These faces have a story to tell

2016 Annual Report
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Rev. Msgr. William Benwell
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The Most Rev. James Francis Checchio
Bishop of Metuchen

Marianne Majewski
Executive Director, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen
54,000 people received 196,318 hours of service through 103 programs, with the help of 581 volunteers who gave 31,664 hours of their time.

Mission Statement:
Driven by Catholic social teaching, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, provides quality services with dignity and respect to the poor, vulnerable and all people in need, and partners with families and communities to improve the quality of life.
Excellence in Service Delivery

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen has earned The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval® for accreditation by demonstrating compliance with The Joint Commission’s national standards for health care quality and safety in behavioral health care. Catholic Charities first achieved accreditation in January of 1998; this year marks the 18th straight year of accreditation for Catholic Charities in all services surveyed under the Commission’s Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Behavioral Health Care.

The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval® is an internationally recognized symbol of quality for accreditation. Accreditation is voluntary, and serves to illustrate our staff’s and administration’s willingness to go above and beyond in serving the most vulnerable among us, while ensuring the highest standards of quality care and service.

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New Approaches to Measuring Poverty

Recent U.S. Census data indicates as many as 1 million New Jerseyans are living in poverty, which is now calculated as $11,170 in annual income for an individual and $24,250 for a family of four. Research recently compiled by Legal Services of New Jersey showed nearly 3 million residents are living in poverty when the state’s high cost of living is factored into the analysis.

More New Jersey residents are in poverty now than in the past five decades. An estimated 2.8 million New Jersey residents—just under a third of the state’s population—earn less than the amount required to make ends meet; 40 percent higher than it was before the 2008 Great Recession.
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen is one of the largest non-profit social service providers in New Jersey. Our programs provide our clients with hope for a better life! We provide shelter to those suffering from the sting of homelessness; give hungry men, women and children nutritious meals; provide before and after school child care for working parents who struggle to make ends meet; give single mothers who are victims of domestic violence and their children a safe place to live. Our programs strengthen individuals and families, providing them with a path to self-sufficiency and hope for a better future.
“Behind these statistics are people, each of them with a name, a face, a story…”

- Pope Francis

Catholic Charities helped more than 570,000 people in the last ten years.

The statistics include the 2008 economic crisis and the aftermath of 2012 Superstorm Sandy.
Empowerment in Programming

Yusef’s Story

Overcoming gangs, drugs and homelessness

Yusef was homeless when he came to the Independent Living Program (ILP), having stayed here and there with friends for almost two years. He escaped his neighborhood, which he described as gang and drug infested. At Independent Living, Yusef received the support and stability he was missing from his life and went on to graduate from Phillipsburg High School on June 14, 2016. Yusef has accepted a full academic scholarship to Albright College in Reading, PA and plans to major in communication, minor in music, and ultimately become a motivational speaker.

The Independent Living Program is for youth who are approaching adulthood yet remain unable to return to their families. This program provides a supervised apartment type setting to facilitate the transition from a group home to living in the community without adult supervision. While in the facility, youth receive case management services and opportunities for real life experiences in a supportive environment. The program provides education in household maintenance, food shopping, meal preparation, money management, methods for accessing community resources, and assistance obtaining employment. All program components prepare these youth to live independently in the community.

In fiscal year 2016, the independent living program provided 1,488 days of care to eight young adults from four families. One graduated high school, two graduated from community college and four will go on to attend a four year college.
A frightening future

Family Worker staff members are part of the Youth Enrichment Services (YES) Early Childhood Education Program at Catholic Charities. Family Workers connect parents to resources, encourage parent involvement in their child’s educational experiences, and educate parents on healthy child development.

Carla was a three-year-old enrolled in the YES program. Her mother confided in her family worker that her landlord told her she had one week to move out of the room she rented for herself and her three children. The house was in foreclosure and the city would be shutting off the water. Carla’s mom was a single mother and was frightened for her family’s future.

The family worker contacted a local Housing Coalition and the Sheriff’s department to confirm the family would not have to leave the premises for six months. She also assisted Carla’s mom in applying for rental assistance and food stamps. This enabled her to save enough money to move out three months later.
It was during one of the coldest weeks last January when Catholic Charities received a call from the Perth Amboy Housing Authority concerning some men who were working in dire conditions at a Poultry Processing Plant in Perth Amboy, NJ. Our staff met with the six men to discuss their terrible working and living conditions at the plant.

The men were forced to work 12-14 hour days, 6 days a week. They were required to kill and process about 1,000 chickens a day with no equipment to cover their arms, hands or mouths. Their forearms were covered with long deep marks from the talons of the chickens. Their average pay was $240.00 per week with a mandatory deduction of $40.00 for a required stay in rooms in the attached residence with little or no heat. The men were not allowed sick days or holidays. One of the men was almost in a diabetic coma due to not being able to get his medication.

The men were threatened with deportation by the owner due to their immigration status so the men just kept quiet.

Four of the men were from Mexico and two were from Bangladesh, as was the business owner who directly threatened the safety of the workers’ families back in Bangladesh. Staff at Catholic Charities called the Department of Homeland Security to notify them of this possible human trafficking situation since the men were brought to New Jersey from New York to work and resided at this location in brutal conditions. The staff at Catholic Charities was able to assist the men with their housing

A Story of Desperation

The men were threatened with deportation by the owner due to their immigration status so the men just kept quiet.
In fiscal year 2016, 1,176 clients received 4,992 hours of service from the Catholic Charities Immigration Program.

A Story of Desperation (cont.)

needs and to provide Shoprite cards for groceries. They managed to get four of the men Deferred Action from Deportation due to their continued cooperation with the Homeland Security investigation, and two of the men now have Employment Authorization cards and can work with their new social security numbers. One of the men is preparing to become an UBER driver. The cases of all these men are currently under investigation with the New Jersey Attorney General’s office, who will determine the extent of the theft of wages and payments owed to the workers.

