessness around them- instead of becoming problem identifiers and then problem solvers, which is what I have learned to do now. I don't give in to hopelessness now. Sex, drugs and rock n' roll cost me 15 years and 2 days of my life. It's just a bad way to live and now that I have learned what this society really is, what it expects of us and how much better it works when everyone does their part- inside of the law- I love what society is. You CAN win."

Woods remembers the day of his sentencing like it was yesterday. In the official transcripts of

Manuel Woods



pencils and was paid \$16 for it. "Over time I just kept at it- it developed as I developed. Considering it was a prison economy I made a lot of money which I was able to use to buy better materials to work with," said Woods. Eventually, as he became known as the artist in residence, he found himself teaching other inmates how to draw.

Since its inception the program has gone from strength to strength; however, in order for it to grow to meet the needs of the community, there are challenges to overcome, "We are always looking for men of any age to be Life Coaches for six months after the guys graduate," says Weinand, "There is no special training needed, just a desire to serve men in need and the love of Christ in their heart. It is vital that our guys have someone they can look to as a mentor while they transition back to their communities. For many of our guys, just knowing that someone is there for them and cares about their success makes all the difference."

Woods has even become a dedicated volunteer at Catholic Charities' Center for Hope, lending a hand in the Community Closet and the Center for Hope Soup Kitchen. He may have finished the Re-Connections program but he has no intentions of leaving Catholic Charities. "Re-Connections has armed me with viable workforce and life skills which will affect all areas of my life going forward. But perhaps just as important, the program has placed me among a new positive circle of friends who genuinely have my best interest in mind and at heart. I am extremely grateful to God for all the blessings in my life, big and small. I've done more harm than good so far and it's time to put my best foot forward and keep it forward," says Woods.

If you have questions about becoming a Life Coach or own a business and would be willing to give a Re-Connections graduate an opportunity for employment, please contact Dennis Weinand on 248.207.8125



Vicky Schultz, Jim Hall, Ed Benning, Virginia Landaal and Robert Sibilsky

days, I was involved in some type of nonprofit work to assist those in need. I planned that when I retired, I would approach Catholic Charities to see if I could be of assistance. One of my favorite quotes from Luke 12:48 states: 'To those whom much has been given, much is expected.' I believe this whole-heartedly.

Growing up, I was influenced by my parents, grandparents, and numerous mentors. My Catholic school education and environment also played a large part in my desire to give back. My training in scouting, experience in the Leadership Flint program, and my current membership in the Flint Rotary Club all had a bearing on why I believe in giving back to the underserved in our community. I am proud to say that I take my mission to give back very seriously and it drives my every action. "

In 2012, Sibilsky was invited to join the Board at Catholic Charities, which had recently acquired the old St. Michael's Catholic School. President and CEO Vicky Schultz was in the process of figuring out how to make her dream a reality by creating a center that would become a comprehensive solution to homelessness. Sibilsky smiles as he recalls, "At my first meeting they announced the acquisition of St. Michael's School. Dr. Gary Lipe, the Board Chair at the time asked, 'Has anyone been involved in any fundraising?' I raised my hand and before I could blink, I was the Capital Campaign Chair for the Center for Hope. I had no idea what I was getting myself into, but I was up for the challenge."

