



Catholic Charities

of the Diocese of La Crosse

2011 Annual Report

140 Years

Continuing the Journey

(1872-2012)

A Look Back at the Journey taken in 2011



ADOPTION SERVICES

43 children found forever families through our birth parent, relative, and international adoption programs.

4,235 individuals benefited from the encouragement and instruction received through our Post Adoption Resources program.

55 birth parents were supported through pregnancy to live birth.

COMMUNITY HOMELESS FACILITIES

(Nov-Dec 2011)

2,059 sheltered nights of service were provided to the many poor, hurting, homeless and often “faceless” people in our communities.

4,118 meals were served to the Eau Claire Sojourner House and La Crosse Winter Warming Center shelter guests.

DISABILITY SERVICES

59,541 hours of service were provided to students with behavioral disorders, autism spectrum, and other developmental disabilities to help them stay in their homes and be successful in school.

DISASTER RELIEF

127 families received assistance with disaster relief and recovery service; including emergency food, shelter, direct financial assistance and support throughout the Diocese. Catholic Charities responded to counties across the Diocese affected by tornados, windstorms and flooding.

DOMESTIC ABUSE PROGRAM

103 victims received assistance and direct services in Crawford County.

MIGRATION, IMMIGRATION, AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE (MIRA)

176 clients, from over 27 different countries, received legal services in their quest for US citizenship or permanent residency. Catholic Charities provided a voice for those without a voice.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Catholic Charities assists and supports individual parishes in our common mission to show the love of God in our communities. [The Good Samaritan Affiliates](#) are an outreach in prayer and service.

REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE PROGRAM

451 clients throughout the southwestern part of the Diocese received confidential and supportive assistance with budgeting their fixed income to meet their basic needs while planning for future goals.

ST. DAMIEN OUTREACH

43 clients received pastoral care and practical support from Catholic Charities staff and volunteers. We provided a compassionate presence to those living with HIV/AIDS and support to those who love them.

ST. LAWRENCE COMMUNITY SERVICES

9,102 individuals were helped through charitable outreach: assistance with rent, utility relief and basic human needs.

1,333 families were reached through various financial literacy programs.

223 debt management participants reduced their total debt over \$750,000.

215 housing counseling sessions were provided.

VOLUNTEERS

Over 10,000 volunteer hours of service were given to help Catholic Charities in its mission to promote human dignity by alleviating poverty and strengthening individuals and families.



So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Galatians 6:10



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

May the Lord give you peace.

In my relatively short time as bishop of the Diocese of La Crosse, I have been most impressed with the charitable outreach offered by our Catholic Charities to help those who are suffering in our Diocese. Never has there been a time when caring for our brothers and sisters in need, so inspired by the teachings of Christ, been more important. Catholic Charities strives not only to provide excellence in human and social services, but also to distinguish its service as a reflection of God's love and compassion for those who need it most.

From Chippewa Falls to Prairie du Chien and from Durand to Wausau -- as well as points in between -- Catholic Charities provided help to thousands of children and families throughout our 19 county Diocese again in 2011. Through its work in providing charitable outreach for basic human needs, financial counseling services, an array of adoption services; support to young people with disabilities; as well as assistance with Immigration needs and our new shelters in Eau Claire and La Crosse for the homeless, all of us, through Catholic Charities, are providing help and hope to so many people.

Please take a few moments from your busy lives to be inspired by our own Catholic Charities stories of providing help and creating hope to one person, one family, and one community at a time. Jesus proclaimed: "Whatsoever you do for one of the least of my brothers and sisters, you do for me." Sharing in that message truly unites us to the Gospel.

I ask your continued prayers and financial support as we journey together in carrying out this vital ministry. May God bless you for investing in a mission that inspires hope to so many in our Diocese!

Very truly yours in Christ

Most Reverend William Patrick Callahan, OFM, Conv.

Dear Friends,

No doubt the recurring theme for 2011 -- whether in political campaigns, the media or even reports from overseas -- was the economy. It was hard to escape any network news story or newspaper headline without seeing more troubling news on the country's financial crisis. Catholic Charities was again at the forefront of assisting individuals who are going through trying times. As in other difficult years, we relied on you, our friends and benefactors, to help us generate the financial resources needed to help so many as we made life's sometimes difficult journey an easier one to navigate. Once again, you came through beyond expectations. We are grateful that you have joined us on this sometimes bumpy, but always gratifying, journey.



A priority for the organization in 2011 was to provide the most basic of humanitarian aid – a place to stay warm in the cold Wisconsin winter and overnight accommodations for the homeless. To address those needs, we opened two new shelters for the poor and homeless. In La Crosse, a new Warming Center opened in February 2011 to provide a place to congregate, keep warm and socialize. In Eau Claire, we opened the Sojourner House, a 40-bed facility that provides the homeless with a safe and warm place to stay overnight, as well as dinner and breakfast, shower and laundry facilities.

