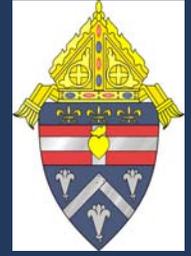




2018 Annual Report Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux



CATHOLIC CHARITIES ENDOWMENT

The Catholic Charities Endowment balance as of June 30, 2018 was \$2,459,278. The Endowment provides funding, in perpetuity, for the charitable works of the Diocese of Houma –Thibodaux through Catholic Charities. Donations may be designated to a specific Catholic Charities program or for the support of all CCHT programs. Named funds to honor an individual, family, or community may be established. Listed are the Catholic Charities Endowment Funds:

- Al and Mary Danos Catholic Charities Fund
- Charlotte Bollinger Family Fund
- Breaux-Delaune Fund
- Bringaze Family Fund
- Byron E. Talbot Contractor Fund
- Callais Family Fund
- Dr. Werner J. and Virginia S. Hagen Family Fund
- Earline and Roy LeBlanc Fund
- Giardina Family Fund
- Harold & Gloria Callais Family Fund
- Jack and Loretta Guidry Fund
- Jock and Tee Cenac Fund
- Lafourche Charities Fund
- Lanny Ledet Memorial Fund
- Marvin and Loretta Marmande Family Fund
- Mary Danos Fund
- Morris and Sandra Hebert Family Fund
- Patrick Murphy Fund
- Pennison Family Fund
- Sr. Stanislaus Langlinais Fund

ASSISI BRIDGE HOUSE (ABH) and INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM (ILP)

A residential halfway house and transitional program for chemically dependent men. Phone 872-5529

Director: Monique Albarado, LPC
Counselor: Billy Degeyter, LAC, LPC
Case Manager: Deacon Lee Crochet
Secretary: Pat Keese; Night Manager: Joseph George

2018 Report

The Assisi Bridge House (ABH) provided alcohol and drug abuse recovery services to 40 residents during the year. The Independent Living Program (ILP) provided community housing and recovery services to 7 ABH graduates. 61% of residents who remained at ABH for over 90 days, and with whom contact could be made, remained sober for one year. 40% of all 40 residents had one continuous year of sobriety (if contact could not be made, the resident is not counted as sober).

The ILP is a program for men who have graduated from ABH and are ready to live and work independently with continued support from the ABH counselors and others within the recovery community. 71% all of this year's ILP residents had one continuous year of sobriety.

The Assisi Bridge House and Independent Living Program receive financial support from the United Way for South Louisiana, Medicaid, South Central Louisiana Human Services Authority (Louisiana state general revenues and a Federal block grant), and the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux. Additional financial support is provided through fees, grants and donations.

ABH remains accredited by CARF with the highest certification available, three years.



Robert Gorman, Retiring Catholic Charities Executive Director, welcomes Dr. Nicole Bourgeois, Incoming Executive Director, effective April 1, 2019.

Mission Statement

Providing compassionate service and empowering people in need through faithfulness to the Gospel.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY CENTER SOUTH LAFOURCHE

A food and clothing center in South Lafourche; some outreach and counseling services and response in times of disaster.

Center Manager: Susan Terrebonne
Phone 632-6859

2018 Report

In 2018, Catholic Community Center celebrated 35 years of service to the South Lafourche community. Five hundred and one (501) families were assisted with food, clothing and household supplies- a total of 1,235 individuals. Three (3) individuals were assisted with medicine in the amount of \$109 and, in partnership with local Catholic churches, eighteen (18) families received utility assistance totaling \$1,376 to prevent disconnection. Volunteers contributed 9,899 service hours. The Center provided assistance with linens, dishes and clothes to families who experienced loss from fires and blankets, pillows, sheets, clothing, nonperishable food and personal hygiene items in backpacks to homeless individuals.



The Bayou Community Foundation (BCF) Board of Directors visited Catholic Community Center in November. BCF gave a grant to the Center to move the food bank into a more spacious part of the building.

CATHOLIC HOUSING SERVICES (CHS)

A program providing assistance for middle and low income people who wish to become first-time home owners; pre-purchase counseling and credit counseling for home buyers.

