



The Mission

Care With Dignity ... Life With Hope

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www.catholiccharities.cc

Big hearts on the small screen

Meet the people you help.

"If only people could hear these stories," was a common refrain at Catholic Charities. Our employees believed that supporters would benefit from hearing first-hand accounts of how their generosity has genuinely transformed lives. With an average of 60,000 people served annually, the real-life examples could put faces on the extraordinary numbers and bring home the realities of being poor, isolated, or disadvantaged on Long Island.

At Catholic Charities' 50th anniversary dinner at the Milleridge Cottage in Jericho on November 16th, that goal became a reality. More than 200 supporters watched as our first-ever public service announcements (PSAs) were premiered.

Laura Cassell, Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Charities, explains, "When giving to charity, there's nothing like hearing 'thank-you' directly from someone you've helped. So we called Ken Greenberg, president of Austin & Williams advertising. With 30FPS Studios, his team set out to capture the spirit of what happens at Catholic Charities."



"They gave me a home... and they gave my baby a mother."

Mr. Greenberg adds, "We're a Long Island firm and a part of the communities that Charities serves. We're both homegrown, so it's a natural fit."

There's nothing like hearing 'thank you...'

While the goal is to have the PSAs broadcast on both network and cable TV, the firm has also designed a web page where supporters can log on to watch at www.catholiccharities.cc/difference.

The evening proved an ideal time to launch the campaign as Catholic Charities' staunchest supporters were on hand to honor John and Loretta Cameron of Rockville Centre. Bishop William Murphy presented them with the Caritas Award for their energetic and dedicated service to the Island's various communities. Mr. Cameron summed up the evening best when he noted, "This 50th anniversary is more than just a number. It's a celebration of the thousands of lives made better by the simple and natural act of caring for one another."

Meet people whose lives are changed by your support at www.catholiccharities.cc/difference



"Catholic Charities has given us some peace of mind."



Poverty on our doorstep: You can help end it.

Hard to believe but impossible to ignore: there are 36.5 million Americans living in poverty, including 12.8 million children. Shockingly, of all industrialized nations, the United States has the most living in poverty.

But it doesn't have to be this way. And you can be part of the solution.

Catholic Charities here on Long Island is participating in Catholic Charities USA's Campaign to Reduce Poverty in America. Our goal is to cut U.S. poverty in half by 2020 by calling on our *family of supporters* to get involved. Together, we'll urge government to improve policies, support families, and most important, we'll educate leaders about real solutions that lift people out of poverty.

"This is about who we are as a nation," says Laura Cassell, CEO of Catholic Charities of Rockville Centre. "Most of us still believe in an America where there is enough for everyone."



**"I am only one;
but still I am one.
I cannot do everything,
but still I can do some-
thing; I will not refuse
to do the something
I can do."**

Helen Keller

That's what has defined us to generations of people from around the world."

Catholic Charities across the country have been sustaining that belief for more than 200 years. Today, we create hope for nearly eight million people by feeding the poor, sheltering the homeless, and responding to disasters like Hurricane Katrina. **Here on Long Island, one of the wealthiest regions in the country, 57,890 people came directly to us for help in 2006 alone.**

Take Agnes, a single mom facing homelessness with her emotionally disturbed son. He was admitted to a **Catholic Charities Teaching Family Home** where he learned healthier ways to cope. Agnes was placed in an apartment through our **Project Independence** and started vocational training. She soon found a job and was reunited with her son in their new apartment. A stable environment helped break the cycle of poverty and kept this family together.

Success stories like this one happen every day, but the question remains: *In a country that is the wealthiest the world has ever known, why should even a single person go to bed hungry?*

Be part of the solution. Join the Campaign to Reduce Poverty in America and see how lending your voice can go a long way in cutting poverty in half by 2020.



The Thanks Belong To You

I wish I could share with you the gratitude expressed by each person we help. But it would not be possible as we assist an average 60,000 people each year. Please know that it is you to whom they are grateful. Simply put, without your support and prayers, these people may have fallen deeper into despair. Please continue to partner with us and feel free to use the enclosed envelope to make your tax-deductible gift. I promise Catholic Charities will remain the hands that do the work of *your caring heart*. On behalf of those we serve, I thank you.

Laura A. Cassell, CEO, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Rockville Centre

Weathering the storm for special needs

As part of its ongoing emergency preparedness efforts, Catholic Charities has partnered with Nassau County's Office of Emergency Management to create shelters for residents with special needs in the event of an emergency. They will be found throughout the county and designed for those with disabilities who need special care, but are not likely to find it at a regular shelter.

According to Laura Cassell, CEO of Charities, "There are thousands of vulnerable or infirm people who could slip through the cracks when crisis strikes. Seniors, people with physical or developmental disabilities – they'll need special help. We want to be there for them."

Each site will be specially equipped and manned by volunteers and staff trained to meet the medical and nutritional needs of these residents. One of the sites already established is Holy Trinity High School in Hicksville. The first large-scale training was held there on Sunday, August 12th, and hundreds of dedicated individuals participated in exercises that proved a success.

