

# CATHOLIC CHARITIES

OF LONG ISLAND

# IMPACT 2025 REPORT

**“No sign of affection, even the smallest, will ever be forgotten, especially if it is shown to those who are suffering, lonely or in need.”**

**Pope Leo XIV**

Bishop John O. Barres leads prayers with Catholic Charities clients and staff at the Immigrant Services building in Amityville.

“ALWAYS ASK GOD TO REVIVE YOUR FAITH, STRENGTHEN YOUR HOPE, AND  
INFLAME YOUR HEART WITH CHARITY.”

SAINT FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI

Dear Friends of Catholic Charities:

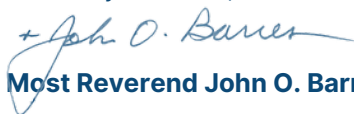
Catholic Charities of Long Island’s current mission statement clearly recognizes that the Gospel of Human Life and Catholic Social Justice teaching are interdependent and cannot be separated: “Catholic Charities of Long Island shares the love of Jesus by offering dignified and compassionate care to poor and vulnerable neighbors of every faith and background. As a ministry of the Roman Catholic Church, our work is inspired by the Gospel message that every human life is sacred.”

In his Apostolic Exhortation *Dilexi Te (I Have Loved You)*, released on October 4, 2025, the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, Pope Leo XIV reminds us that the cry of the poor continues to challenge our lives, our institutions, our political and economic systems, and the Church herself. As the Holy Father writes, “On the wounded faces of the poor, we see the suffering of the innocent and, therefore, the suffering of Christ himself.” These words call each of us to renewed conversion of heart and deeper fidelity to Christ’s command to love one another as He has loved us.

This annual Impact Report bears witness to that love made visible. Across fifty ministry sites stretching from Elmont to the East End of Long Island, the dedicated staff and volunteers of Catholic Charities faithfully bring Christ’s mercy to life through their service. In offering food to the hungry, shelter to the vulnerable, counseling to the distressed, and accompaniment to those facing life’s many burdens, they live the Gospel mandate of Matthew 25:35-40 to recognize and serve Christ in the least among us.

May the Lord continue to bless you abundantly for your witness of charity, and may Our Lady watch over and strengthen all who participate in this vital mission of mercy.

Sincerely in Christ,



**Most Reverend John O. Barres, S.T.D., J.C.L., D.D., Bishop of Rockville Centre**



Inspiration strikes often at Catholic Charities of Long Island; you just have to know where to look. Our care touches on many essential human services. Homebound seniors receive nutritious meals and companionship. New and pregnant mothers gain access to diapers and breastfeeding tips. Developmentally disabled adults find community and develop their potential in our group homes. Those struggling with substance abuse problems and mental health issues get relief.

Our staff and volunteers understand the sacredness of every person we encounter and in the name of Jesus Christ offer care that builds their dignity and creates hope for the journey ahead. All that seek our help find welcome as neighbors.

This Impact Report couldn’t possibly detail everything we do. We try to show and tell as much as we can, since we never know what may inspire someone to spread the word, or volunteer, or offer prayerful or financial support.

In 2027, CCLI marks our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of life-supporting service. That’s a good long time, and yet no time to rest. It’s a great time to expand our Community of Caring. Please join us in whatever way you are able. I promise that you’ll be very glad you did.

Sincerely in Christ,



**Michael E. Smith**  
**Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities of Long Island**

# OUR MISSION

Catholic Charities of Long Island shares the love of Jesus by offering dignified and compassionate care to poor and vulnerable neighbors of every faith and background. As a ministry of the Roman Catholic Church, our work is inspired by the Gospel message that every human life is sacred.



