Catholic Charities
2018 Annual Report

Creating HOPE
A Message from the Bishop of the Diocese of La Crosse

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

May the Lord give you peace.

The Mission of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse proclaims Christ’s Gospel of Life and promotes human dignity by alleviating poverty and strengthening individuals and families. This task seems simple, but we live in a society deeply divided between liberals and conservatives, atheist and theists, prolife and prochoice, etc. Almost all can agree that this division makes loving one another more difficult as it diminishes our ability to trust and give ourselves more freely to one another.

Confronted with this complex panorama, the virtues of hope and forgiveness are tested daily in our community. For this very reason we must listen to Christ when He tells us that He is the vine and we are the branches. Only by remaining in Him will we bear fruit (John 15, 1:3). To love is to serve, and the joy we experience when we truly love translates into service to one another. We have all received unique gifts, talents, and graces to “bear fruit that will remain”. If we do this, the opportunities to show our love and serve one another will present daily. For generations, the men and women of the Diocese of La Crosse have shown amazing love for their neighbors by supporting Catholic Charities in all its activities throughout the diocese, often day and night, bearing lasting fruit through service.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the example you give to one another, for your many hours of volunteer work, and continuing financial support of Catholic Charities and its Mission.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

+William Patrick Callahan, OFM Conv.
Bishop of La Crosse

Our Mission

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse proclaims Christ’s Gospel of Life and promotes human dignity by alleviating poverty and strengthening individuals and families.

Our Vision

As Catholic Charities, we labor in the streets inviting and serving those who have been left out to know and experience the tremendous and abundant love of God through Jesus Christ. Called by our Diocesan Bishop, we commit ourselves to break down walls of division that keep sisters and brothers separated from one another, excluded, or rendered disposable by our society. With joy, through prayer and action, we resolve to build bridges of hope, mercy and justice toward the creation of a culture of communal care responsive to the cries of those who are poor.

Values Statement

Anyone wanting to be a leader must first be the servant. If you choose to lead, you must serve (cf. Mark 9:33). These values are a guiding expression of the vision and mission of Catholic Charities.

Faith - Stewardship - Excellence - Integrity - Compassion - Hospitality - Respect - Dignity
Called to Serve

Every day at Catholic Charities we are blessed with the opportunity to serve someone in need. We feed the hungry, provide shelter to the homeless, work with the mentally disabled, help families in financial difficulty, place children with adoptive parents, help immigrants with their legal & personal issues, help families that have been affected by a natural disaster and need financial assistance to overcome an emergency, etc. The needs of people are many and our goal is to manage each case with love, professionalism and give them hope. Many of you know the work we do, because you are one of the over 1,500 volunteers of Catholic Charities that do it and/or are a donor that provides the much needed financial assistance that allows us to do the job.

In 2018 we watched the heartbreaking news, videos and pictures of the effects of the flooding that affected many communities in our Diocese as well as other areas in our country. We watched with disbelief the effects of hurricanes in the South, flooding and tornadoes in the Midwest and fires in West. The images were overwhelming and many times we felt, “What’s the point, we cannot meet the enormity of the needs.” But in those dark moments, I realized that what is most important is that we can ‘share the love of Christ with everyone we encounter and help with whatever tangible gift we have’. We did something and that “something” translated into hundreds of volunteer hours and thousands of dollars that went directly to assist hundreds of people throughout our Diocese and the nation. Your response was heartwarming. It provided much needed resources, but most importantly gave faith and hope to many members of our community and our country.

The true wealth of a nation is the love and care we have for each other as members of a community. This love is best shown in times of need, when the most vulnerable among us is hurt. The great support received from catholic parishes and other churches, from corporations and individuals, showed how blessed we are in our community. It clearly showed the Body of Christ in action. Thank you for your charity and for giving hope to the most vulnerable members of our community.

Roberto Partarrieu, Catholic Charities Executive Director
I was in my basement pulling items away from the walls as water continued to weep through the concrete blocks. I watched as water pooled on the floor, but my sump pump was trying to keep up until I heard the roar. It was a sound I could not place, but I had an overwhelming voice telling me to get out of the basement. As I hit the bottom stair I noticed the water was now at my ankles. With each step up the stairs I took, I was amazed how the water was right at my heels. As I reached the main floor, the water seemed to stop just above the threshold. I turned around and saw my basement full of water. I would come to realize the noise that I had hear was not been near the stairs, the giving way of the levee rushing through my valley.

This was just one of several volunteers would hear over the on doors offering help. The and the lives of families was on doors, we were there to assistance. A couple hundred dollars in gift cards to purchase cleaning supplies, or a night’s lodging, or maybe dinner after a long day. Whatever they needed we offered from a community that cared through Catholic Charities.

