

Substance Abuse Team Provides Compassionate Solutions to Addictions

In the past, addictions were perceived as a problem solely effecting an individual or a family, with no community impact until it resulted in crime. Today, communities are coming together to respond to the opioid epidemic with an increased understanding that an addict could also be a victim. What's happening right next door could affect anyone, including our children and grandchildren, and it's **our** problem.

Seventy-five percent of heroin addicts start their addiction with prescription pain killers. The amount of pain medication sold in Lenawee County in 2014 could provide every resident, adults and children, 40 doses of an opiate-based pain medication. In Jackson County last year, there were 51 deaths due to heroin overdose. Addictions are claiming victims in many ways. Many are incarcerated, some struggle daily, and others have lost their life because of drug

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use. As the opioid epidemic has intensified over the past few years, it has put a significant strain on communities and families.

Catholic Charities has been in the business of helping people for over 50 years. In the past few years, substance abuse counseling has developed into a core program of the agency - helping individuals combat their addictions.

Our current Substance Abuse staff of 14 highly-qualified

therapists is led by Program Manager, Kiernan Gamel. Kiernan joined the agency in 2006 and has been providing substance abuse treatment services for 30 years. Kiernan and his team work with over 3,000 people every year both in the community and prisons throughout the state, creating pathways to long-term sobriety through individual and group counseling. In many cases, the team works closely with other agency programs such as foster care and counseling, to develop a multi-disciplinary treatment approach where a therapist, case manager, recovery coach, and clinical supervisor collaborate to determine the best course for treatment.



75% of heroin addicts start their addiction with prescription pain killers.

To continue as a leader in substance abuse treatment services, we are now certified to provide Narcan, a lifesaving treatment in cases of overdose. Further, we have moved towards a Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) model to treat our opioid dependent clients. This

model has a higher success rate and includes partnering with community medical doctors or clinics.

What we excel in is saving lives, one person fighting an addiction at a

time. "The best part of my job is hearing the hope in the voices of the people I work with," says Kiernan, "the hope for a drug free tomorrow, the hope for the future of their loved ones, and the hope that they will be part of that future."

creating hope

Substance Abuse Counseling

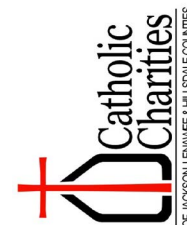
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2016 ANNUAL REPORT



OF JACKSON, LENAWEE & HILLSDALE COUNTIES

Jackson:
 3425 Francis St.
 Jackson, MI 49203
 517-782-2551

Lenawee:
 199 N. Broad St.
 Adrian, MI 49221
 517-263-2191

Hillsdale:
 By appointment
 1-800-219-1177

Providing Help. Creating Hope.
www.CatholicCharitiesJLHC.org

2016 Program Highlights



Our comprehensive programs and services have impacted many lives throughout the communities we serve. Here are the 2016 highlights from across our agency.

Counseling Services & Programs

- ✓ We provided over **12,500 sessions** of outpatient mental health and substance abuse counseling.
- ✓ We provided a part-time school counselor in four elementary schools.

Foster Care & Adoption

- ✓ We placed **49 children** in loving homes in foster care.
- ✓ We found "forever homes" for **20 children** through our adoption services.

Child Advocacy Centers

- ✓ Conducted forensic interviews for **194 child victims** of sexual or severe physical abuse in Jackson County.
- ✓ We are opening a Child Advocacy Center in Lenawee County in 2017.

Roadmap to Graduation

To help them complete their high school graduation, **two homeless teens** were provided with:

- ✓ safe, reliable housing
- ✓ mentoring
- ✓ resources to help with future success

Senior Transportation Services

25 volunteer drivers transported seniors to over **2,000 critical medical appointments**.

Personal Needs & Linen Closet

Thousands of toiletries, cleaning supplies, and linens were distributed to help those in need through difficult times.

Thank you Donors!

Thank you to the foundations, businesses, and each and every one of you who made donations in 2016! Your support makes our work possible!

You can view a complete list of 2016 donors online at CatholicCharities.org/annualreport2016. If you would like to receive a printed copy of the donor list, please contact Kyle Jansen at 517-262-0466, kjansen@CatholicCharitiesJLHC.org



Child Foster Care Services Grow to Help Address Opioid Crisis

Jesus said: "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. (Lk 5:31)" When a parent is sick it affects the whole family especially the children. As the opioid crisis rises in this country so does the strain it is putting on the foster care system, and the Foster Care Program at Catholic Charities is no exception.

providing help Foster Care Services

A decade ago, about 20% of the cases in which a child needed foster care were related to substance abuse by the birth parents. Today, roughly 80% of children in foster care have parents dealing with addictions. It is not uncommon in these cases for one birth parent to be an addict, while the other parent has died from a drug overdose.

The impact on children in these situations is tragic. Today's more potent combination of illicit drugs has elevated the number of cases of sexual abuse, severe neglect, domestic violence, and unclean living conditions. Many children are living in an environment of constant fear. Severely traumatized children will undoubtedly suffer even more loss and trauma along the way as they enter the foster care system.

Catholic Charities now averages 40 children at any given time in our foster homes, up from a dozen just a decade ago. We

provide these children safe placement with caring, trained foster parents willing to open their homes and hearts and allow the children to enter their lives. In addition to meeting every-day needs of the children, foster parents often provide transportation to needed medical, dental or therapy sessions. If not for these generous caregivers, our foster children may never know the security and support they need to learn to trust again. Foster Parents provide children with safe, loving care that affords the birth parents a chance to work toward putting their lives back together.