## OUR SERVICES



**Addiction Treatment Services:** Talbot House Residential Stabilization Program/Outpatient Clinic

**Food and Nutrition Services:** Nutrition Outreach Education Program/Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program

**Housing:** Affordable Apartments for Seniors and People with Physical Disabilities

**Immigrant and Refugee Services:** Legal Counseling/ Citizenship & Refugee Resettlement/Advocacy

**Mental Health Outpatient Services:** Community-based Clinics

**Mental Health Residential Services:** Siena Residence for Adults with Psychiatric Disabilities/Project Independence and Project Veterans Independence

**Parish Social Ministry:** Parish Outreach/Support for Local Programs/Central Information and Referral

**Regina Maternity Services:** Maternity Case Management Program

**Residential Services for People with Developmental Disabilities:** Community Integration/Skills Development/Community Residences

**Senior Services:** Case Management/Meals-On-Wheels /Senior Community Services Centers

# HOW CATHOLIC CHARITIES DELIVERED HELP AND HOPE IN 2025



CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF LONG ISLAND marked another year bringing “Care with Dignity...Life with Hope” to needy and vulnerable neighbors in Nassau and Suffolk counties. Entries below illustrate the compassionate, Christ-like care given to those we encounter at our 50 ministry sites and on occasions when CCLI participates in the life of the Catholic Church on Long Island, including a Eucharistic procession before the 2025 Diocesan Eucharistic Congress.

The passing of Pope Francis at age 88 on Easter Monday in April brought the Universal Church a newly elected pontiff the next month. The former Cardinal Robert Prevost, a native of Chicago and the first American-born pope, took the name Pope Leo XIV. In his first Apostolic Exhortation, *Dilexi Te (I Have Loved You)*, Pope Leo offered a poignant reminder that love for the poor is a core tenet of the Catholic faith.

During Catholic Schools Week in January, teams from Catholic Charities of Long Island visited five Catholic elementary schools. At St. Brigid-Our Lady of Hope School in Westbury, students shared muffins they made with senior citizens from CCLI centers in Oceanside and West Hempstead. Students rang up sales of hot chocolate in a sweet fundraiser for CCLI at St. Mary's School in Manhasset.

Lidia Bastianich, the famed television chef and restaurateur, has never forgotten how Catholic Charities assisted her family in their first months in America when she was a girl. “There’s no country like America,” she said. “Catholic Charities is part of this.” Decades later, she related this story and other moments from her successful career. The interview, with CCLI’s Danielle Campbell, was for “You Did It for Me,” CCLI’s new half-hour show on Catholic Faith Network.

On April 8, Catholic Charities of Long Island presented its second Poverty Simulation, jointly sponsored by Catholic Health and the Sisters of St. Joseph and taking place on the sisters’ Brentwood campus. The simulation and intense awareness exercise involved 100 people, including many Catholic Charities staff members, portraying low-income family members and community vendors they encounter during a typical month.

On June 2, CCLI executives, including CEO Michael E. Smith, and managers and staff processed three miles with Our Lord Jesus in the Eucharist. The Eucharistic pilgrimage began after morning Mass at St. Raphael Church in East Meadow and went north on Newbridge Road before ending at the campus of Holy Trinity Diocesan High School, where Catholic Charities administrative offices are located. The pilgrimage was part of a schedule of such walks leading to the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress, where Bishop John O. Barres offered Mass for 5,000 participants on Pentecost Sunday, June 8.

Parish Social Ministry outreach programs at more than 100 Long Island parishes were busy leading to Thanksgiving. Sister Christine Sammons, O.P., the longtime PSM coordinator at St. Bernard’s in Levittown, estimated a 25 increase in those seeking help, including many new Spanish-speaking clients. At St. Bernard’s, the PSM team works alongside volunteers from the parish’s St. Vincent de Paul Conference. “I could never do this by myself,” Sister Christine said. In May, Sister Christine was one of those honored at CCLI’s annual Caritas Award Dinner.



# LIVING THE MISSION: CATHOLIC CHARITIES PEOPLE



## Volunteering Grows Family's Faith

As a parent of two young children, Alexandra Acosta had been looking for volunteer opportunities to enhance her family's Catholic faith. Last July, the Acostas spent more than four hours helping at the Catholic Charities of Long Island OPWDD Summer Dance at Butler Hall on the grounds of the Dominican Sisters of Amityville.

Alexandra and husband Alberto and their eight-year-old son Nicholas and six-year-old daughter Milania set up tables and decorations, served plates filled with slices of pizza and cake, and helped clean up. They greeted residents of the CCLI homes for the developmentally disabled as they entered and joined in dancing, too.

