

Catholic Charities

*Diocese of Rockville Centre
Care With Dignity...Life With Hope*



2001 Annual Report

Catholic Charities Mission Statement

As a ministry of the Roman Catholic Church, Catholic Charities assists in serving the basic needs of the poor, troubled, weak, and oppressed, and is committed to addressing the causes of injustice. We aim to organize and empower people to secure the participation of all in the life of the community.



DIocese OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Dear Friends:

As we look back at the year 2001, there was much to shake our sense of confidence and security, possibly even our faith in God. Many of us on Long Island felt personally and deeply the tragedy of September 11th. In a very real way, all of us move into the future under its shadow. Our world is marked by renewed and increased hostilities. Racism and discrimination continue to undermine our communities. In our own neighborhoods children go hungry and senior citizens lack adequate medical care.

A complete retrospective of 2001, however, would be sorely incomplete without reflecting on the many good and holy actions and services of Catholic Charities to our brothers and sisters who are poor, disabled, isolated and vulnerable. Catholic Charities is not simply another social service agency. It is our Catholic expression of compassion and justice. It is an essential component of who we are as Church. Catholic Charities is the public, communal way that we, as the Body of Christ, minister to those in need.

Through Catholic Charities, the "Kingdom of God," described so beautifully in the Beatitudes, becomes a reality on Long Island – providing light and hope, not only to people in need, but to all of us. It represents our deepest identity and tradition as Catholics – to care for and serve those among us who are in most need and, in so doing, to encounter Jesus.

As you read about the great work that Catholic Charities accomplished in the year 2001, I know that you will be as proud as I am to be part of this great Diocese of Rockville Centre.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Murphy".

Bishop of Rockville Centre

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and rescues those whose spirit is crushed.

Psalm 34:18

Our nation, and especially those of us in the New York area, knew all too well and saw all too closely this year the pain that the psalmist speaks of. We were rendered brokenhearted and left with our spirits crushed in the days and weeks following September 11th. The memory that will remain foremost in the minds of most Long Islanders is that of two planes striking the Twin Towers, ending many lives and forever changing many more. The year 2001 is one that none of us will ever be able to forget.



These events, along with the everyday struggles many of our neighbors endure, continue to inflict them with despair and hopelessness. Many of those who came to us for help were already living lives of desperation even before the September 11th attacks. The tragedy impacted many of our clients who already were broken and crushed from illness, unemployment, addictions, loneliness, crisis pregnancy, and helplessness. Their vulnerable spirits were diminished as a result of the attacks and accompanying loss.

And yet, the psalmist also says that the Lord draws near precisely when we are brokenhearted and when our spirits are vulnerable. For those who asked, "where is God," on September 11th, the Scriptures would surely answer, "God is in the rubble and with those who suffer." It is the peculiar claim of the Christian faith that God draws close not solely to the favored and comfortable but most clearly and preferentially to the suffering and vulnerable. The cross itself attests most profoundly to this incredible love for those most abandoned and in need. St. Paul says, "we are prisoners of hope." In spite of all that may afflict us, we are captive to hope as followers of Jesus. Holding firmly to that hope, we seek out those in need and we serve.

Within this report for 2001, you will see that through the generosity of our benefactors—whether financial, volunteering, or prayerful support—Catholic Charities was able to serve and bring hope to many. We were able to ease the burdens of the brokenhearted and lift the spirits of those who had been crushed. Whether it was a home for those who hoped for shelter, assistance for an immigrant who hoped for a welcome to the land, a job for someone who hoped for dignity, or presence and counseling for those who hoped for recovery, Catholic Charities helped bring the Lord close to people who hurt. Working closely with our parishes and other diocesan services we were able to bring concrete services and signs of hope to almost 60,000 people.