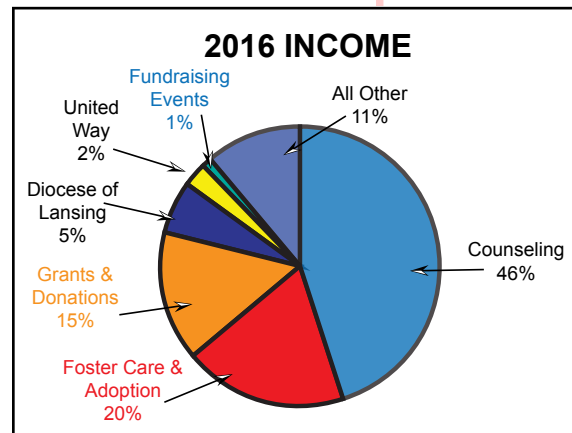
One family's story: Catholic Charities provides help for children placed in foster care and their parents. One family included four children, ages 3, 5, 7, and 8, who were all placed in foster care. Their birth parents were both addicted to heroin which subsequently resulted in an unsafe home environment of domestic violence. While initially resistant to services through the foster care program, the parents eventually realized their need for radical life changes, to be reinforced by periodic judicial reviews. Both parents completed substance abuse assessments and complied with substance abuse treatment and aftercare services. Both mom and dad also completed parenting classes and began supervised visits with their children in a more positive and nurturing manner. The birth mother secured a job, providing funds to create a safer and healthier home. Ongoing family therapy helped to repair the torn relationships. The

children were eventually returned safely to the family home approximately one year later. Their dedication to successfully completing substance abuse treatment and parenting classes and commitment to an ongoing recovery process helped them to reunite with their children.

2016 Financials

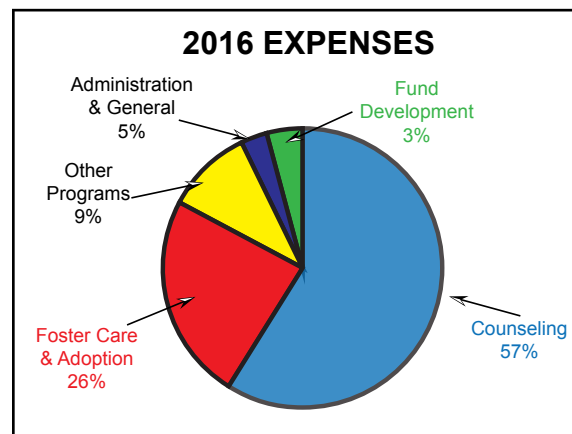
2016 Income

Counseling	\$1,411,227
Foster Care & Adoption	618,433
Grants & Donations	466,480
Diocese of Lansing	163,236
United Way	64,589
Fundraising events	25,886
All Other	350,173
Total:	\$3,100,024



2016 Expenses

Counseling	\$1,719,423
Foster Care & Adoption	800,213
Other Programs	274,720
Administration & General	137,804
Fund Development	100,518
Total:	\$3,032,678



How can you help?

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- ✓ **Pray for our work**

Details at our website or by contacting us at:

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kjansen@CatholicCharitiesJLHC.org

Lenawee & Hillsdale: Bea at 517-879-0599
bcuthbertson@CatholicCharitiesJLHC.org

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Dear Friends of Catholic Charities,



Catholic Charities has always strived to think and plan strategically while staying focused on our mission. As I look back on 2016, there were difficult financial decisions that had to be made. One was to ensure that Catholic Charities had a presence in Jackson County well into the future. With our move from Joy Avenue to Francis Street, we did just that. Another was to bring a Child Advocacy Center to Lenawee County to ensure children who had been sexually abused were not re-traumatized. Both decisions came with challenges as well as opportunities, and both meant that we take a leap of faith and trust in God. What has sustained us for well over 50 years has been our faith, knowing that if we stay true to our mission, God will always be with us.

Our mission is the work of the Catholic Church, to share the love of Christ by performing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Needless to say, that is a tough job, because our work every day is not only with the poor and most vulnerable, but also with those living on the margins of society or the imprisoned. If there is one thing that I would like to share with our donors, it is that we will never deviate from staying true to our mission. Whether it is providing a mentor family for a homeless teen, working with individuals struggling with addiction, giving love and support to a child who was sexually abused, or hope to a traumatized foster child who only wants a forever home, you can trust that we see the face of Jesus in every man, woman, or child who comes to Catholic Charities.

Staying true to our mission also brings challenges and at Catholic Charities those challenges in 2016 were mainly financial. What we experienced last year was an outpouring of support from our donors and volunteers. Individuals, foundations, parishes, and service clubs in our communities continued to reach out to us, and to them I offer my sincere gratitude. I would also like to acknowledge our incredible staff for their hard work and dedication to our mission, always focused on **providing help and creating hope** to our clients with dignity and respect.

On behalf of everyone at Catholic Charities, especially the people we serve, thank you for your prayers and continued support.

God's Blessings,

Sue Lewis

Sue Lewis
Executive Director

Mission Statement

Our Mission is the Work of the Catholic Church, to Share the Love of Christ by Performing the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.