My Co-Ministers

The month of May is often considered the month of spring. It is a time when we can see the newness of life or gain a greater awareness of God’s presence all around us. Perhaps this means becoming more aware of the people we meet each day, made in the image and likeness of God. Is this an awareness spring can bring?

Spring can be a time for “Spring Cleaning”, breaking down the barriers that divide and taking time to meet our brothers and sisters while recognizing a bit of God’s goodness in each one.

As the weather continues to warm up and we are out and about, don’t forget to greet the person you meet along your path. Perhaps you may be the only face of God that person sees that day.

For myself it has been so wonderful to witness the face of God in the volunteers and in those we serve.

With Gratitude,
Sr. Laurie Sullivan, fspa
Volunteer Coordinator

Getting to Know Catholic Charities Staff

Sue Graf is the Coordinator of the Franciscan Hospitality House (FHH). Sue loves serving God, the guests and volunteers at FHH; believing that the Lord has used her life experience, previous employment and volunteer work to prepare her for this ministry. She finds the volunteers are compassionate and dedicated. Sue enjoys getting to know the guests, the volunteers, and the community who supports the homeless. She finds it humbling to share the burdens and joys of the guests. Her gratitude is for being part of the circle of people who are helping to meet their diverse needs.

A volunteer shares that Sue has a great rapport with the guests at FHH. She has worked hard to get donations, decorate and to make FHH a place of welcome. It makes volunteering at FHH even more enjoyable.

Catholic Charities Connection
Keeping Volunteers Informed

May 2019

Catholic Charities
Mission Statement

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

Thank you....
It takes teamwork to even begin to fulfill our mission. Catholic Charities is blessed with dedicated staff and volunteers who truly love the people they serve.

We often times thank our front desk and warming center volunteers. Today we would like to thank the dedicated volunteers who helped with our many events. These volunteers help out with our Lenten Luncheons, Back2School Projects, and Christmas store. Without them, these events would not be so successful. Thank you for sharing your time with us. We are forever grateful.

Visit us at www.cclse.org
Call us at 888.212.4357

Sr. Laurie Sullivan, Volunteer Coordinator - 608-519-8043
Volunteer Appreciation!
Be on the lookout for an announcement at your volunteer site or via email regarding your local volunteer appreciation event. We hope you will join us in celebrating you and all you have done in helping us fulfill our mission.

Recognizing You!
Our Volunteers!

Ruth Poutanen has volunteered at the Wausau Warming Center for three years. She has been most surprised by how much joy and contentment she gets from volunteering. She wished everyone knew about the number of volunteer opportunities that offer a way to make a difference in someone’s life. When others hear she volunteers they often ask about what she does and why. The discussion tends to lead to the importance of giving to others whether it is family or someone else.

Linda Kuehl has volunteered at the La Crosse Warming Center since it opened. She provides haircuts to the guests at both the Warming Center and the Franciscan Hospitality House. She has been most surprised about volunteering at Catholic Charities by the energy. She says it is like the energizer bunny, it just keeps going and going and going! She tells people who think of volunteering that there is no better way to do God’s work. You can help others to be the best they can be.

Jill Casper volunteers as a receptionist at our Wausau Office. The thing that surprises her the most about Catholic Charities is how much everyone loves their jobs. The person who has influenced her the most is Tracy Rieger, the Director of Community Homeless Facilities at Catholic Charities. She feels that Tracy is so caring and giving of herself and her time, a true role model. She would tell someone considering to volunteer to do it! It’s a win-win. You feel good and you are helping whether it’s people, animals, or the environment.

Marie Allen has volunteered at the La Crosse Warming Center for three years. She wished people knew that Catholic Charities serves all people, helping them to meet their current needs and connecting them with community resources. Her family and friends are often curious about the Warming Center and their conversation often times is about how many homeless people are in the city. It seems that some people are hesitant to volunteer on their own, but might need a little invitation from another volunteer to spur them on.

Welcome to Suzanna Knowlton!
Suzanna has joined our staff as the Sojourner House Assistant Coordinator. She will be working closely with Clare Nelson, our new Community Relations Specialist and Brianne Barres, our new Sojourner House Director in working with volunteers and serving the homeless in our community.

To learn more about Suzanna or other new staff visit our staff page at cclse.org.