In addition to the new homeless shelters, we continued to sponsor such fundraising events as the annual Lenten Luncheon in La Crosse and Wausau and, through the generous support of Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire, the 4th annual “Evening in Chippewa Valley” dinner and awards program. These events have proven so successful that there are plans to expand to other areas in the Diocese in 2012.

By nature, Americans are an optimistic group and look forward to better days when hard times hit. We at Catholic Charities share that enthusiasm, and will continue to strive to make life easier for the poor, homeless and disenfranchised who rely on us for help. Thanks for embarking on that journey with us. You are all heroes to us and to those we assist. God bless you and your families for your generosity and kindness!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard".

Deacon Richard Sage
Executive Director

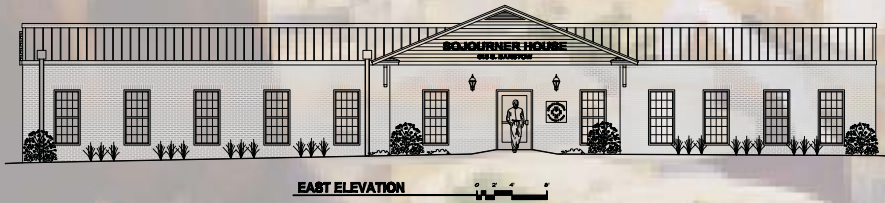


5th Annual IN MY NAME Award La Crosse Area Recipients

*Barb Sweiciak
and
Aquinas High School IMPACT Group*

In 2007, Catholic Charities initiated the annual “In My Name” award to recognise both an individual and a parish, institution, or community within the Diocese for their work in Christian Charity. The award is based on Jesus’ words to his disciples, “Whoever gives another even a cup of water in my name shall not lose their reward.” (cf Mk 9:14)

We are grateful to all who serve others in the name of Jesus, for in doing so they also are serving our Lord.



4th Annual “An Evening in the Chippewa Valley” Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Our 4th Annual Evening in the Chippewa Valley was celebrated in a Mardi Gras theme. Guests enjoyed King Gumbo soup, Emeril Lagasse’s Signature salad, Carpetbag Steak, and an authentic Louisiana Bayou Boil while learning the plans of Catholic Charities new homeless facility, the Sojourner House. The evening’s festivities help to raise over \$15,000 for this new project! We thank Sacred Heart Hospital for continuing to sponsor and host this wonderful event!

Natural Disaster strikes the Diocese of La Crosse - Catholic Charities is there!

In 2011, Catholic Charities responded when tornados and windstorms affected Adams, La Crosse, Marathon, Monroe, Portage, and Wood counties; as well as assistance with flooding along the Wisconsin River. Setting up relief stations to assist victims of the disasters with relief and recovery services; including emergency food, shelter, direct financial assistance and support. Catholic

Charities coordinated community volunteer efforts in the aftermath of the La Crosse tornado. Many a chainsaw could be heard among the volunteer crews helping in the clean up efforts.





sojournerhouse

where we share the journey

Little more than a dream in 2010, the Sojourner House homeless shelter in Eau Claire became a reality in 2011 when it opened its doors on November 1st. Designed to be a safe overnight refuge for the homeless of Chippewa Valley, its mission is simple: to provide a clean place for single men and women, regardless of their ambitions or hopes, while continuing the main goal of ensuring guests' personal dignity, safety and respect.

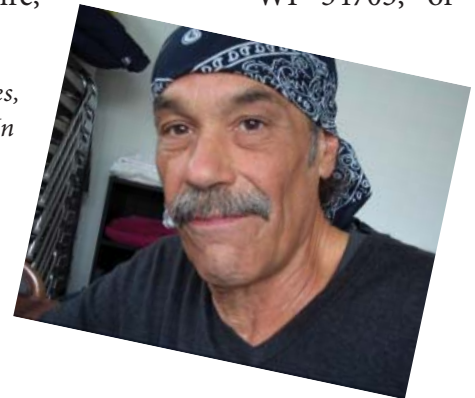
Operated by Catholic Charities and supported by local churches and community organizations of all denominations and types, construction of the 40-bed shelter began in June 2011. With the help of dedicated volunteers, a major fundraising campaign and the skills and support of local contractors and businesspeople, the shelter opened with much fanfare and a blessing at its dedication by Bishop William P. Callahan and Lutheran Bishop, Rev. Dr. Duane Pederson.

In addition to providing overnight shelter, the facility also offers residents meals, showers, laundry facilities and computers. Since opening, the shelter has often operated at full or near capacity. A six-person staff, along with the support of many volunteers, manages the daily operation of the facility.