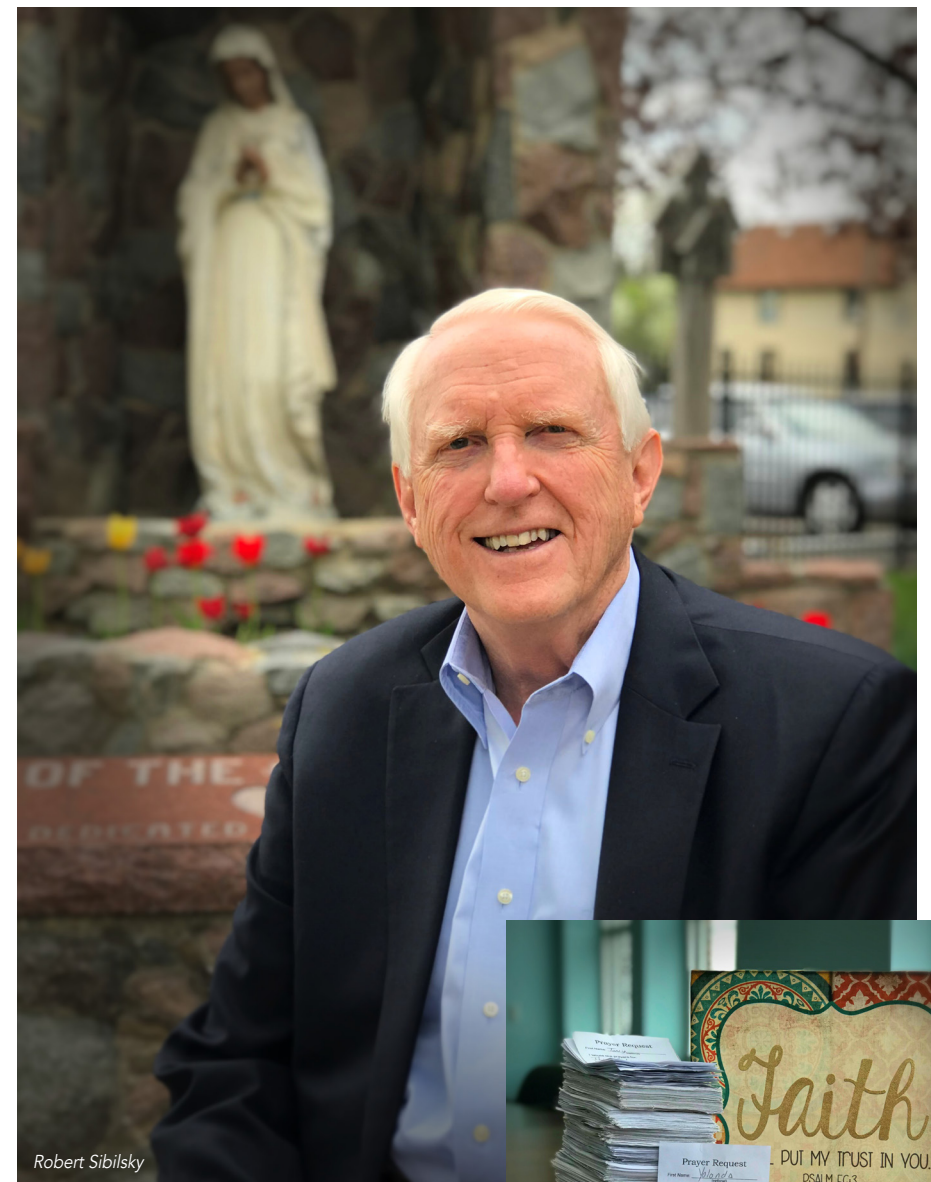
If Sibilsky was looking for a challenge, he was not disappointed. When the Center

for Restoring Hope Capital Campaign began, he started the arduous task of researching the other campaigns that were ongoing within the region. What he found was daunting. Flint's economy had been bleak for decades and the nation was still recovering from the 2008 recession. Now the community was collectively trying to raise between \$50-60 million to fund various projects throughout Genesee County. "The only thing we could do was put blinders on. We couldn't worry about what everyone else was doing, we just had to worry about what we were doing and we had to go out and make it happen. So we did," said Sibilsky.

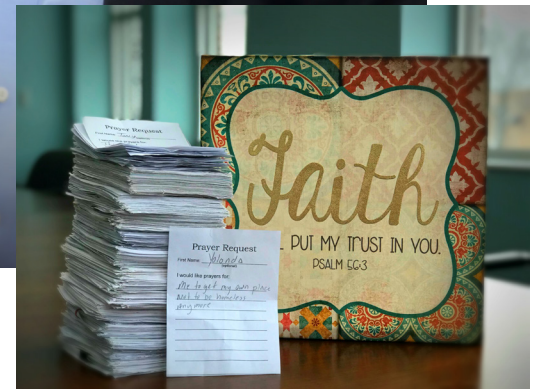
Sibilsky admits that there might have been a higher power helping out during the campaign. "We started every meeting with a prayer that the Holy Spirit would help make the campaign successful and give us the strength to continue." The committee also started collecting prayer requests from clients. The members would read them at the start of each meeting. "If we felt discouraged and needed to remember what we were doing it all for, those prayer requests were mind blowing. The people of this city need our help. People have lost jobs, some lost everything they had, through no fault of their own. If my commitment to the campaign ever wavered, it was rekindled every time we read those prayers."

