

# Catholic Charities Connections Fall 2020

**Programs & Services** 

**Get Involved** 

**Donate** 

#### **Greetings!**

COVID-19 continues to challenge our communities – and Catholic Charities – and we recognize that our work is increasingly important. The resolve of our organization is unwavering, and we will move ahead to serve those in need despite the challenges and obstacles resulting from the pandemic.

As always, Catholic Charities appreciates your prayers and monetary donations as we work to meet the needs of our neighbors. With faithful work, we are focused on *Providing Help* and *Creating Hope* for anyone who comes to us for help.

# News and Updates

## **Update on our Response to COVID-19**

During the pandemic, the ways in which we live have changed for everyone and Catholic Charities is no exception. We continue to implement agency-wide procedures to keep our staff, clients, and volunteers as safe as possible when in our buildings. We have guidelines in place for wearing masks, staggered appointment scheduling, and social distancing. We have also implemented new technologies and



procedures to facilitate remote counseling for medically at-risk clients. In-person sessions have resumed for most; however, we are prepared to meet the needs of ALL our clients during this ever-changing environment.

**Foster Care** staff continue to ensure that every child has a safe home and foster families continue to receive the support they need. The staff at our **Child Advocacy Centers** continue their critically important work despite the challenges presented during the pandemic.

Our **Senior Transportation** and **Personal Needs and Linen Closet** (PNLC) programs are both operational, providing critical services to populations of need. The PNLC is open the second and fourth Fridays of each month from 9:00a to 12:00p. To volunteer to drive for the Senior Transportation program or to register for services, call 517-783-6102 for information.

Most of our MDOC **Counseling** staff are back in the prisons across the state providing counseling and support for those struggling with substance use disorders (SUD). The **SUD** educational and treatment groups at our agency offices provide compliance assistance and

support while navigating the requirements of the legal system.

If you have questions or concerns, please discuss them with any of our staff members.



#### October's Faith in Action Virtual Event

A big thank you to those of you who "attended" the live portion of our virtual *Faith in Action* fundraising event on October 8, 2020. And, thanks to those of you who have since viewed the video through our <u>Facebook</u> page and posted on our website. The event featured our "Men in Black" and Peter Herbeck of Renewal Ministries, who was the special guest speaker for this year's event. We give our heartfelt thanks to all of the priests who participated

and special appreciation to Mr. Herbeck for his insight and passion for our cause. The giving campaign is still open; to download a pledge form to join our *St. Teresa of Calcutta Giving Society* or become a *Catholic Charities Angel*, click <a href="here">here</a>.

## Did you miss it? Watch it here!



#### **Year-end Donation Statements**

Catholic Charities no longer automatically sends out year-end donation statements for tax filings. If you require a statement for your 2020 giving, please contact Kellie Gainey at <a href="mailto:kgainey@catholiccharitiesjlhc.org">kgainey@catholiccharitiesjlhc.org</a> or call (517)262-0466.



## **Career Opportunities**

Catholic Charities is searching for exceptional candidates for several open positions, which are detailed on our <u>Careers Page</u>. Please contact us if you are interested in any of the postings, or share these rewarding career opportunities with your friends and associates who might be a good fit.

Our agency encourages persons of diverse faiths and backgrounds to apply for employment.

# **Upcoming**

**Annual Christmas Appeal** 



Watch your mailbox for the annual Catholic Charities' Christmas card. We are asking for your financial support as this year closes out.

The adorable artwork on the front of the card was drawn for us by a child adopted through our **Foster Care and Adoption Program**. Please partner with us in our mission -- to share the love of Christ by performing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

The gift of hope comes in many forms – and we cannot offer it without you.

## **Donate Online**

## Is God Calling You to Serve as a Foster Parent?

Of the many ways you can show love, foster care is one of the greatest. If you are interested in playing this important role, Catholic Charities can help you be the answer for a child or teen in need. Contact our Child Welfare staff at (517) 740-1731 for information about upcoming informational orientation meetings. Information on becoming a foster parent can also be found on our website <a href="here">here</a>.



## Volunteer Corner

# PLEASE NOTE...

Due to the pandemic, Catholic Charities will **not** be utilizing volunteers to facilitate the 2020 Christmas Appeal mailing. While we appreciate the love and support given for this essential yearly campaign, we also want our volunteers safe and healthy.

# Blankets Wrap You in Warmth; Quilts Wrap You in Love

Catholic Charities is grateful for the generous volunteer quilters who keep our *Comfort Quilts* in stock at our **Jackson and Lenawee County Child Advocacy Centers**. At these centers, we offer each child we serve a "Comfort Quilt" at the end of their visit, to assure them that people in the community care about the trauma they have endured and their path to healing. Since starting this project in 2018, we've given over 500 Comfort Quilts.



Want to get involved? Call (517) 879-0599 for details, or to find out more about our Child Advocacy Centers and the work we do there, click **here**.

We pray the closing of 2020 will help bring peace and joy to our lives and that each of us sees God in those you encounter each day.



We encourage you to share our newsletter with your friends and family and ask them to join you in supporting our work.

Please pray for us as we carry out our mission for the most vulnerable in our communities.

May God bless you!

# **Catholic Charities**

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Visit our website