The Immigration Program offered by Catholic Charities assists immigrant individuals and families to adjust their legal status in the United States, to reunite their family members, to become free from abusive living situations or to become United States citizens. Services are also available to assist those seeking asylum and refugees who are fleeing from oppressive governments to seek freedom in the United States.

Note: At Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, we respect everyone who comes to us for help. So while these stories are true, client names and images may have been changed to protect privacy.
In fiscal year 2016, more than 500 individuals received assistance from the Multi-Services Program, ranging from rent and mortgage assistance, utility assistance and rehousing solutions. Catholic Charities shelters helped over 270 households and served more than 119,000 meals.

Nowhere to go

Kim was pregnant and holding her two small children by the hand when she walked into a Catholic Charities Office. She was fleeing a domestic violence situation and had no one to turn to and nowhere to go. Because Kim was an emergency walk-in, staff members were able to provide her with immediate support, case management, emergency shelter placement, a child booster seat and gift cards for clothing.

Taking advantage of Rapid Rehousing funding (temporary rental assistance), case managers were able to help Kim obtain housing. Once stably housed, Kim was able to find employment and enroll her children in counseling services where they were able to work through the trauma they experienced while they and their mother were living with their abuser. Ultimately Kim’s needs were met using a collaborative approach between programs, and the family received a permanent housing subsidy.

The Multi-Services Program provides resources to prevent households from homelessness, as well as to shorten the amount of time a family is without housing.
Financial Summary FY 2016

Total Revenue | FY 2016

- 45% State Funding Contracts $14,332,533
- 16% Client Generated Revenue $5,281,328
- 16% Medicaid/Medicare $5,177,715
- 8% Local/County Funding Contracts $2,505,378
- 6% Diocese of Metuchen $1,938,237
- 3% Donations - Cash & In-Kind $1,080,351
- 2% Federal Funding Contracts $539,205
- 2% Foundations $534,326
- 1% United Way $269,641
- 1% Interest & Other Income $298,165

100% TOTAL $31,956,879

Total Expenses | FY 2016

- 49% Behavioral Health & Youth Services $15,513,196
- 15% Childcare Services $4,751,803
- 12% Housing & Homeless Prevention $3,990,889
- 12% General & Administration $3,833,986
- 6% Social Justice & Disaster Relief $1,958,269
- 5% Out of Home Placement $1,646,582
- 1% Fundraising $70,514

100% TOTAL $31,765,239

The financial information reported was derived from the agency’s audited financial statements as of and for the year ending June 30, 2016.
How You Can Help

DONATE!
If you would like to help us serve more people in need, please go to: www.ccdom.org/donate or call: 732-324-8200

VOLUNTEER!
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, welcomes volunteer inquiries since the generous contribution of time and talent from individuals enables us to offer a higher level of quality service to those in need. Opportunities include but are not limited to: office assistance, mentoring, food preparation for our shelters, and shopping and friendly visits to homebound. call: 732-324-8200

DONATE YOUR VEHICLE!
A free, convenient service for converting a car, truck, or RV into a tax deductible donation benefiting Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen. Free pick-up is available and vehicles do not need to be running. Funds from the sale of donated vehicles support our programs serving the poor across Middlesex, Somerset, Hunterdon, and Warren counties. Donated vehicles are tax deductible. Donate online at: www.ccdom.org/cars or call: 877-999-8322

LEAVE A LEGACY:
Include us in your will. Please consider naming Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, as a beneficiary of your will. A gift through your will evidences your strong commitment to the needy and less fortunate that lasts beyond your lifetime. It is suggested that you use the following language:

I hereby give and devise to Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, a charitable organization located at 319 Maple Street, Perth Amboy, New Jersey 08861, $__________ to be used for its general charitable purposes.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, prefers that gifts be made for unrestricted general purposes so that your gift can be used where it is most needed. Thank you for your kind and thoughtful consideration in this regard.

At Catholic Charities, we work in partnership with volunteers, community resources and donors to provide services for anyone who needs us.

We can’t do it alone and need your help!
“We often talk about people giving time, talent or treasure to various social justice issues. Doug gave all three. It’s the way he lived his life. Doug was a selfless, compassionate, caring and virtuous man.

**TIME:** Doug enhanced the lives of those around him. No matter how inundated he was with his own work, he took time out of his busy schedule to help other staff members; he was a good and kind listener.

**TALENT:** He was a skilled attorney who could earn much more working for the private sector. He saved the agency and the diocese hundreds of thousands of dollars while working for Catholic Charities.

**TREASURE:** Doug was always doing random acts of kindness. His help to others ranged from direct financial assistance to buying donuts for staff members on a regular basis. His giving was genuine, never wanting anything in return. It was always anonymous. Doug will be truly missed by all who knew him.”

*Marianne Majewski, Executive Director*

**In Memory**

**Douglas J. Susan**

**September 1, 1962 – September 14, 2016**

Douglas J. Susan, Esq, Compliance Director of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen received The Benemerenti Medal from Pope Francis during evening prayer on June 13th, 2016 at the Cathedral of St. Francis, Metuchen. Benemerenti Medals are bestowed to individuals who have merited special recognition by the Holy See.

**Doug & Sharon’s Story**

A moving video describing one client’s unlikely meeting with Doug Susan and enduring friendship that delivered the message, “You never know what your neighbors might be struggling to overcome.”

https://youtu.be/Kg75CS1LAqQ
Spread the Word!

People from all walks of life, all races, all religions and all economic levels come to us for help. Catholic Charities responds with compassion, expertise and resources through more than 100 programs and provides hope for a brighter future. Anyone can call us for help.

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