Having their own tasks made the kids feel like they were part of the action, instead of merely watching mom and dad work. "They had lots of fun," Mrs. Acosta said. When the day was over, her kids asked when the next dance would be, because they were eager to volunteer again.

The Acostas are parishioners of St. John of God Church in Central Islip, where Alexandra grew up. Nicholas and Milania were told beforehand that their family was sharing time with others, including some adults who might need their assistance. Mrs. Acosta considers her family's volunteer experience "a great avenue," and says it's important for parents "to nourish" their children's faith. It is a reminder of this passage from James 2:14: "What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works?"



## Bishop's Blessing for Immigrants, Staff

Bishop John O. Barres of Rockville Centre listened with a shepherd's heart as staff and clients shared how Catholic Charities of Long Island serves immigrants and refugees. Hailing from nations including Ukraine, Haiti, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Afghanistan, they spoke of the struggles that led many to migrate to the United States and the support Catholic Charities has offered since their arrival on Long Island.

As Bishop Barres greeted each person Catholic Charities serves, he promised to remember them and their families in prayer. The meeting took place at CCLI's Immigrant Services building in Amityville.

Staff members, whose service at CCLI ranges from a few months to 39 years, explained their responsibilities. Many first came to Catholic Charities as immigrants and refugees themselves. The work can be draining, one supervisor said, and "our faith, our beliefs" keep them going.

Bishop Barres led the group in prayer and imparted his blessing. "We ask that each person here be given a special gift of faith and hope, as they carry the cross of our Lord, as they try to move through all the difficulties and crosses of their situations," the bishop prayed. CCLI employees are "a great inspiration to all of us," he said.



## Kellenberg Campers Share Gifts with CCLI

The inaugural Service Immersion Camp, a weeklong July partnership between Kellenberg Memorial High School and Catholic Charities of Long Island, gave student campers experiences taking part in CCLI ministries.

Campers filled more than 300 backpacks for students in Wyandanch for distribution at the Gerald Ryan Outreach Center at Our Lady of Miraculous Medal parish. At Stella Maris retreat house in Islip, they met teen refugees from CCLI Immigrant Services and played sports, shared a pizza lunch and had a bilingual discussion about favorite activities.










Campers hosted a carnival featuring face-painting and water balloons for young kids in the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program in Freeport. At the Wantagh Senior Community Center, campers called Bingo, played cornhole, and spoke with active senior members.

One camper said she didn't realize "until I started packing backpacks in Wyandanch that some children don't have what we take for granted. Next year, I would like to bring items to each of the charities, like clothes to the parish and toys for the children in WIC."

♥ = CCLI sites



**NEARLY 1.2 MILLION DIRECT SERVICES TO LONG ISLAND NEIGHBORS IN NEED**

<p><b>HOUSING</b></p> <p><b>647,439 services</b></p> 	<p><b>FOOD &amp; NUTRITION</b></p> <p><b>231,590 services</b></p> 	<p><b>SENIORS</b></p> <p><b>149,974 services</b></p> 
<p><b>MENTAL HEALTH</b></p> <p><b>77,190 services</b></p> 	<p><b>IMMIGRATION &amp; REFUGEES</b></p> <p><b>20,837 services</b></p> 	<p><b>ADDICTION TREATMENT</b></p> <p><b>16,578 services</b></p> 
<p><b>PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY OUTREACH</b></p> <p><b>3,534 services</b></p> 	<p><b>CRISIS INTERVENTION</b></p> <p><b>1,613 services</b></p> 	<p><b>MATERNITY CARE</b></p> <p><b>1,109 services</b></p> 

♥  
† Care with Dignity... Life with Hope

## 2025 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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 Thomas W. Alexanderson, Chair  
 Msgr. James Vlaun, Vice Chair  
 Theresa Ahlstrom  
 Geraldine Brennan  
 Kenneth Ceonzo  
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 Christopher Palmer  
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 Lisa Savino FitzGerald  
 Michael E. Smith  
 Joseph Tedesco  
 Glenn Tyranski

## EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

**Michael E. Smith**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
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*Chief Operating Officer*  
**Richard Balcom**  
*Chief Financial Officer*



NEED HELP? CALL (516) 733-7000  
 90 CHERRY LANE, HICKSVILLE, NY 11801  
 WWW.CATHOLICCHARITIES.CC

## Catholic Charities of Long Island COMBINED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES For the year ended December 31, 2025

