Catholic Charities Connection
Keeping Volunteers Informed

November 2018

Catholic Charities
Mission Statement
Proclaim Christ’s Gospel of Life and promote human dignity by alleviating poverty and strengthening individuals and families.

New Venture in
Prairie du Chien

In September, our Prairie du Chien office initiated The Lending Library and Giving Shelf. Through the Lending Library parents, grandparents, or aunts and uncles with infants or young children can check out items such as toys, puzzles, or games. There is also access to porta cribs and highchairs. The Giving Shelf provides diapers, formula or other items which help to nurture their child.

Diane Slotman, a longtime volunteer in our Prairie du Chien office has assumed the responsibility of managing the Lending Library and Giving Shelf. Thank you Diane for giving of your time and management skills!

My Co-Ministers

The month of November brings Thanksgiving Day and my thoughts go to the many things for which I am thankful. I believe that it is important that our nation continues to set aside a day in which we remember our blessings and be thankful.

One of my greatest blessings is to have the opportunity to minister alongside each of you. Some of you I have met in person, while others we have only known each other by name. I am amazed at the dedication and amount of hours that volunteers give. I am equally edified by the great care and love in which they do their jobs and for the people they serve. Each of you touches my life and makes me a better person.

It is from the depths of my heart that I thank you for choosing to journey with us on our mission.

With Gratitude,
Sr. Laurie Sullivan, fspa

New Coordinators

Volunteers at our Franciscan Hospitality House greeted a new Coordinator in September. Susan Graf brings a passion for helping those in need. She is a familiar face to those we serve as she was a longtime volunteer at the La Crosse Warming Center.

Leticia Silva, who was the Lead Staff at the La Crosse Warming Center last year, became the Coordinator in September. Leticia brings a vision of making the Center a place of security and welcome for both guests and volunteers.

If you don't believe one person can make a difference, you have never been in bed with a mosquito. -- Anita Roddick
Recognizing You!
Our Volunteers!

Kathryn Schroeder has volunteered at the La Crosse Warming Center since it was at the Baptist church. She encourages others to try volunteering at the center or some other kind of volunteer work as it is very enriching and rewarding.

Tim Bilbrey volunteers at the Sojourner House in Eau Claire. What he finds surprising about volunteering at Catholic Charities is how fun it is to volunteer and know that you are doing God’s work. He wishes people knew that there is a great need for more volunteers. Other people have asked him if they could try and join him in volunteering at Sojourner House. He tells them to give it a try.

Mark Anderson has volunteered at Sojourner House for three years. He said he was most surprised how nice the guests are that come to the house. He wishes others knew how easy it is to help and how fulfilling it is. His family and friends approve of him volunteering there and some have joined him.

Keep Your Information Up-To-Date

Have you volunteered for a while or have you moved? Please be sure and let us know your new address and email address. Without your up-to-date information, you may miss things that may be important to you. Let’s stay connected as we strive to alleviate poverty and strengthen individuals and families!

VicNet Hints

Did you know that you can update your information in VicNet? Once you log in, select the My Profile Tab. This tab shows the contact information we have for you. You can update your address, phone number, and email address. You can also update or add your emergency contact information. All of this from the convenience of your own computer. Don’t forget to save when you are done!

Calling All Cooks and Bakers!!

We are looking for recipes for our Food Pantry Recipe Book! These recipes would consist of items that are commonly found in a food pantry. These items include: Canned Fruits & Vegetables, Canned Meat, Crackers, Cooking Oils, Powdered Milk, Applesauce, Canned Beans, Dried Herbs and Spices, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Boxed Meals, Pasta, Peanut Butter, Soup and Chili, Whole Grain Cereal, Nuts and Rice. Books will be given to those who use our food pantries. If you have a great idea for a recipe, please submit it to mbrennan@cclse.org. Please include your name so we can put it in the recipe book. Thanks for your help!