Vicky Schultz, President/CEO tells everyone: "Bob made it happen. His mantra throughout the campaign was compassion, collaboration and community. It was extremely important to him that everything they did during the campaign start from a place of compassion, while working together to build a stronger community." To that end Sibilsky brought in 60-70 community leaders during the campaign to share with them the vision of Catholic Charities and gather their feedback regarding the project.

It took much longer than expected, but eventually the campaign raised the \$6.2 million required to make the Center for Hope a reality. Sibilsky applauds everyone who is working to turn the city of Flint around. "I remember Flint in its heyday. As an alumnus of St. Matthew's Catholic School, I still get chills when I walk into the Community Closet (the old gymnasium of St. Michael's) remembering the basketball games I played here. Flint is a huge part of my heart and my history. This was an opportunity for me to be involved with a project that was doing something pos-



Robert Sibilsky



itive for the city. In the process of doing that, we are helping a lot of people."

Sibilsky explains that Catholic Charities is trying to create the crown jewel on the north end of Flint. "I do not accept that the northern part of our community should be abandoned, and I don't think anyone else should be willing to accept that either. Just look at what is happening north of here with Smith Village, all positive movements in the right direction and we want to be a part of it."

Now that Catholic Charities has the facility it needs to be a comprehensive solution to homelessness and the capacity to meet the needs of the community, they intend to continue to listen to their clients' prayers and expand services where they see a need. They have also turned their attention to the immediate surroundings. "We want people to feel positive and proud of the north end of Flint. Our next step in creating the

Catholic Charities campus is to work with the community to clear some of the derelict houses adjacent to us and perhaps put in some green spaces for people to enjoy," says Sibilsky.

Robert T. Sibilsky is retired President of Webcore Packaging Inc in Flint. His community affiliations have included Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties (Board Member and Capital Campaign Chair), Flint & Genesee County Chamber of Commerce (Board of Directors), United Way of Genesee County Campaign (Fundraiser), Community Resolution Center (Board of Directors), Genesee County Substance Abuse Commission (Board of Directors and Board Chair), Flint Golf Club (Board of Directors), Citizens Bank (Community Board of Directors) and the Flint Rotary Club (Member).

# COMPASSION COLLABORATION COMMUNITY

**R**obert Sibilsky first encountered Catholic Charities in 2001 when a young lady came to his office and asked him if he was willing to join the fundraising efforts for the refurbishment of the Sheridan Center, now the main administrative building at Catholic Charities in Flint. A Flint resident his entire life, he knew where the community had been and what it had gone through. He was very passionate about doing what he could to be a part of the regeneration of the city. He appreciated the work of Catholic Charities from afar, but this project gave him an opportunity to develop a personal relationship with the agency.

Since the agency opened its doors in 1941, Catholic Charities has always looked for new opportunities to better serve the community. By the start of the 21st century, the Sheridan Center needed renovations to make office space for counseling, substance use treatment, prevention/education and support groups, as well as foster care visitation rooms. During this first encounter with the agency, Sibilsky became more impassioned with the mission of the agency and the people he met who left a huge impression on him. He knew his journey with Catholic Charities had just begun.

When asked why he gives back so passionately, Sibilsky says, "It's not hard to say why I am involved in Catholic Charities. During most of my working

# 2016/2017 Annual Report



Providing Help . . . Creating Hope.



## A Message of Hope and Healing

Dear Friends,

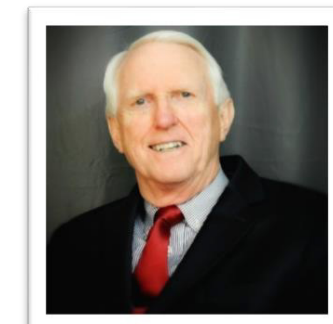
It is our pleasure to provide the following statistical analysis to showcase our accomplishments and say, "Thank you so very much!" to our leadership, our donors, our volunteers and staff, for all the support you have shown us this past fiscal year. You shared your time, talent, and treasure so that we can serve those in our region in need of comfort, those in need of healing, and those in need of hope. For this we are sincerely grateful.

The most notable story of FY 2016/2017 is the kick-off of construction and renovations for the Sister Claudia Burke Center for Hope (formerly the St. Michael's School) in January 2017. Each day it was exciting to watch the progress and know that the day would come when the Center for Hope would become a reality for our community.