Associate Director: Paula Dawson-Ringo
Phone 876-0490

2018 Report

Twenty graduates became first-time homeowners in 2018 (658 since 1995). One hundred and thirty-five households attended a workshop, a home buyer education course, or an individual counseling session. Grants totaling \$8,094 were provided by CHS to assist five families with closing costs. There were 59 individual consultations to review family credit histories, to determine the family's mortgage qualifications and to assist families with action plans to reach their homeownership goal.

411 Volunteers

COASTAL ENTREPRENEURS' NET TO SUCCESS (C.E.N.T.S.)

A self employment, entrepreneurs' program that provides training and one-on-one counseling to support the development and growth of legitimate small or micro businesses.

Associate Director: Paula Dawson-Ringo
Phone 876-0490

2018 Report

In 2018, the C.E.N.T.S. program provided one C.E.N.T.S. Training Session (nine classes each) with six (6) participants and four (4) graduates.

29,653 Hours of Service

DIOCESAN DISASTER SERVICES MATTHEW 25

CCHT coordinates the diocesan assistance to victims of disasters. In time of natural disasters CCHT responds in partnership with local parishes, Matthew 25 volunteers, the Knights of Columbus and St. Vincent de Paul societies throughout the diocese.

Associate Director: Agnes Bitature
Director: Robert D. Gorman
Phone 876-0490

2018 Report

Six Mathew 25 Training Workshops were held in 2018, with twenty-two church parishes in attendance. 34 parishes also updated their MOUs. Volunteers from our Diocese collected and delivered a trailer load of cleaning supplies and household items to Panama City Florida to assist those affected by Hurricane Michael.



Disaster relief supplies were delivered to Catholic Charities of NW Florida in October 2018 with help from John Deere; Catholic Charities; Sacred Heart, Morgan City; St. Charles Borromeo, Thibodaux and St. Bernadette Knights of Columbus.

10,047 People Served

GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD BANKS

Ecumenical (Interchurch) food banks in Thibodaux and Raceland provide food, personal hygiene and household items to families in need.

Managers: Kristin LaFleur; Leslie Robichaux
Thibodaux 447-9776, Raceland 537-7706

2018 Report

The Thibodaux food bank served 2,091 families during the year, totaling 4,082 individuals. The Raceland food bank provided food to 1,266 families reaching 2,021 individuals. Volunteers at both food banks contributed more than 18,403 hours of service. The United Way for South Louisiana, local churches, clubs and individual donors provided support to the food banks. Additionally, the Thibodaux Food Bank was supported by the Lenten Gumbo groups at St. Joseph Co-Cathedral and St. John Episcopal Church. The Raceland Thrift Store supported the Raceland Food Bank.

For the third year, the Thibodaux Food Bank sponsored the John Deere funded backpack program at Thibodaux Elementary and W. S. Lafargue Elementary. Every Friday 490 low-income children were provided snacks and meals for the weekend. The food is purchased by the food bank, packed by food bank and John Deere volunteers and distributed by the schools.



With gratitude, we recognize the remarkable contribution of all of our donors and volunteers and the blessings they bestow upon our community by their support.

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance for people experiencing a temporary financial crisis due to a job loss, accident or family illness.

Associate Director: Jennifer Gaudet
Phone 876-0490

2018 Report

Twenty-three Catholic parishes interviewed families in need and sent referrals to CCHT for assistance. Utility assistance of \$22,411 was provided to 97 families to prevent disconnection. Fifty families were assisted with \$14,170 of rental assistance to prevent eviction and 20 families received help with medicine in the amount of \$1,717. Six families were provided assistance with shelter expenses of \$850 and ten families were assisted with \$535 for transportation expenses. Ten families received \$1,000 for help with funeral costs. Four families were assisted with \$696 in deposits to assist in moving after a fire. Fifty-six people were assisted with birth certificates or state identification cards at a cost of \$1,474.

Adopt a Family Christmas Program assisted 43 children with toys. A total of 22 individuals and businesses “adopted” families to provide the toys.

Assistance with completing **Social Security Disability** applications is provided to individuals who become disabled and unable to work. Four people were assisted in 2018 through this program. Thirty-eight people have successfully received social security disability benefits since the program began.



VITA volunteers, organized by CCHT, provided free income tax preparation in Houma to 326 families. Twelve volunteers contributed 756 hours of service.