During this past year, I have been privileged to help welcome Bishop Murphy to our diocese and serve as a member of his cabinet. I am proud of and grateful to our many partners and supporters in the diocese who responded so overwhelmingly to the challenges of 2001. Bishop Murphy's leadership has been a blessing. I also remember with a broken heart, but also with thanksgiving, the life and ministry of Bishop John McGann. He was for many years a great supporter of Catholic Charities and a genuine friend of the poor. It is my prayer that in the days ahead we will grow as a diocese in our resolve to "bring the Lord near to the brokenhearted and to those whose spirit is crushed."

Sincerely,

Laura A. Cassell

Chief Executive Officer



Catholic Charities

Diocese of Rockville Centre

Thomas F. Casey Administration Center

90 Cherry Lane

Hicksville, NY 11801-6299

www.catholiccharities.cc

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• Central Administration: 516-733-7000

Executive Offices: Finance / Human Resources /
Management Information Systems / Public
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Management / Real Estate / Volunteers Program

Directory of Programs

• **Chemical Dependency Services**.....631-543-6200

Talbot House Chemical Dependency Crisis Center /
Outpatient Clinics / Day Rehabilitation Program

• **Child Health Plus & Family Health Plus**

(Nassau) 516-623-4446 X 117 (Suffolk) 631-654-2811

• **Food & Nutrition Program (FAN)**.....631-789-9535

Food Distribution / Nutrition Outreach / Food Stamps

• **HIV/AIDS Services**.....516-623-7400

AIDS Adult Day Health Care Center
Special Dental Services / Meals-On-Wheels

• **Housing**.....516-733-7075

Program Housing & Affordable Housing for Seniors and
for Persons With Physical Disabilities / Special Needs
Housing

• **Immigrant Services**.....631-789-5210

Legal Counseling / Citizenship & Voter Registration /
Refugee Resettlement / Advocacy & Organizing

• **Maternity Services**.....516-223-7888

Regina Residence / Mentoring of Moms / Pregnancy
Prevention Education

• **Mental Health Outpatient Services**.....631-654-2944

Outpatient Clinics / Case Management / ACT Team

• **Mental Health Residential Services**.....631-665-5902

Siena Residence for Adults With Psychiatric
Disabilities / Teaching Family Homes for Children

• **Office For Persons With Disabilities**.....631-789-5219

Services for Visually Impaired Persons / Visually
Impaired Persons Club / Services for Hearing
Impaired Persons / Senior Deaf Club

• **Parish Social Ministry**.....516-733-7078

Parish Outreach / Public Policy Education Network
Volunteer Lawyers / Healing Ministries / Justice & Peace /
Catholic Campaign for Human Development

• **Residences For Persons With Developmental
Disabilities**.....631-665-3434

• **Senior Services**.....631-789-0520

Case Management / Meals-On-Wheels /
Senior Community Service Centers

Care With Dignity...Life With Hope

*The cover illustration of The Beatitudes,
which exemplifies the mission of Catholic
Charities, is by Joseph P. Ascherl.*



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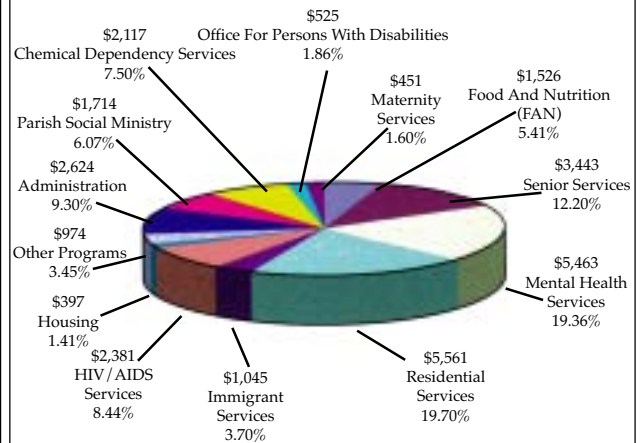
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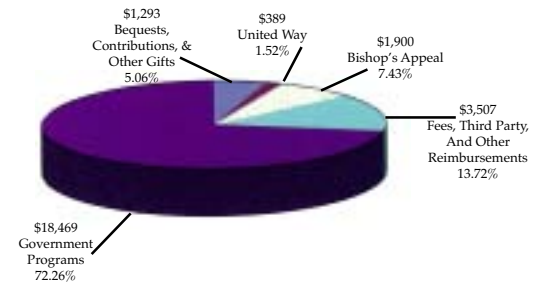
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Catholic Charities
Diocese of Rockville Centre
Operating Expenditures 1/1/01 - 12/31/01
(In Thousands)