"This plan puts Nassau County on sound footing," said Dr. Abby Greenberg, acting commissioner for Nassau County's Department of Health. "In addition to Catholic Charities, we're working with North Shore-LIJ, so we're confident we've developed a special needs shelter plan that we can rely on."



Students from Stony Brook's Physician's Assistant Program lend a hand at our emergency shelter training earlier this year.

EMERGENCY TIPS

- ❖ Identify a "Go Bag" (an old backpack, duffel, or carry-on bag) and keep it in an accessible location for easy departure in an emergency. Fill it with necessities in advance (i.e. toothbrush, socks, whistle, deodorant, bottle of water, protein bar, favorite book, etc.). Leave room for medications if needed. Make sure you can carry it when full without assistance.
- ❖ Create an emergency phone chain with family members and friends as a means to reach out during an emergency.
- ❖ Photocopy your identification (license, social security, etc.), phone chain, and list of prescriptions. Place the copies in a waterproof Ziploc and keep it in the Go Bag.
- ❖ Find out if your home will likely be evacuated in the event of a major emergency such as a hurricane and plan now where you can go if evacuated.
- ❖ Keep extra water, non-perishables, flashlights, batteries and other items on hand that will help you "weather the storm."

From Our Mailbag



From our Chemical Dependence Program

Your love, guidance and support have changed my life forever. The tools you've given me will be with me for the rest of my life. I am grateful to Catholic Charities beyond my ability to express myself. I told my daughters that it feels good to be back to my old self. They corrected me, saying, "YOU'RE BETTER THAN EVER!" Where would I be without Catholic Charities? I thank God that I don't have to answer.

With total gratitude, R

From our Senior Services Program

As a widow of 72 years of age whose husband died in his sleep in 1998, my life held no purpose or peace for me until Catholic Charities intervened. Although I required no monetary assistance my soul was in great need of solace. Catholic Charities provided me with a place to go to have lunch, fellowship with other seniors, and returned me to...the simple joys.

G

What You Can Do:

GET INFORMED

Make yourself familiar with legislation and policy proposals that impact low-income families and individuals. Visit Catholic Charities USA's advocacy page at www.catholiccharitiesusa.org to learn more.

GET ORGANIZED

Develop a working group within your church or community to help spread the word and raise concerns about "your issue." Make sure to involve low-income families in your work group.

GET INVOLVED

Catholic Charities of Rockville Centre is a partner in **MICAH (Mobilized Interfaith Coalition Against Hunger)**, a group working to end poverty on Long Island. Get involved by calling 516-733-7077.

VOLUNTEER AND DONATE

There are lots of ways to help. Contact Catholic Charities, Diocese of Rockville Centre at (516) 733-7000.

Responding ...

**Our special thanks to these friends for helping us provide
Care With Dignity...Life With Hope.**

Catholic Charities is the grateful recipient of two grants of \$67,500 each awarded by **Fidelis Care NY**. One will be used to improve the well-being of local seniors and the other was awarded to our Immigration and Refugee Resettlement Program to assist victims of domestic violence.

The **Gary J. and Susan O. Ferrentino Foundation** kindly provided \$15,000 to Catholic Charities in general support last year. Their assistance helps bolster the "continuum of care" we offer to Long Islanders of all ages, backgrounds, and needs.



JPMorgan Chase Bank's commitment to building our region recently took the form of \$95,000 in grants to support Catholic Charities' affordable housing and immigration programs. At the check presentation were (center) Laura Cassell, CEO of Catholic Charities, with (l to r) bank representatives Anne Gallagher, Vinford Mentar, and JoAnn O'Hagen.

The Roslyn Savings Foundation graciously provided a \$5,000 grant to our senior community service centers in Franklin Square and Seaford. The funds were sorely needed to replace tables and chairs resulting in a cleaner and more dignified space for our seniors.

BJ's Wholesale Club of Levittown presented a \$2,500 check to Catholic Charities to help support the Teaching Family Home Program which provides residential treatment to children and adolescents who suffer serious emotional disturbances.

AROUND and ABOUT

Kudos to **Susan Intravaia**, one of our Teaching Family Home residence coordinators who was honored at the **Alumni and Friends Event of the School of Social Work at Adelphi University**. She received the Outstanding Field Instructor of the Year Award for her work with student interns from various universities. Catholic Charities congratulates her for inspiring another generation of compassionate care.

Twenty-five Catholic Charities employees were among the more than 8,000 participants representing 160 companies in this year's **Marcum & Kliegman Workplace Challenge** at Jones Beach on July 31st, 2007. This year, the Greater Long Island Road Runners Club, which manages the 3.5-mile run/walk, was able to donate hundreds of new, extra t-shirts to our programs.



Catholic Charities was once again blessed with beautiful weather as 160 golfers gathered for our 5th annual golf classic held on September 24th, 2007, at the **Huntington Crescent Club**. This year's honoree was **Charles Walsh**, retired CEO of JP Morgan Chase Bank. The successful event raised more than \$200,000 for our programs and services. Major sponsors included **Pathway Systems Design, Mutual of America, Altana Inc., Nastasi & Associates, the Valentine and Miller families, and KPMG**.



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