

# Catholic Charities

## Connections

July-August 2025

Services

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Hello Catholic Charities,

A great deal has happened since our last edition of *Catholic Charities Connections*. With a new Church leader in Pope Leo XIV, we find a renewed hope for the future. Our staff is busy offering help each day for those in need and serving as God's hands and feet in our community. We have upcoming events to watch for and some ways you can help.

We are glad you're here to be a part of our community. Read on for all the latest news from YOUR Catholic Charities agency!

## News



### Welcoming Pope Leo XIV

The world mourned the passing of Pope Francis while it waited for an announcement of our newest leader. The whole world watched for the famed white smoke from the Sistine Chapel, longing to see who it would be. Not many imagined we would see the first North American born Pope in history. We welcome Pope Leo XIV with all the hope and inspiration he brings. We pray that the Holy Spirit protects and guides our new Pope in his work of leading the Church.

As an extension of our local Catholic parishes, we are part of that same Church. We serve those in need by acting as the hands and feet of Jesus. It is all connected - our call from God to serve others, our sacrifices that make that work possible, and our peace in knowing we are part of something much bigger in our world. Although we are just one small part of the worldwide Church, we follow St. Teresa of Calcutta's wisdom that "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."

## Child Advocacy Center News



**Backed by  
National Children's Alliance®**

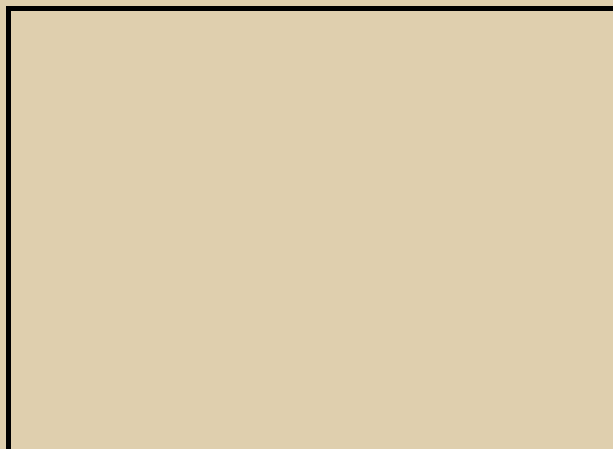
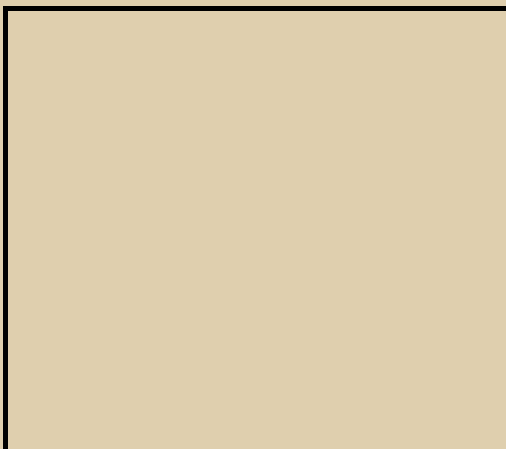
**ACCREDITED CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER**

### Reaccreditation Received for CACSCMI

The Children's Advocacy Center of South Central Michigan is pleased to announce that we have successfully renewed our accredited status with the National Children's Alliance! What does this mean? [Read on](#) to learn more.

### Our CAC Goes to Lansing

On Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> CACSCMI Program Director, Caitlyn Hayes-Cheng and CACSCMI Family Advocate Supervisor, Shannon Porter traveled to Lansing for the 2025 Advocacy Day. Representatives from Child Advocacy Centers all over the State of Michigan met with Michigan Senators and Representatives to "advocate for steady and consistent funding and for essential child safety priorities that impact the children of Michigan." Caitlyn and Shannon met with State Representatives **Carrie Rheingans** and **Kathy Schmaltz** (as seen here), as well as **Senator Joseph Bellino**. In addition to these meetings, Caitlyn and Shannon were able to have many more conversations with a number of other Senators and State Representatives while doing Literature Drops.