Project Self Help assisted 54 individuals with \$6,304 in grants for vo-tech tuition, uniforms, boots, licenses, IDs, TWIC cards, supplies, shelter, car insurance, gas, child care assistance, birth certificates, tools, eyeglasses, permits and equipment to further education or enable them to begin or sustain employment.

St. Christopher Safe Auto Program is a program that assists families with the costs of car repair so that they can get to work and not lose their jobs. Local mechanics and car dealerships partner with Catholic Charities by volunteering their labor. In 2018, CCHT paid \$2,145 for parts and taxes to repair cars for five families.

Bridging the Bayous Timebank is a program that allows the mutual exchange of volunteer services. The program has generated eighty-six (86) trades among fifteen (15) Timebank members - a total of 799 hours exchanged. Forty-three (43) individuals, twenty-six (26) businesses/organizations, twenty-six (26) Catholic church parishes and seven (7) Catholic schools have joined.

FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM (FGP)

The FGP Program provides opportunities for low income persons, age 55+, to give supportive services to children in schools, Head Start programs, shelters, day cares and hospitals.

Associate Director: Van Johnson
Phone 876-0490

2018 Report

Forty-nine (49) Foster Grandparents provided 57,016 service hours to the community. They mentored, tutored and served as role models for over 225 children. Over \$190,400 in meals, stipends, and travel reimbursements were provided to the participants through the program.

At the annual recognition banquet, seven (7) Foster Grandparents received special recognition from Senator Bill Cassidy for providing over 10,000 volunteer service hours each. Since the program's inception, forty-five (45) Foster Grandparents have each provided over 10,000 volunteer service hours, twelve (12) have each provided over 15,000 hours of service and three (3) have provided over 20,000 hours of service each.

For the second year the Recognition Program was held on the Chitimacha Reservation. The CCHT FGP program remains the only program in Louisiana partnering with a federally recognized Tribe.

ST. LUCY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

A licensed Class A facility that offers preschool nursery and child development services for children ages 12 months to five years.

Center Director: Danielle Davis, A.A. Early Childhood Teachers: Courtney Virgin, CDA, Sherrel Butler, CDA, Roselyn Richard, CDA and Reeshma Tucker, CDA
Cook: Marguerite Chatman; Janitor: Joseph Harris
Phone 876-1246

2018 Report

In 2018, seventy-three (73) children were enrolled in St. Lucy Child Development Center (CDC); 80% of the children were from low-income families.

St. Lucy maintained a Proficient rating with scores exceeding the State average in the new Louisiana Early Childhood Class III rating system.

During the year St. Lucy earned grants from the United Way for South Louisiana, the Child Care Assistance Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program and the Prime Time Family Reading Program.



MATERNITY AND ADOPTIONS

Counseling for people dealing with an unplanned pregnancy. Adoptive placements with couples within the Diocese. Pre-placement and post placement home studies for agency adoptions.

Director: Robert D. Gorman
Phone 876-0490

2018 Report

During the year there were no adoptions within our diocese through our partner agency, Catholic Charities in New Orleans, and no children from our diocese were placed for adoption. CCHT responded to thirteen adoption inquiries and seven requests from adults looking for information about their birth families. Catholic Charities in New Orleans provided counseling to three maternity clients from our diocese who decided to parent.

CCHT maintains an active adoption license and has a cooperative adoption agreement with Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. All adoptions are open, meaning that birth mothers meet the family adopting their child.

PARISH BASED PROGRAMS SPONSORED BY CATHOLIC CHARITIES CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS): CRS RICE BOWL (CRSRB) CRS ETHICAL TRADE

Agnes Bitature
Associate Director for Parish Social Ministry
Phone 876-0490

CRS Rice Bowl (RB) is a Lenten program that combines prayer, fasting, education, and almsgiving. CRSRB gives the Catholic community in the United States the opportunity to learn about, and assist, people living in poverty in other parts of the world. Food Fasts and Hunger Banquets teach about the conditions and causes of global hunger. Contributions support programs to end the causes of hunger through farming techniques, water projects, maternal and child health, education, and microfinancing. Of the funds collected, 75% support overseas development efforts and 25% support local projects.

CRS Ethical Trade is a craft sales program that directly benefits third world entrepreneurs. CRS supports ethical trade and small family businesses by purchasing crafts at a value based on U.S. market sale value. By doing so, craftspeople can earn a living wage and send their children to school instead of work. Parishes purchase goods on consignment for sale at their churches throughout the year.