It is our great honor and privilege to partner with you in serving those in need,



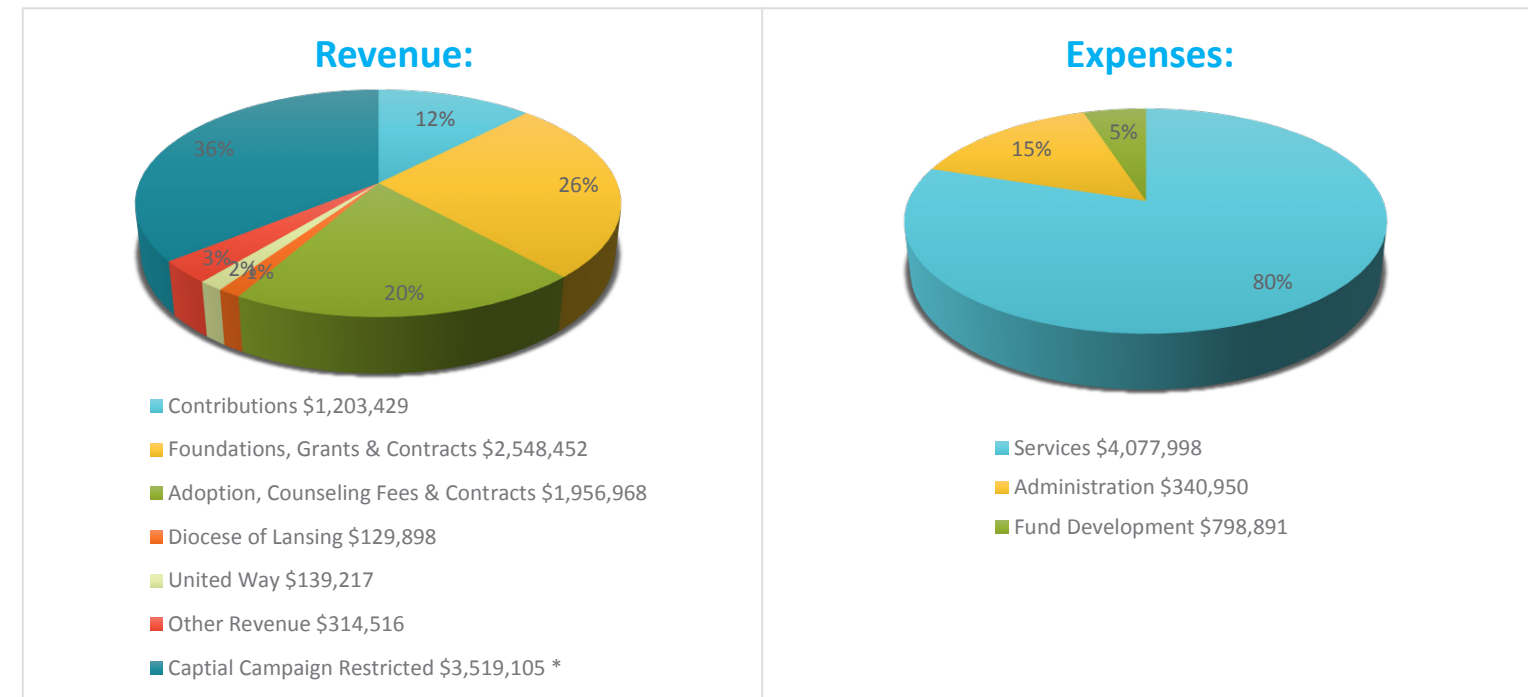
*John Zintsmaster*  
John Zintsmaster  
2016/2017 Board Chair



*Robert T. Sibilsky*  
Robert Sibilsky  
Restoring Hope  
Campaign Chair



*Vicky Schultz*  
Vicky Schultz  
President/CEO



\*Net increase due to Capital Campaign.

## Serving the Poor, Vulnerable, and Homeless

*At Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties we meet people – without judgment - where they are with Faith, Compassion, and Service. Your continued support touches our clients lives in immeasurable ways.*



## Meal Programs



One in five children go hungry every month. Hunger affects how people perform at work, how children perform in school, and how people view their communities and their lives. Last year we served over \$185,000 free meals to the residents of Genesee County. Our programs provide vital support, giving individuals not only a hot meal, but relief from the cold and a place to socialize. In addition, this year we made it a priority to serve lead mitigating foods and provide clean, safe water to the community throughout the water crisis.

