Catholic Charities Connection
Keeping Volunteers Informed
March 2019

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

What a Difference You Made for the Homeless in 2018…

1533 unduplicated guests were served in our homeless facilities.

We were able to provide 27,022 shelter nights and 13,350 service days.

Sr. Thea Bowman, whose cause for sainthood is in process once said, “We need to be cooperative. Your gifts become my gifts. Your talents become my talents. Your light becomes my warmth and my salvation.”

Truly your cooperation and sharing of your gifts and time helps to bring a warm space for people while helping Catholic Charities fulfill its mission.

My Co-Ministers

Jon Gordon, author of the Energy Bus writes, “The best legacy you can leave is not some building named after you or a piece of jewelry, but rather a world that has been impacted and touched by your presence, joy and positive actions.”

I am someone who loves light-hearted people and being surrounded by folks that bring joy and positive outlook to the world around them. In the work environment, it seems that work goes easier when the mood is light. I have been fortunate to minister alongside volunteers and staff who minister like this. It is reflected in their faces and the way they engage with those that they encounter. It is contagious and a great legacy.

I speak about so many of you. Your joy and positive actions are creating a legacy that will forever change lives.

With Gratitude,
Sr. Laurie Sullivan, fspa

Getting to Know Catholic Charities Staff

Shannon Parker is a Financial Wellness Advocate in La Crosse. Shannon enjoys meeting new people every day as these encounters allow her to grow professionally and as a person.

Working with the volunteers has been a wonderful experience for Shannon. She states, “Each of them comes into the agency wanting to make a difference and to help in any way they can, and they certainly do! They provide service to families during Monday intakes, sorting through a multitude of donations, and helping with special events like Christmas and Back 2 School. With their help, these events become a little less stressful. Each volunteer is a blessing!”

A volunteer shares that Shannon is always friendly and supportive. She does a great job communicating any issues and concerns which assists the volunteers in doing their jobs.

Wherever there is a human being, there is an opportunity for kindness. - Seneca
Volunteer Highlights
If you or someone you know volunteers with us, please email the volunteer coordinator with your highlights. Let us recognize your contribution and gifts. Email Sr. Laurie at lsullivan@cclse.org.

Recognizing You! Our Volunteers!

Pam Rochester who loves music and plays the piano gives of her time by volunteering at the Franciscan Hospitality House and the LaCrosse Warming Center. She has volunteered for two years.

She was surprised the most by the many circumstances that can lead to homelessness and the fact it could happen to any one of us. Pam shares that the guests are people who just need someone to listen to them and not judge.

Pam credits John F. Kennedy for having the most influence on her, especially his call to do what you can for your country. She tells others who think of volunteering that the feeling you get when you are helping others is unequaled to any other and that we need more kindness, love, and understanding in our society -lead by example as Jesus did.

LeAnne Martinez has volunteered at the Franciscan Hospitality House for two years. She originally began volunteering when she became homeless and was a guest at the La Crosse Warming Center and the Hospitality House. She is most surprised by how compassionate and caring the guests are treated and how many unique needs and resources each guest requires. The person who has influenced her the most is God. LeAnne believes God has shown her calling. She would tell someone who is thinking of volunteering that it is a great feeling and a good way to give back to community.

Volunteer Opportunities Eau Claire:
Our Eau Claire office is looking for a Monday Front Desk Receptionist. Shifts are 9:00 am-12:30 pm and 12:30-4:00 pm. Typical duties include: answering phones, welcoming guests, and basic office assistance. If you or anyone you know may be interested contact Melissa Bowe at mbowe@cclse.org.

Sojourn House is looking for volunteers in a variety of shifts. Typical shifts are usually 2-3 hours starting at 6:30 pm. If you or anyone you know may be interested contact our new EC Community Relations Specialist, Clare Nelson at cnelson@cclse.org. or sign up online at cclse.org.

Visit us at www.cclse.org
Call us at 888.212.4357
Sr. Laurie Sullivan, Volunteer Coordinator - 608-519-8043