2018 Report

Thirty parishes and schools participated in CRS Rice Bowl, the Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services, raising \$27,047 a 19% increase over last year. CRS Ethical Trade craft sales were held at eight parishes.

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (CCHD)

Diocesan Director: Robert D. Gorman

Education – One aspect of CCHD’s mission is to educate parishioners about poverty and Catholic Social Teaching, based on Scripture and the documents of the Church.

Funding for Self-Help Groups – The other aspect of CCHD’s mission is to provide funding for self-help programs that encourage organized groups of low-income people to work together to solve common problems.

Annual Collection – Each year, a national collection is held in American Catholic parishes to support CCHD. Seventy-five percent of the collection funds self-help projects throughout the country; twenty-five percent remains in the diocese to support local CCHD efforts.

2018 Report

The CCHD collection was \$29,909. BISCO, Bayou Interfaith Shared Community Organizing, a former CCHD funded group, organized a soil sampling project in Lafourche Parish and Grand Isle to assess the presence of petroleum products in the soil as a baseline in the event that future hurricane flooding contaminates the ground.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Agnes Bitature

Associate Director for Parish Social Ministry

Phone 876-0490

The responsibility of the CCHT staff is to assist parishes to integrate the social mission of the Church into all aspects of parish life through outreach.

Leadership Training and Education — Help parishioners come to a better understanding of the social mission of the parish through: 1) Familiarity with the 7 Principles of Catholic Social Teaching (CST), the Bishops’ Pastoral, Papal Encyclicals and other statements. 2) Social justice presentations to confirmation classes, RCIA groups, religious education teachers, pastoral councils, liturgy committees, and other ministries. 3) Technical assistance to parishes to develop Parish Social Ministry Outreach Committees and provide needed training for those committees.

Service — “One Church, One Family” is a parish effort to intensely assist a parish family to help them get through a crisis.

Advocacy — Under the umbrella of *A Catholic Voice for Justice*, parish-based legislative advocacy networks contact local, state and national legislators regarding four issues addressing a social justice concern of the Church. Issues are selected by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops and the CCHT Board of Directors under the Bishop’s leadership.

Community Organizing — Provides assistance to parishioners to organize in response to local social concerns by linking parishes with community organizations.

2018 Report

Leadership Training and Education



In 2018, CCHT staff conducted 115 parish visits. Catholic Social Teaching instruction was provided for students at St. Francis de Sales School, the Holy Savior PSM team, St. Luke’s senior

gathering, St. Vincent de Paul team in Larose and Annunziata. A retreat was also held for St. Francis de Sales teachers, with 50 in attendance. Two hundred-forty PSM information/advocacy folders were prepared for Pastors.

Weekly reading reflections for Sunday readings on social justice are sent to all parishes and made available on CCHT’s website.

CCHT staff participated in the Diocesan Strategic Planning process by developing the Parish Social Ministry Outreach chapters of the Strategic Planning Manual and attending fifteen meetings on Strategic Planning throughout the Diocese.

Service

In 2018, Catholic Charities and the Office of Worship sponsored the Blue Mass for police, firemen, military and emergency responders.

Advocacy

A Catholic Voice for Justice (ACVJ) legislative advocacy continued its recruiting efforts in 2018. At the end of 2018 there were 656 active members. Nine alerts during the year centered around the CCHT legislative agenda. CCHT sponsored a booth and helped organize the 2018 LA Life March.

Community Organizing

Catholic Charities continues providing leadership in the Bread or Stones Campaign (www.breadorstones.com) for child well-being. In 2018, Faith in Action meetings continued throughout the state and in our Diocese. The goal of the Bread or Stones Faith in Action meetings is to act on the concerns of local churches, Catholic and Protestant, regarding the well-being of their children and to sign churches up to be Bread or Stones Covenant Congregations. There are now 31 Catholic and Protestant Bread or Stones Covenant Congregations in our diocese (out of 100 across Louisiana). Our goal is to bring the prophetic voice and organizing ability of the Christian church to the issue of child well-being in Louisiana in order to improve the lives of our children.

Environmental stewardship organizing continues with a focus on the Louisiana Coastal Master Plan implementation to prevent the further loss of local wetlands and barrier islands. Catholic Charities remains a leader in education and organizing around this issue.