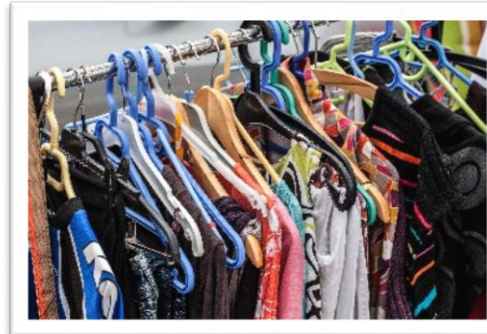
### North End, South End & Center for Hope Soup Kitchens

Hot Meals	127,315
Sack Lunches	49,556
Warming Center Meals	8,147
<b>Total Meals</b>	<b>185,018</b>

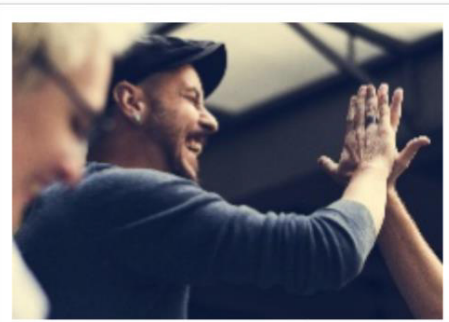
## Community Closet and Food Pantries

In a city that helped build America, hope is often in short supply. Foreclosures and anxiety, joblessness and poverty – all contributors to depression and domestic violence – are destroying families. Clearly, help is needed. For many the Center for Hope offers just that - hope for each new day. By relieving some of the financial stress on families, we allow them to focus on what's important.

Number of people served	31,944	Household Items	59,524
Personal Items Distributed	74,768	Food Bags (Owosso)	1,614
Clothes Distributed	198,443	Furniture, Beds & Appliances	531



## Counseling



Our counseling programs help children, adolescents, individuals, and families experiencing emotional or mental health issues such as: Depression, Anxiety, Grief and Loss, Divorce, Anger Management, Family Crisis, Domestic Violence, Pregnancy, and Substance Use Addiction.

<b>Genesee</b>		<b>Shiawassee</b>	
Service Hours	7,996	Service Hours	2,406
Clients Served	1,377	Clients Served	446
<b>Department of Corrections</b>			
Service Hours	6,316		
Clients Served	788		

Prevention specialists provide support groups, programs, and classes in an effort to strengthen individuals and families, as well as make children resistant to substance use. These programs are provided at the Agency, schools, churches, community centers, or other locations in Genesee, Shiawassee and Lapeer Counties. All programs are provided at no cost.

<b>Genesee</b>		<b>Shiawassee</b>	
Service Hours	10,539	Service Hours	3,781
Clients Served	19,721	Clients Served	2,703
<b>Kinship Caregivers</b>		<b>Mr. Gaines Gardening PLUS Program</b>	
Seniors Served	86	Youth Employed	35
Training Service Hours	317	Garden Hours	5,860
Respite Recipients	16	Garden Sales	\$4,554.47
Respite Service Hours	1,328		

## Prevention & Education



## Foster Care & Adoption



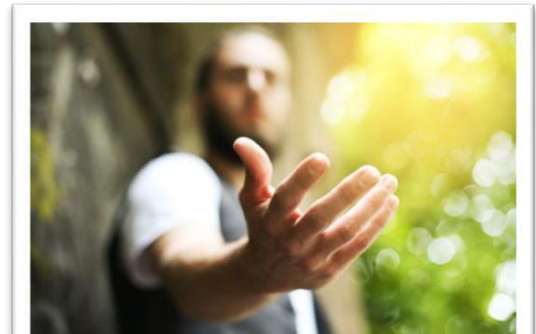
At Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties, we provide help and hope to children awaiting the welcome and support of a foster or adoptive family. Every day, children need safety, stability, routine, and an abundance of love. We offer licensing and extensive services to those providing foster care homes or going through adoption.

Number of adoptions	4
Children in foster care	75
Total days in care	15,787
Total home visits	407

Sometimes people need a little help. We provide emergency rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to eligible clients in need, as funds are available. If we are unable to help we do our best to connect individuals with the resources they need to get through the rough patches. The St. Christopher Medical Transport program provides free medical transportation for children in need.