The majority of Sojourner House's operating budget comes through donations. To make a donation, write to Catholic Charities Development Office, 448 N. Dewey Street, Eau Claire, WI 54703, or visit

Sojourner House has been kind enough to provide a shelter which includes, first of all a place to stay, a warm, clean environment. They feed me. In general they are just kind...understanding. It's the best thing that has happened to this town that I can think of...for me I don't think I could have gotten as far as I am right now. They provide all the basic care and needs that allow me to get out and do what I have to do to try to move on and get better.

Sojourner House Guest



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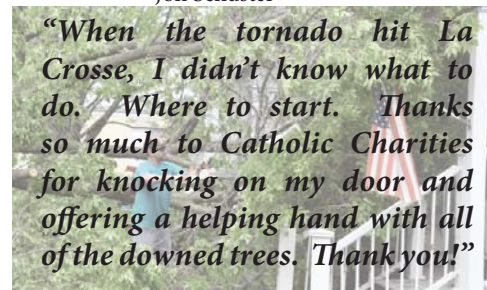
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"When the tornado hit La Crosse, I didn't know what to do. Where to start. Thanks so much to Catholic Charities for knocking on my door and offering a helping hand with all of the downed trees. Thank you!"

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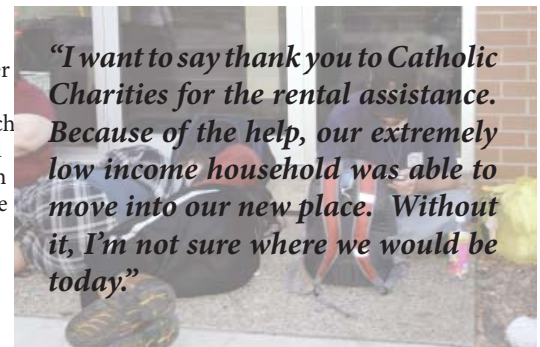


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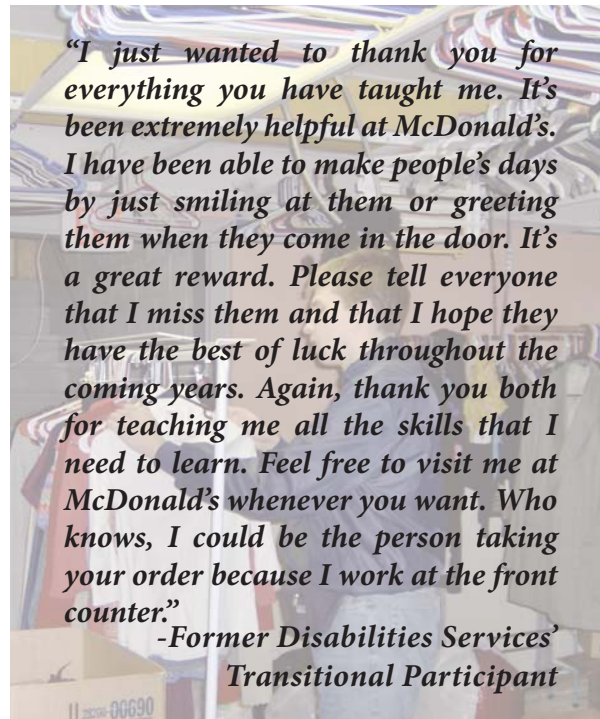
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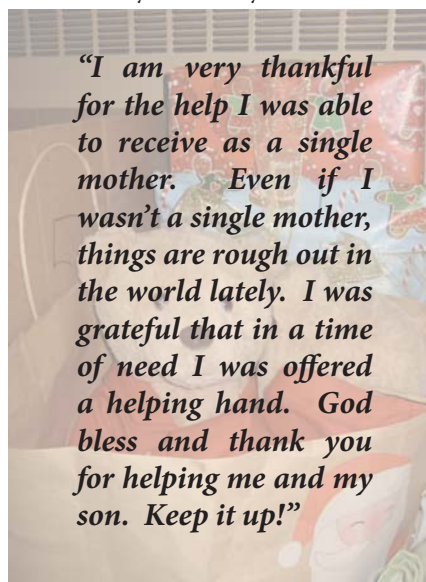
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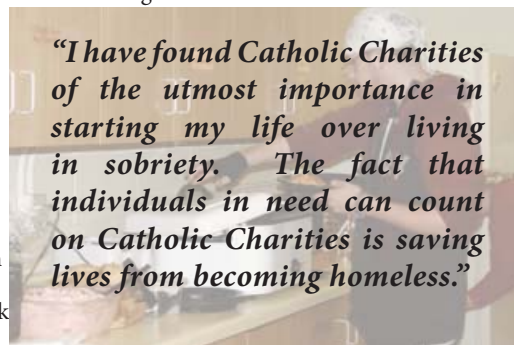
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Bob Zietlow



"I have found Catholic Charities of the utmost importance in starting my life over living in sobriety. The fact that individuals in need can count on Catholic Charities is saving lives from becoming homeless."