## It's Christmas In July

### Christmas in July Campaign kicks off!

Can you help make Christmas a brighter time for children in our foster care program? Each year, we enroll our foster kids in the Operation Good Cheer program.

Give a  
Gift

### Christmas in July



This program helps provide gifts for the holidays for all foster kids across the state. There is a fee of \$40 for every kid we enroll. Can you sponsor one foster child? Or maybe more? Go to our campaign form to make your online donation for this effort.

Find out more about our foster care program [here](#).

# Butterfly Event for ADAM

## A.D.A.M Memorial Butterfly Release August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025



Grief Support Provided Through:



A program of:



A.D.A.M. continues its annual tradition of remembrance this year, featuring the release of over 100 butterflies. Each guest will receive one butterfly to release in honor of their loved one(s).

### FREE EVENT

A hot dog dinner with sides will be provided, along with the butterflies for the release

**Time:** 5:30 pm-7:00 pm

**Location:** St. Rita's Catholic Church  
10516 Hayes Rd, Clarklake, MI 49234

**Deadline:** Must Register by August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Register at:** 517-782-2551 or [lveenstra@CatholicCharitiesJLHC.org](mailto:lveenstra@CatholicCharitiesJLHC.org)

Register today for this moving event honoring your loved ones who have passed. Click the image to call and reserve your spot or email [here](#).

## Sponsors Needed

Our 9th annual Faith in Action fundraising event will be here before you know it. We have an exciting evening in the works, but

we need your help to make it happen. Are you a business owner - or individual - who likes to give back to the community while being visible to and noticed by customers and neighbors? This is your chance to showcase your generosity and involvement by becoming a sponsor for our event.



Click [HERE](#) to download the sponsor form or contact us at [development@CatholicCharitiesJLHC.org](mailto:development@CatholicCharitiesJLHC.org) or [517.262.0466](tel:517.262.0466) today!

## Join our Team

We are always looking for amazing people to join our team. Current openings are also posted on LinkedIn. Share our listings with others who may be interested and help us spread the word.

Careers

## Board of Directors Highlight

### Jean Kaisler

Mrs. Jean Kaisler has been on our Board of Directors for many years. During her time with Catholic Charities, she has served on the Executive Board, our Development Committee, and been a key volunteer for many of our events.

A note from Jean:

"As a member of the Board of Directors, my role is primarily "behind the scenes". Yet, I'm profoundly aware that the decisions made by the Board affect the many people we serve, people we will never meet. We don't know who they are, but God does. I'm grateful to be part of an organization that includes a team of dedicated, professional staff, enthusiastic volunteers, generous



To quote Saint Teresa of Calcutta, "Each one of them is Jesus in



donors, and engaged clergy and churches heeding the call to serve those who find themselves in need of the care and support provided by CCJLHC.

disguise." By following her example, and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we can serve those in need of our services in the true spirit of charity- giving of our time, talents and treasures as though it was Jesus himself who was at our door."

## 2024 Annual Report

Our **2024 Annual Report** is now available. If you did not receive a copy in the mail, you can view and download it at [CatholicCharitiesJLHC.org/about](https://CatholicCharitiesJLHC.org/about) or call us at [517.262.0466](tel:517.262.0466) to have a copy mailed.

JACKSON  
3425 Francis St  
Jackson, MI 49203

Provided



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Donate Today

## Matching Funds Helps Double Your Donation

Where do you work? Many employers will match contributions to nonprofits like us. If you aren't sure, you can ask your employer's Human Resources department and see if your donation will be matched. Want more information? Email our Development staff [HERE](#).



Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to see what else is happening and to watch for upcoming **volunteer opportunities**.

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**Catholic Charities**  
of Jackson, Lenawee & Hillsdale Counties  
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