<b>Clients Served</b>	
Rent/Utilities	343
St. Christopher Medical Transport	302
Direct Assistance Total	\$245,123

## Outreach Assistance



## Volunteers



With more than 40 programs, serving thousands of individuals each year, Catholic Charities relies on the generosity of volunteers to help us fulfill our mission of providing help and creating hope for those in need. Every year volunteers lend us their greatest gifts of time, talent, and resources to help us meet critical human service needs in Shiawassee and Genesee Counties. Volunteer activities include sorting clothing in our Community Closet, serving meals in our soup kitchens, making Hope Soap, and various sorting, cleaning, gardening and maintenance projects that help keep our grounds beautiful.

Volunteers	19,636
Volunteer Hours	76,732

# Volunteer

## APPRECIATION DINNER

To all of the wonderful volunteers who support this agency! Our 19,626 volunteers contributed nearly 76,732 hours this past year. We are so proud of you! This is quite the accomplishment and without you we could not continue to provide Hope, Help and Healing to our communities.



### BUSINESS DONOR OF THE YEAR AWARD WORLD CLASS BAR-B-Q DAVE BURTON

Dave Burton and family at World Class Bar-B-Q raised just over \$13,000 in profits for the food programs of Catholic Charities. Over the last 10 years, Dave and his staff have grilled up a feast on the north end of Flint donating a total of more than \$100,000. What makes this even more amazing is that he does this in one week each year during Labor Day weekend. Last year the staff also donated their wages and tips to the cause. They know the need in their own neighborhood and opt to be part of the solution rather than turn a blind eye. We asked Dave what he does when he's not tending the BBQ. He grinned and said, "Go fishin!" We at Catholic Charities think he's earned it!



### HANDS OF HOPE PARISHIONERS OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH, HOWELL

It all started with the Faith in Flint initiative, which blessed us with volunteers from across the Diocese of Lansing, especially Livingston County. Chief among them have been Stasia and Bill Nichol, and the parishioners of St. John the Baptist Parish in Howell. With the support of their pastor, Fr. Francis George, we have welcomed the Lunch Bunch from St. John's to our Center for Hope. Members of the Christian Service Committee and volunteers led by Walt Czop have aided us in at least two back-breaking moves during renovation of the Center for Hope. Michelle Bennett and countless others have appeared, often with entire families, to sort and hang clothing or organize items in the Community Closet. They never say no, even if it means delivering lunches for a fundraiser or sweeping the floor in the sorting room. They are always ready to cheerfully lend a hand and open their hearts to those we serve at the Center for Hope.



### GOLDEN SOUP BOWL AWARD SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION, ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST PARISH, GOODRICH

Frank Salvati and the dedicated members of St. Mark's Social Justice Commission have been putting their time and talents to use at Catholic Charities, changing lives through food and service. It all started with Assumption Greek Orthodox in Grand Blanc. Frank saw that Assumption was preparing a meal for the Center for Hope Soup Kitchen and bringing it in and serving it at the Center for Hope. He sought approval from St. Mark's pastor, Fr. Michael Kuchar, and the rest is history. Now, they bring in a fabulous pizza lunch prepared at Sam's Italian Restaurant in Swartz Creek (Rankin), and served up by the good people of St. Mark's. Looking to do even more, the Social Justice Commission is also packing backpacks with basic necessities for individuals released from prison and their next project is wallets, for this same population. We are blessed by their kindness.



### YOUTH IN ACTION AWARD SEYMOUR AND SPRINGVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, FLUSHING

Yes, this group will bring 30 kids several times a year to volunteer at NESK, and of course, they will do tasks that only the kids can do to help us out. And yes, they will bring clothes and other items they collect throughout the month, but more than that, they raised over \$1000 this past holiday season selling ornaments at school and participated in many other projects to help out the Soup Kitchens. These 6th graders know firsthand what it means to volunteer and know our clients up close. Because of the school's commitment to instilling the value of HOPE into the kids, we are confident they will become our future volunteers and donors.

