

Catholic Charities

Connections

November/December 2023

Services

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Hello Bea,

Fall is showing us its full splendor and beauty with the changing color of the leaves and the weekend rides into the scenic back country in and around the tri-county area. Enjoy while you can, as winter is soon approaching.

Today, we recap recent events, highlight upcoming events, offer ways for you to get involved, and recognize a long-time volunteer.

We hope you enjoy this issue of *Catholic Charities Connections!*

Quick Recap

The Faith in Action & ADAM Butterfly Events

Two big events occurred recently: Our Faith in Action fundraiser and the ADAM Butterfly Release event. We appreciate all who participated and/or made these events possible.

Many thanks...

The Faith in Action Fundraiser would not have been as successful without the support of our Board of Directors, Father Satheesh Alphonse from Our Lady of Fatima church, Father Tim MacDonald from Queen of the Miraculous Medal church, all of our underwriters/sponsors, guests and our testimonial speaker Dennis. A special thank you to Mr. Chuck Gaidica, our keynote speaker, who gave an inspiring talk about his life's work and faith journey. We appreciate all of our dedicated Priests & Deacons who attended and lent their support! And of course, Sue Lewis, Executive Director of Catholic Charities, who continues to provide leadership and a focus on mission.



Mr. Chuck Gaidica was our keynote speaker for the event, providing a wonderful story of his life, his work, and his faith.



Board of Directors President Dan Bishop offers remarks and introductions.



The celebration of Mass together is always a meaningful way to begin our evening together.



Executive Director Sue Lewis provides an update on our agency's work.



Fr. Tim shows off his Mother Teresa socks to inspire membership in our *St. Teresa of Calcutta Giving Society*.

Our "Men in Black" once again led us in our inspiration closing.





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ADAM event...



On September 13th, the annual ADAM butterfly release event took place at Gene Davis & Sons Banquet Hall. With the Beiswanger family (founders of the ADAM program) in attendance and a large group of attendees, all butterflies were

released successfully. Cindy Hayden from the Ballooney Bin was on hand to make balloon animals for the attendees. Deacon Todd Dahlberg (Board member) provided the opening prayer and Catholic Charities' Counselor Lisa Holdridge provided a talk on loss and grief. We also cannot forget to mention the Michigan Native Butterfly Farm that provided us with such beautiful butterflies. We would like to thank everyone who came out to support the butterfly release event and look forward to next year.

You can see some of the highlights from our events online at [Events – Catholic Charities \(catholiccharitiesjhc.org\)](https://www.catholiccharitiesjhc.org).

What's New?

The Child Advocacy Center of South Central Michigan celebrates the reopening of its expanded Jackson location.

The Jackson County Child Advocacy Center (now part of the [CACSCMI](#)) celebrated the completion of the expansion and renovation project with an open house on October 19th. Tours were given by Jamie Lee (CACSCMI Program Director), Sue Lewis (Executive Director) and the very dedicated staff. Jackson County Prosecutor Jerry Jarzynka provided the crowd with a brief history of the CAC and its impact on the community. Other key community members were in attendance, including members of the Jackson County Multi-Disciplinary Team partners, who work daily with the staff at the CAC, making sure the children we serve receive the best care. The Doug Beiswanger family, founders of our ADAM program, were instrumental in making this project possible. Their son Adam will be recognized at the site with a memorial hydrangea tree and plaque. A special thank you to [Underwood's Nursery](#) in Adrian who provided the memorial tree, [Mancino's Pizza](#) who allowed us the use of their parking lot throughout the whole renovation project, [Sylvia's Catering](#) for the wonderful appetizers at the open house, and Kutcha's Party Rentals who provided the much-needed tent as the day was overcast and raining. And a big thank you to all who attended!





Jackson County Prosecutor and Catholic Charities' Board member Jerry Jarzynka

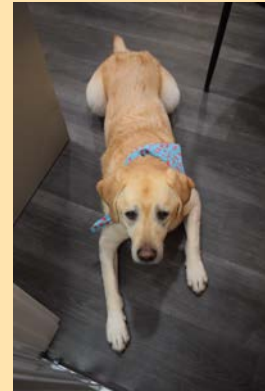


CACSCMI Jackson office staff



This tree will be a reminder of Adam, for whom our ADAM program was named. This facility was the original location for ADAM.

The revised interior space lends itself to better service with a professional yet homey atmosphere.



Shane works with our staff to offer a unique therapy opportunity for kids.

Upcoming Events

Giving Tuesday is November 28th



With **Giving Tuesday** approaching (November 28, 2023), Catholic Charities JLHC will once again be offering prize packages (TBD) for those donating at least \$100 on Giving Tuesday. This opportunity is only one day, so mark your calendars! This is also a great time to think about your year-end tax benefits with your charitable contribution in any amount. A gift to Catholic Charities of Jackson, Lenawee and Hillsdale Counties is a great way to ring in the holidays. Keep an eye out for e-blasts in the coming weeks with more details, or watch our [website](#).



Join us for a Special Memorial Event



Tree Lighting



Date: Sunday, December 10, 2023

Time: 6:45pm - 8pm

Where: Catholic Charities of Jackson,
Lenawee & Hillsdale Counties

Address: 3425 Francis St, Jackson, MI

Candle Lighting



****THIS IS A FREE EVENT****

Be a part of this worldwide event in remembrance of loved ones who have died, but will never be forgotten. Candles are lit around the globe for one hour (7-8pm local time), until the light has moved around the world and continuously burning for 24 hours.

Candle and tree lighting are outdoors. Refreshments served indoors.

**Sign up at our event on our ADAM Facebook page
@anotherdayanothermemory, or call (517)782-2551.**

Volunteer Corner



A very heartfelt thank you to now retired volunteer driver for Senior Transportation, JIM LEFERE! Jim will be missed by many everyone he drove. He was known by many as "the Cookie Man" as he would bring his homemade cookies to clients. Jim, you are an amazing person who touched and helped so many. We appreciate your many years of time and care!

(pictured above, Board President Dan Bishop and retiring Senior Transportation volunteer driver Jim Lefere)

Find out more about how YOU can become a volunteer driver! Call [Kristen](tel:517.783.6102) at **517.783.6102** to get started today.

We need you! Two meetings left before the end of the year!

FOSTER PARENT

INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

If you have ever thought foster parenting may be for you, come find out! All meetings are **FREE** to attend and our qualified staff will be on hand to answer your questions.

Please note: All orientations listed below are held at our Foster Care office at 425 Ormsby, Adrian MI 49221. To schedule an individual orientation, call (517)740-1731.

September 11 @ 5:30

September 25 @ 11:00

October 9 @ 5:30

October 23 @ 11:00

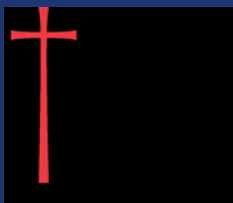
November 13 @ 5:30

November 27 @ 11:00



Join our team!

Donate Today



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