OPERATING REVENUE:	
Bequests, contributions and other gifts	\$ 2,525,059
Grants and other contracts	628,374
Catholic Ministries Appeal	750,000
Government contracts	14,156,872
Medicaid and Medicare	19,825,912
Fees, third-party and other reimbursements	4,250,963
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Total Operating Revenue	\$ 42,137,180
OPERATING EXPENSES:	
<b>Program Services:</b>	
Addiction Treatment Services	\$ 3,540,417
Food and Nutrition Services Health Systems	1,391,900
Housing	388,688
Immigrant Services	655,748
Maternity Services	2,496,296
Mental Health Outpatient Services	242,525
Parish Social Ministry	4,574,279
Residential Services	377,865
Senior Services	17,199,040
Special Needs Housing	5,795,771
Other Programs	101,563
	1,009,999
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Total Program Services	\$ 37,774,091
<b>Supporting Services:</b>	
Administration Fundraising	\$ 4,068,177
	507,293
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Total Supporting Services	\$ 4,575,470
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Total Operating Expenses	\$ 42,349,561
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS FROM OPERATIONS	
	\$ (212,381)
NONOPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Investment income and realized gains, net	\$ 1,433,977
Unrealized gains on investments, net	1,010,511
Change in net assets with donor restrictions	1,112,191
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CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 3,344,298
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NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	31,938,987
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NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 35,283,285
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Catholic Charities receives funding from the Catholic Ministries Appeal of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, federal agencies, the State of New York, Nassau and Suffolk counties, the United Way of Long Island, foundations, third-party reimbursements, client fees, contributions, grants, and bequests. Catholic Charities is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions to Catholic Charities are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Please know your donation to Catholic Charities of Long Island stays on Long Island helping your neighbors in need. Over 90 cents of every dollar donated is used to operate our essential life-saving ministries and services.

Catholic Charities gratefully acknowledges the legacies and support of those who assist in the continuation of our ministry. For information about planned giving donations to Catholic Charities, please contact the Development and Communications Department at (516) 733-7028.



## THIS DSP FELT WELCOME AT BUSTAMANTE FROM DAY ONE

Chris Bornschein first visited Bustamante Residence during an open house. He had never served as a Direct Support Professional, but took a liking to the work from his first day in January 2023. Residents of the West Babylon home made him feel at home, showing him their favorite pictures and clothing. “They were so warm and welcoming,” Chris said.

Bustamante is one of 12 homes Catholic Charities of Long Island operates for more than 100 adults with developmental disabilities.

Chris said he’s become close with the five Bustamante residents. He works the 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. shift on Saturdays and Sundays. He ensures residents have a good breakfast, and then regular outings to the movies, bowling and other fun activities follow. “It’s giving them something to do, a chance to get out in the community,” Chris said.

One example is a gingerbread-house-making event before Christmas with other CCLI homes. Guests received a gift from Santa Claus at the gathering sponsored by CYO Long Island, whose members helped residents make the sweet-tasting dwellings.

When a resident is having a difficult moment, Chris intercedes to discover the problem’s source, so he can address it. “If it’s something I can help them with, I’m going to try to do that.”

Chris, who was honored as CCLI’s 2024 DSP of the Year at Community Care Rx’s DSP recognition luncheon, said being recognized was “awesome.”

Lori Savin, director of Disability Services at CCLI, said Bustamante residents are drawn to Chris from the moment he arrives because “he treats them with the respect they deserve.” She calls Direct Support Professionals “the backbone of everything we do.” Their jobs are challenging, and they must be focused from the moment they arrive.

Chris was attending trade school when he began working for Catholic Charities. He is now a union electrician in New York City.

He originally thought he might give up the weekend work when he completed his schooling. “That never happened. I couldn’t see leaving them...,” Chris said. “You feel like you are doing something and spending your time valuably.”

He calls Bustamante “a feel-good kind of place to be.” He sounds a bit awed when describing residents’ outgoing nature. “It’s crazy, I’m way more shy than they’ll ever be. They are so outgoing. It’s really cool to see.”

“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love”  
(Ephesians 4:2)