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD DENNIS REVAR, THE "BIKE MAN" (NOT PICTURED)

Nothing means freedom to a child more than having a bike of their own, just ask Dennis Revard, the "Bike Man." The talented retiree has been using his skills to deliver restored bicycles, and joy, to children in our community. Dennis scavenges and collects used bikes, and lovingly brings them back to life. Over the years, he has delivered more than 200 bikes, and counting, to Catholic Charities Community Closet. Thank you, Dennis. Unfortunately Dennis was unable to be present the day of the awards so his award was accepted by his good friend and fellow volunteer Mary Kronner.



### VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR SARAH FEJEDELEM

First a Summer Camp Teen Employee, Sarah transitioned over to volunteer. Still in high school, most teens hang out with their friends or have other fun things to do when not in school. Sarah still goes to school half days and comes to the North End Soup Kitchen NESK to volunteer at least every Wednesday of the month (often she comes more!). Most of the time she comes alone, but she occasionally recruits family or friends, and does everything asked of her. At Summer Camp, she is able to handle a supervisor role rather than just another teen worker. Going on her third year at camp, it won't be long until she is an adult supervisor. She is a great role model for her peers. Her greatest achievement is her consistency and her maturity. You'll never find Sarah gossiping with other teens, she's too busy being helpful!



## NESK KID'S Summer Camp

It's been a long winter but the North End Soup Kitchen's Kid's Summer Camp is finally here! In its 21st year, the program is pleased to once again offer Flint's children a fun, safe place to spend the summer. The camp is for children between 5-10 years of age and is completely free to the campers. It includes a nutritious breakfast and lunch, in addition to the entertaining and educational summer activities. Throughout the summer the kids go on field trips and have plenty of guest presenters who teach them about nutrition, smoke and fire safety, anti-alcohol and tobacco use, and many other useful life lessons. This year Holy Family Mission Make-over, along with their kids, will be joining us and sponsoring a field trip to For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum for the entire camp.

Registration is June 21, 2018 at Our Lady of Guadalupe, 10am to 1pm and is on a first come-first serve basis for the first 50 kids through the door.

If you would like to support this program please call John Manse at the North End Soup Kitchen on 810.785.6911 or email [jmanse@ccscc.org](mailto:jmanse@ccscc.org)



# Thank You



# WAYS to GIVE

PROVIDING HELP. CREATING HOPE.

As a generous benefactor, you have unique gifts and reasons for giving. There are many ways to give, and each gift will be carefully used as directed. Giving is not just about making a donation; it's about making a difference.

**CASH** Cash donations of any size are gratefully accepted. Mail your check to Catholic Charities of Shiawassee & Genesee Counties, 901 Chippewa Street, Flint, MI 48503 or visit catholiccharitiesflint.org.

**CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES** Make a gift and receive steady payments in return. Your annuity payments will not be affected by economic downturns, and will continue for life.

**CORPORATE GIVING** For many companies, giving to Catholic Charities is a compelling way to support the communities where they do business. Make a program grant, sponsor a special event, host a food or clothing drive or volunteer.

**VEHICLE DONATIONS** We accept cars, trucks, boats and RV's. Pick-up is free and we do all the paperwork.

**EVENTS** Become involved in one of our fundraising events as an individual or corporate sponsor, a ticket or table purchaser, a member of a host committee or a volunteer.

**IN-KIND DONATIONS** Bring gently worn clothes, household goods and furniture. We will pick up large donations anywhere in Shiawassee or Genesee Counties. Please call 810 785 6911 to arrange pick up. For all other in-kind donations call Mary Stevenson at the Center for Hope.

**MATCHING GIFTS** Ask your employer if a matching gift program is offered. You may be able to double or triple your generosity with a matching gift.

**ONLINE GIVING** Online giving is safe, secure and fast. Go to catholiccharitiesflint.org to donate.

**PLANNED GIFTS** To help future generations, name Catholic Charities as a beneficiary of your will, trust, retirement account or insurance policy. You will become a member of our Legacy Society when you include us in your estate plans.