Operating Revenue 1/1/01 - 12/31/01
(In Thousands)



A copy of the latest audit report is available upon request by contacting Catholic Charities, Chief Executive Officer, 90 Cherry Lane, Hicksville, New York 11801-6299, (516) 733-7000

Catholic Charities is funded by the Bishop's Appeal of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, the State of New York, Nassau and Suffolk Counties, the United Way of Long Island, client fees, contributions, and bequests. Catholic Charities gratefully acknowledges the legacies and support of those who assist in the continuation of our ministry. Your financial support enables Catholic Charities to maintain and expand its care of those in need on Long Island. Gifts of cash, securities, or property are always welcome. A charitable gift annuity can provide a life income to the donor or another, as well as substantial tax savings. For information on planned giving, or other forms of donations to Catholic Charities, please contact Scott Stepp, Coordinator of Public Affairs and Development, at (516) 733-7042.

Many people in Nassau and Suffolk counties lost jobs or loved ones to the tragedy of September 11th. Thousands looked to their parishes and faith communities for assistance, comfort, and meaning in the face of senseless and sudden catastrophe. Installed as the fourth bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre just the week before the attack, Most Reverend William F. Murphy established a Diocesan Relief Committee to respond to those in need as a result of the tragedy. Bishop Murphy appointed Catholic Charities CEO Laura A. Cassell to chair the committee. Partners in the diocese included the Office of Family Life Ministry, Catholic Health Services, the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and—very importantly—Long Island’s 134 parishes. In the immediate aftermath, the church provided compassionate support for people who were immediately hurt by the disaster, and reassurance for all who felt fear and uncertainty.

A fund was quickly established to assist people impacted by the attack. Parishioners across Long Island gave generously, joined by donors from throughout the country. Total contributions to the Diocese of Rockville Centre’s World Trade Center Disaster Relief Fund

approached \$3 million. These funds continue to be distributed with a minimum of paperwork and delay by offices of social ministry in more than 80 parishes.

The lists of people lost and the amount of financial and economic damage are staggering. Each life lost, however, was unique. Each job lost carried the threat of personal catastrophe, as well. A few personal stories follow:

- Three school-aged children lost their mother, the principal breadwinner of the family. The father struggled with both his and his children’s grief and financial difficulties.
- A man who died in the Towers had been paying for a home health care aide for one his parents, who had terminal cancer. The generous donors to the diocesan relief fund covered that care—as he would have—for the final days of the one who had given him life.
- A Nassau County man saw the towers fall from the Brooklyn Bridge while driving to his job as a waiter at Windows on the World.
- A single mother of three lost her job as a flight attendant in September and quickly began to fall behind on her bills.

Because the victims and the effects of September 11th are

2001 Program Highlights

Housing Department

- The Housing Department completed two new senior housing complexes in 2001. Msgr Heny J. Reel Village II, Medford, opened in September with 43 one-bedroom apartments for seniors. Bishop Daly Gardens, located at St. Martha’s Parish, Uniondale, was completed in November with 45 one-bedroom units.



- In 2001, the Housing Department, working with Catholic Charities’ Chemical Dependency Services, secured a \$555,372 grant to provide apartments in Nassau County for homeless persons with disabilities. The department also finalized receipt of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s grant for \$8,176,300 for construction of a new 66-unit senior housing complex on the grounds of St. Frances Cabrini Church.