Board of Directors

Bishop Shelton J. Fabre
 Fr. Simon Peter Engurait
 Dr. Judith Blaise
 Mr. David Breerwood
 Mr. Charles Michael Callais
 Mrs. Tina Callais
 Mrs. Kelli Cazayoux
 Mrs. Karen Trahan David
 Mr. Nicholas LaRocca, Jr.
 Fr. P. J. Madden
 Mr. John Silver*

Mrs. Gloria Callais, Advisor
 Mrs. Beverly Cazayoux, Advisor

Mrs. Joan Bringaze, Emeritus
 Sr. Miriam Mitchell, S.H.Sp., Emeritus

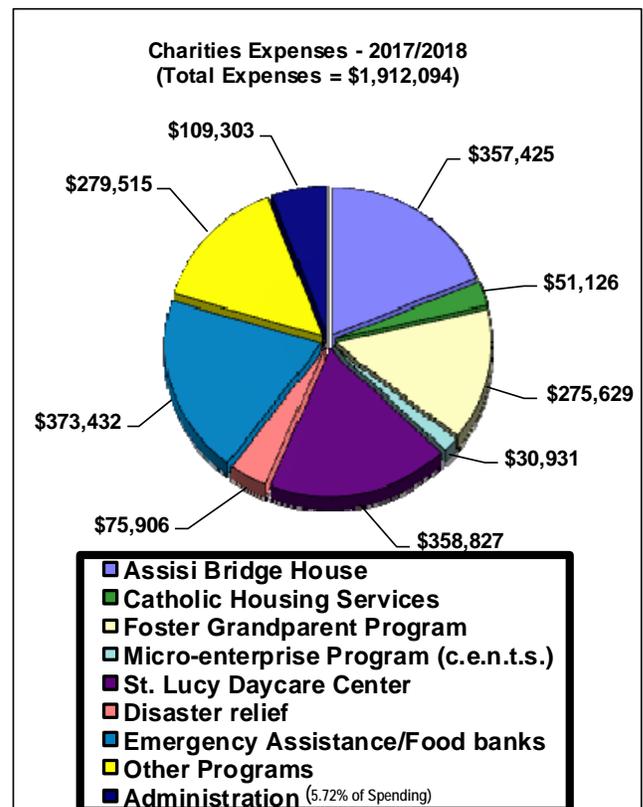
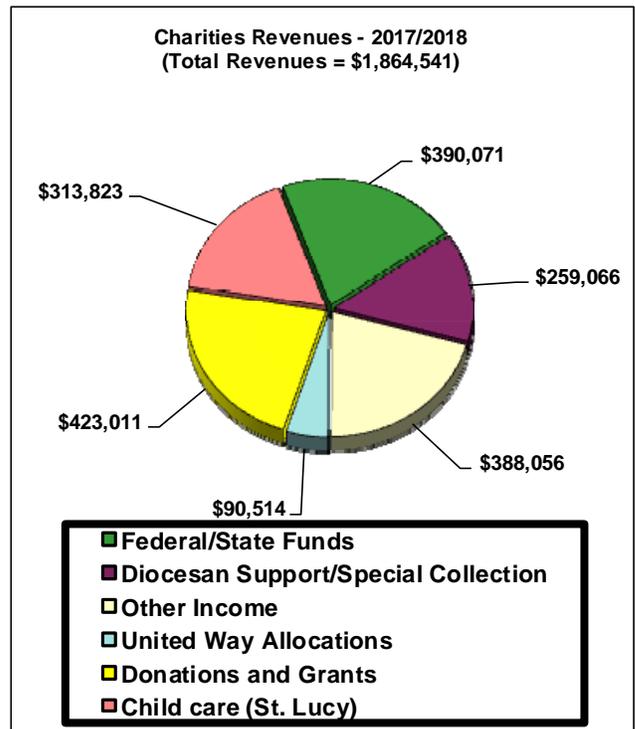
* Term Expired 12/31/18

Executive Director: Robert D. Gorman, LCSW, ACSW
 Office Manager: Mary Biegler
 Finance and Compliance Specialist: Germaine Jackson
 Receptionists: Mary Gautreaux and Candace Pellegrin

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Financial Review



The Statement of Financial Position for Catholic Charities as a part of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux audit may be found in the March 2019 issue of The Bayou Catholic on pages 48-52 and at www.htdiocese.org/bayou-catholic.