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TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF LOVED ONES OR TO RECOGNIZE THOSE STILL WITH US, MANY DONORS HAVE GIVEN GENEROUSLY. TO ALL OF THESE DONORS, WE AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT, WHICH WILL BETTER THE LIVES OF MANY PEOPLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

IN HONOR OF

2011 Mondovi High School

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THANKS TO ALL, WHO THROUGH THEIR PARISHES AND INSTITUTIONS, HELP US FINANCIALLY TO CONTINUE OUR MISSION OF PROMOTING HUMAN DIGNITY BY ALLEVIATING POVERTY AND STRENGTHENING INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES.

Aquinas Catholic Schools
Blessed Sacrament Parish
Blessed Sacrament Women
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Olivet Beacon of Light Lutheran
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Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Peace Lutheran Church
People's Bank, Eau Claire
Place of Peace
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Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish
Sacred Heart Parish
Sisters of the Order of Saint Benedict
St. Alexander Parish
St. Anne Parish
St. Anne's Ladies Society
St. Bartholomew Parish
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St. Casimir Parish
St. James "Knitwits"
St. James Parish
St. James the Greater Parish
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St. John's United Church of Christ
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St. Kilian Parish
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St. Mary Parish
St. Mary Parish (Keyesville)

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St. Michael Parish
St. Olaf Parish, Eau Claire
St. Paul Lutheran Church
St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran
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St. Raymond of Penafort Parish
St. Stephen Parish
St. Therese Parish
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St. Wenceslaus Parish
The Newman Community
The Society of the Propagation
of the Faith
Trinity Lutheran Church
Trinity United Church of Christ
Unity Christ Center
Valleybrook Church
Villa St. Joseph
Wisconsin Catholic Conference

2011 FINANCES

<i>ASSETS</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS</i>	<i>2011</i>
Current Assets (cash, accounts receivable, prepaids)	909,828	Current Liabilities (accounts payable, deferred revenues)	923,226
Property & Equipment (net of depreciation)	433,775	Unrestricted Net Assets	711,003
Other Assets (assets whose use are limited)	1,345,595	Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	1,054,969
Beneficial interest in perpetual trust	3,361,173	Permanently Restricted Net Assets	3,361,173
TOTAL ASSETS	6,050,371	TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	6,050,371

2011 REVENUE

Program Fees	2,457,455
Contributions & Grants	966,808
Diocesan Annual Appeal	540,000
Investment & Other Income	190,961
TOTAL	4,155,224



2011 PROGRAM EXPENSES

Adoption Services	476,313
Community Homeless Facilities	114,205
Disabilities Services	1,690,182
Domestic Abuse	50,903
Fundraising & Development	186,554
General & Administration	7,167
Migration & Immigration Assistance	114,221
Parish Social Ministry	8,558
St. Damien Outreach	18,479
St. Lawrence Community Services	1,006,106
Rachel's Vineyard	600
Representative Payee Program	175,852
TOTAL	3,849,140

OFFICE LOCATIONS

EAU CLAIRE
448 N. Dewey Street
Eau Claire, 54701
(715) 832-6644

LA CROSSE
3710 East Ave. South
La Crosse, 54601
(608) 782-0710

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN
115 E. Perry Street
Prairie du Chien, 53821
(608) 326-1616

WAUSAU
1105 South 10th St.
Wausau, 54403
(715) 849-3311

CATHOLIC CHARITIES SERVICES

St. Lawrence Community Services
*Providing Charitable Outreach, Advocacy,
Financial Education and Enrichment*

Representative Payee Program

Disaster Response

Adoption

Birth Parent Support Services

Disabilities Services

Domestic Abuse Support

St. Damien Outreach
*Providing assistance to people
who are affected by HIV/Aids*

Immigration Assistance

Community Homeless Facilities

Parish Social Ministry

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Catholic Charities is very grateful to all donors, monetary and in kind, supportive parishes, and grantors, for their continued support of our work. In an effort to save on resources, we have only listed a small portion of our generous donors. However, you may review an extended version of our Annual Report by visiting us online at www.cclse.org. Thank you!



BECOMING A CATHOLIC CHARITIES PARTNER:

CURRENT GIFTS

- › CASH (CURRENCY, CHECK, CREDIT CARD)
 - › APPRECIATED INVESTMENTS
 - › (STOCKS / BONDS)
 - › REAL ESTATE

ESTATE PLANNING

LEAVE A LEGACY

- › ANNUITIES
 - › IRAS
- › LIFE INSURANCE
 - › WILLS
 - › RETAINED LIFE ESTATE
- › CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST
 - › CHARITABLE LEAD TRUST