Mental Health Services

- Our Supportive Case Management services underwent extensive restructuring which included establishment of the new blended case management service model. Combining intensive and supportive services in “blended” teams, we no longer need to transfer our clients to another agency when their needs change. Each of the three teams have the capacity of serving 72 clients at varying levels of intensity.

2001 Program Highlights

Chemical Dependency Services

- Using a planning tool developed by the federal government, our Mental Health and Chemical Dependency services began integrating their services into a “no wrong door,” user-friendly approach to accessing services. A committee of consumers and professionals has been established to develop a more effective and unified treatment for people facing both mental illness and chemical abuse.
- The Commack office made clinical and day treatment services more accessible to people in recovery by extending its schedule to include Saturday hours.
- Additional funding from Southampton Human Services allowed us to expand our bilingual services to people on the East End.
- Our Hampton Bays office received a legislative grant for \$2,250 for a computer and alcohol and drug education films.

Regina Maternity Services

- Regina Residence purchased a new 15-passenger van with the proceeds of a Mother’s Day fundraising mailing, a grant from United Way of Long Island’s Success-By-Six



so diverse, each application for assistance is considered separately. In addition to the continued availability of the agency's entire Parish Social Ministry team, a Catholic Charities staff person was assigned full-time to work with parishes to reach out to families, support them pastorally, assess their needs, and provide services and financial support.

More than \$2 million has now been distributed to more than 1,000 affected people. In most cases, financial help was provided within seven business days of receipt of a completed application. Requests for assistance have included mortgage and rent payments, food and other basic necessities, tuition, job retraining, and many other needs.

Events continued to unfold through the later months of 2001, and the impact of September 11th rolled into the economy of the city and Long Island. Even with that day months behind, many Long Islanders faced enormous emotional stress, whether or not they lost someone, whether or not they were there when it happened.

In fact, trauma experts and agencies that worked in Oklahoma City disaster response warn us that thousands are in danger of developing long-term sleeplessness,



flashbacks, bad dreams, depression, and other mental and emotional difficulties because of the critical stress of September 11th. One Nassau County woman, Nancy, whose friends lost family members, shared her experience with us:

"The difficulty for me, not being in the city but being on

2001 Program Highlights

initiative, and a grant from Citigroup Foundation. The van is a vital addition to Regina, helping to transport the growing number of mothers and babies to educational, vocational, and health services appointments.

- As an Advent project, the youth group from Holy Name of Mary Parish in Valley Stream organized a fund raising campaign which resulted in the donation of a refrigerator, dryer, air conditioner, and gently used clothing to Regina Residence.

- Catholic Charities' Goretti Abstinence Program continued to offer outreach to high risk youth who are confronted with life-changing decisions. The young actors in our Goretti Abstinence Program completed their first season with the new play "Choices," which is geared toward junior high school students.

Residential Services

- Mother Teresa Residence opened in Amityville. The home is designed to meet the specific needs of individuals with developmental disabilities who also suffer with Alzheimers/ dementia and mobility impairments. Special attention was given to design details to create a tranquil atmosphere and homey feeling and to ensure a smooth transition.



2001 Program Highlights

- Plans are progressing toward the development of two new residences adjacent to Our Lady of Grace Church in West Babylon. These homes will provide residential placement for 12 developmentally disabled adults.

Immigrant Services

- The refugee resettlement unit tripled in size with new grants from New York State, the US Bishops Conference, and the Department of State in Washington. For the first time, several staff counselors are devoted full-time to helping refugees who have come to our island (like the nearly 100 Kosovar refugees recently) to find, retain, and upgrade jobs—that is, to attain self-sufficiency—as they start new lives for themselves and their families. As a matter of civic duty and a sign of immigrant dignity, power, and participation in society, Catholic Charities registered more than 10,000 new immigrant citizens to vote over the past year. This is reportedly the highest number of voters registered by any Catholic organization in the country.