**STOCKS AND SECURITIES** Gifts of appreciated stock may result in tax savings.

**TRIBUTE GIFTS** You can make a donation in memory of a loved one or celebrate a special occasion.



*"We make a living by what we get.  
We make a life by what we give."*  
-Winston Churchill

Monetary gifts can be sent to:  
Catholic Charities of Genesee County  
901 Chippewa St. Flint, MI 48503 • (810) 232.9950  
Catholic Charities of Shiawassee County  
1480 N. M-52, Ste. 1 Owosso, MI 48867 • (989) 723.8239

For answers to your questions about giving, contact Joan Clarke, Director of Development at (810) 232.9950 ext 710 or jclarke@ccsgc.org



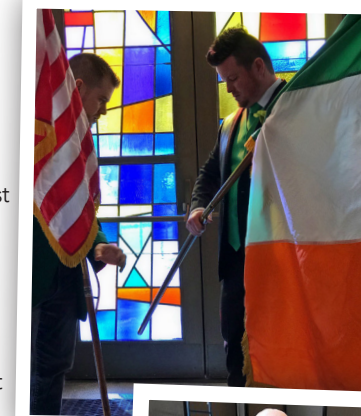
## Lá fhéile Pádraig sona dhuit! (Happy St. Patrick's Day!)



Once again, we celebrated St. Patrick's Day with the Ancient Order of Hibernians! There's no better way to celebrate this festive occasion than by starting the day with a traditional Irish Mass at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Flint. The parish dates back to the early 19th century, when five Irish Catholic families began holding prayer services in 1834. They requested a priest from the Bishop in Detroit to preside over them and the following year their request was granted, officially establishing St. Michael's. Since then St. Michael's has been considered home to the Irish community in Flint. Thank you Ancient Order of Hibernians Sullivan and O'Sullivan Division for your continued support! We are looking forward to next year!

**2,400 ST. PATRICK'S DAY LUNCHES DISTRIBUTED!**

We would like to extend a big Irish **Go Raibh Maith Agat** (THANKS!) to everyone who volunteered their time to make and deliver box lunches. THANKS for buying a lunch. Most of all...THANKS for HELPING SOMEONE IN NEED! Each boxed lunch we sell allows us to provide a meal for someone in need.



### 5 Myths

**I'm too old or too young to foster**

There is no legal maximum or minimum age for fostering. You just need show that you have the experience, ability and dedication to make a difference to a child's life.

**I need to be married to foster**

There are foster carers from all walks of life, the important thing is that you have the skills and dedication to provide care and love for a child.

**I can't afford to support a child**

Foster carers who are looking after a child receive an allowance to cover the cost of that care, which varies according to the child's needs.

**I need to own my home to foster**

You can be a foster carer without owning your home, but you will need to have space and stability to offer.

**I can't foster because I'm employed**

Having a foster carer that combines fostering with other work will not be right for every child but for some it is absolutely possible.



*Open your heart and home!  
Consider becoming a foster parent!*

To find out more about becoming a foster parent

**CALL TODAY 810-232-3418**



Catholic Charities  
901 Chippewa St.  
Flint, MI 48503

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Flint, MI  
Permit No. 599



The SHN is a collaboration of agencies dedicated to eliminating hunger and providing emergency services to those in need in Shiawassee County. The Network has partnered with Meijer through its Simply Give program to raise money to support food pantries throughout the county.

The hallmark of the Meijer hunger relief efforts is its *Simply Give* program, which has helped neighborhood food pantries keep their shelves stocked since November 2008. This signature program has generated more than \$37 million throughout the region, thanks to the continued generosity and support of Meijer customers and food pantry partners who are committed to helping feed hungry families.

## WHEN

**Now – Sunday, June 17**

## WHERE

**Meijer**

**2591 E. M 21, Corunna, MI 48817**

## HOW TO GIVE

Help us reach our goal of \$15,000! During each *Simply Give* campaign, we encourage you to purchase a \$10 *Simply Give* donation card when you checkout. Once purchased, your donation is matched by Meijer and converted into a Meijer food-only gift card and donated directly to the Shiawassee Hunger Network which is then divided among the networks' food pantries throughout Shiawassee County. All donations generated remain within local communities which means your \$10 donation helps a neighbor make ends meet.



# LOOKING FOR MORE WAYS TO GIVE?

Check out these great opportunities to make your donation to Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties go further!



Charity began at Warwick Hills Golf & Country Club in 1958 with the first Buick Open. In 2018, The Ally Challenge presented by McLaren, will carry on this tradition through the Birdies for Charity program. Birdies for Charity will provide a minimum guaranteed match of 6% on all donations raised between now and September 30, 2018.

Visit [www.theallychallenge.com/birdies](http://www.theallychallenge.com/birdies)  
Catholic Charities of Genesee and Shiawassee Counties/Flint