- Catholic Charities was ready last spring when President Bush authorized a legalization of undocumented immigrants from El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Across Long Island, workers and their families stepped out of the shadows and out of their vulnerability and worry to work with our own Immigration and Naturalization Service-accredited representatives on registering to stay and work here, legally, in this land of opportunity and safety.

Long Island, was just trying to maintain enough strength to help other people get through, to be supportive. And because of that, after almost five months I realized I just wasn't able to keep it up anymore. It became harder and harder for me to get through daily things I normally did without a care."

Research has shown that counseling can greatly help to relieve stress related to crises, and to avoid later, more serious reactions. To help Long Islanders recover from the stress of the events, we joined with our partners in federal, state, and local government to include Project Liberty services in our efforts. Project Liberty, funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Center for Mental Health Services, offers free, confidential counseling, one-on-one or in a group, to anyone affected by September 11th. Support is available wherever needed, at someone's home, job, or parish, for example. Nancy also related to us her experience with the program:

"I had seen on TV several times the ad for Project Liberty and finally decided I needed to call, and it's made all the difference in the world. I've been going about a month now. After having about four meetings [with a Project Liberty counselor], I realized I was doing a lot

better. I think it was hard for me to come forward because I wasn't in the city when it happened... but it affected everybody."

By consulting with pastors, parish social ministry coordinators, and Catholic school leaders, Catholic Charities' staff developed services tailored to the needs of individual parishes and schools. One-on-one meetings, support groups, and educational talks are now available to parishioners, students, community members, staff, and clergy in communities throughout Long Island.

As the months pass and the healing process continues, it is evident that all of our lives were changed by last year's events. Throughout the critical first days and the lingering aftermath of the World Trade Center attack, Long Island's parishes have been present as a source of mercy, comfort, and healing. Catholic Charities continues to make it our mission to work in partnership with parishes, providing "Care With Dignity...Life With Hope" throughout the healing process.

NYC Skyline Artwork by Mary Greene Fraenkel. Used with permission.

2001 Program Highlights

Office For Persons With Disabilities

- A grant from the Lavelle Foundation for the Blind allowed the Office for Persons With Disabilities to recruit 50 parishes in Nassau and Suffolk counties to participate in advocacy for persons with disabilities. More than 70 advocates have been trained and are working to include people with visual as well as other disabilities into the parish life of faith. Many of the advocates have a disability or have a family member with a disability. By networking with others, they are raising awareness, reaching out to others with disabilities, and making concrete gains in accessibility, both in architecture and attitude.

Teaching Family Home Program

- Teaching Family Homes offer an alternative to institutionalization for children and adolescents with emotional disturbances. Because of the growing need for these homes, the program began expansion in 2001. A site in Manorville has been selected and the approval process has begun for Catholic Charities' fourth such home. The house will consist of four single bedrooms and two baths for the adolescent boys in the home, as well as a separate apartment for the teaching parents and their family. It will be the first designed with a group room where children can meet with their families and spend time together. Site selection for an additional Nassau County home is underway.

Food & Nutrition Program (FAN)

- Our Food & Nutrition Program received \$252,000 in Farmers Market Coupons from the U.S. Department of

2001 Program Highlights

Agriculture and the New York State Department of Health. Seniors in the FAN program used the coupons for fresh produce at farmers markets located throughout Long Island. FAN received the second highest amount of coupons in the state.

- FAN also purchased a new truck, enabling the program to distribute food to more people who cannot reach the FAN sites as well as bringing a nutritionist to demonstrate food menus.

Parish Social Ministry

- The agency sub-contracted with Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council to enroll families in the Family Health Plus program, intended to supplement the Child Health Plus initiative.

- The Public Policy Education Network produced a Lenten and Fall faith reflection series, called "Pathway to the Holy," with more than 4,000 attending in groups of ten at the parish level.



- The department played a central role in the agency's response to 9-11. Training in trauma was offered to parish-based staff, a 24-hour hot-line was established for persons affected by the disaster, and Parish Social Ministry network was central to the diocesan response.