Over the next several months, we continued to work with our local diocesan flood victims. Helping some to replace water heaters, furnaces, dry-wall, flooring, drive-ways, whatever FEMA or occassionally insurance would not cover. It was because of gifts given to our disaster recovery fund that we are able to assist 139 - 2018 Flood victims with $61,775. Thank you!

Catholic Charities is proud to have launched our monthly giving program, Cornerstone of Charity. We truly regard these donors and their consistency as a foundation, a cornerstone, on which we build our agency. To learn more about this monthly program, the benefits, and how you can join, please contact our development office or visit our website at cclse.org
In grateful appreciation, Catholic Charities is pleased to acknowledge your gifts. By sharing your gifts with us, you have become our partner in providing help and creating hope. It is only through your generosity and this financial support that Catholic Charities is able to continue its care to those in need in the Diocese of La Crosse. Your support serves as the heart and hands of Christ.

We compile the lists in our annual report with care. If you find your name has been omitted or misspelled, please accept our apology. Any errors or omissions are inadvertent and we would be grateful if you would notify us so our records will be correct in the future. Unfortunately, space would not allow us to list all of our generous donors. To see a complete list, please go to www.cclse.org.

2018 Partners

$10,000 and above
Deena Hatch Foundation
Marion and John Elliott Foundation
Raymond and Marie Goldbach Foundation
Sue Anne Gelatt Foundation
Hansen Family Foundation
Blessed Sacrament Parish, La Crosse
Edward and Roseanne Buchberger
Tim and Mary Brennan
Diocese of La Crosse
Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration
Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research
Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, La Crosse
Gundersen Health System
Arlene Sikorski
Rev. Joseph A Grassl
Wieser Brothers General Contractors
Florence J Kurtzweil
Deanery of La Crosse
James and Elaine Schauls
Paul and Julie Bunczak

$5,000 to $9,999
Gary and Elizabeth Peckham
Thomas and Amy Strom
Noel Smith
James and Barbara Roberts
St. Mary Help of Christians Parish, Greenwood
Immaculate Conception Parish, Eau Claire
United Way of Metropolitan Chicago
St. Olaf Parish, Eau Claire
Holy Spirit Parish: St. Stanislaus Church, Stevens Point
Jeanette Hammes
Eugene Brownlee Family Unitrust
Citizens Employment & Training, Inc.
Fredrich Survivor’s Trust
Annette Friedewald
The Benevolty Community Impact Fund
A Place of Grace
Catholic Order of Foresters Listeman Foundation
Donald Mathison
Linda and Sam Scaffidi
Holy Family Parish, Willard
Paul and Judith Schams
Mark and Minda Chamberlain
Raymond D. and Mary J. Nass Charitable Gift Fund
Thomas Pollack

$1,000 to $4,999
Nicolet National Foundation
Mark and Debbie Hansen Snoeyenbos Family Foundation
Dr. Gerald and Frances Beyerl
Brad and Lynn Strum
Lois Umhofer
Trinity Lutheran Church, Eau Claire
James and Dana Schroeder
Bonnie Kraft
St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Wausau
Emily Bowe
Matt and Lori Hattenhauer
Julia Kyle
Dr. David Van De Loo
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, La Crescent
Laura Traimer
Amy Ludwikowski
National Christian Foundation
Newman Parish, Eau Claire
Cyril and Leilah Krista
Dolores Karpinski
Pablo Foundation Inc
St. Bernard Parish, Abbotsford
The Dirks Group
Cross Motors, Inc.
Charitable Adult Rides & Services, Inc.
TTM Technologies
Michelle A Farrow
Donald and Barbara Lee
John and Barbara Leinfeldel
Greenheck Fan Corp.
Thomas McIntee
The WHA Foundation, Inc.
Timothy and Marjorie Gillespie
St. James the Greater Parish, Eau Claire
Patrick D Dederich
Guardian Angels Parish, Black River Falls
Christ Lutheran Church, Wausau
Ron and Bobbi Farley
Jatra LLC
Thomas and Maureen Kieffer
University Lutheran Church, Eau Claire
Jill and Duane Meyer
Mike and Diane Moss
Kurt and Julie Schroeder
St. John the Baptist Parish, Marshfield
Rev. Eugene J Wolf
St. Mary Parish, Neillsville
St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Chippewa Falls
Robert and Wanda Garbisch
Jennifer Anne Shaneding

The Warming Center was very helpful, informative, and understanding to my needs. Because of the volunteers and staff, I was able to obtain employment and housing. By the time the center closed in April, I was able to live independently. I worked hard with the staff and volunteers to obtain what I need and am happy to be on my own. - La Crosse Guest

Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, West Salem
Holy Trinity Parish, La Crosse
Virgil and Judith Arrowood
Catholic Financial Life
Robert P Hollern
John & Mary Hartwig Foundation Fund
Foundation Fund-Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin
James and Patricia Kirchner Church of the Resurrection Parish-Wausau
Richard J Ziemann
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, La Crosse
Thrivent Choice
St. Joseph Parish, Menomonie
Paul S. and Ruth M. Schultz Family Foundation
Daniel and Gail Filzen Baird Foundation
St. Anthony de Padua Parish, Loyal
Gregory and Ann Dachel
Francis and Arlene Furlano
Chad Kritzberger
Connie Marshall
Richard Walz
Brook White
Lawrence and Katherine Warzynski
St. Joseph Parish, St. Joseph Ridge, La Crosse
J Paul Simones
Valleybrook Church, Eau Claire
Give With Liberty
United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County
Jacqueline Lindner
Lawrence and Sue Ann Mitley
Isauro Cruz Guadalupe Soto
St. Patrick Parish, Halder, Mosinee
Damian and Jeanne Miller
Douglas Sperle and Mary Koller-Sperle
James and Hilary McIntyre
St. Patrick Parish, Onalaska
Mark and Roxy Campbell
Blessed Sacrament Women’s Club, La Crosse
By volunteering at Catholic Charities, I have a new vision of helping people who are very appreciative, they know they are loved and Catholic Charities is there to give them a second chance. - a front desk volunteer

The Warming Center is wonderful. The volunteers and staff were so helpful. I don’t know if I would have even survived the year had it not been here. - Wausau Guest
In Tribute of

Arn Miller
Bob and Lorry Brimer
Bonnie Weyer
Bruce Streveler
Carol Berra
Dan and Nancy Robinson
Daniel Blum
Dave and Barb Skogen
David W Burbach
Deacon David Allen
Deacon Frank Abnet
Diane Slotman
Douglas and Jane Vinson
Duane Natzke
Francisca Sisters of Perpetual Adoration
Janice Buvala
Jay and Kurt
Jeff and Cilla Skrabe
Jeffy Kocik
Jennifer Kurth
Jennifer Plier
Jim and Jann Quinn
John and Germaine Klouda
John and Joan Mueller
John Flock
Kathy Wewerka
Kristin Mutschler
Lawrence and Phyllis Miller
Vernon Schoessow
Leo Hinnant
Leticia Silva
Msgr. Mark Pierce
Mary Ann Nelson
Matthew Mueller
Melvin and Elizabeth Kaiser
Olivia Konrady-Buchal
Randall and Sharon Ross
Russell and Elmeda Gonia
Siemens Water Solutions
Simeon Reppe
The Paulson Family
The Sisters at St. Rose Convent
Vincent Schams
Wausau Warming House
William Bohl
Gary Peckham

Grantors

AbbyBank
Abbotsford Story
Alliant Energy Foundation
Arnold and Lois Domer Foundation
Ascension
B.A. and Esther Greenheck Foundation
Blanche Walsh Trust
Capital One
Cargill Foundation
Catholic Campaign for Human Development
Catholic Charities USA
Citi
City of Eau Claire
City of La Crosse
City of Wausau
Clark County Community Foundation
Clark County United Way Community Foundation of Chippewa County
CoVantage Cares
Eau Claire Community Foundation
Eau Claire County
Emergency Food and Shelter Program
Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration
Franke Foundation
Gannett Foundation
La Crosse Community Foundation
Foundation-Franke Charitable Fund
La Crosse Kiwanis Club Foundation
Judd Alexander Foundation
National Foundation for Credit Counseling
Nordson Corporate Foundation
Otto Bremer Foundation
Raskob Foundation
Ray and Kay Eckstein Charitable Trust
Richland County United Givers
Russell and Vera Smith Foundation
Rutledge Charities
State of Wisconsin
United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley
United Way of Marathon County
United Way of Prairie du Chien
Wells Fargo Foundation
Westerman Foundation
Wisconsin Trust Account Foundation
Women United
Women's Fund of Greater La Crosse

2018 Catholic Charities Financial Report

ASSETS
Current Assets (cash, accounts receivable, prepaids) 1,747,558
Property & Equipment (net of depreciation) 1,051,999
Other Assets (assets whose uses are limited) 1,533,607
Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trust 3,651,594
TOTAL ASSETS 7,984,758

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS
Current Liabilities (accounts payable, deferred revenues) 241,214
Long Term Liabilities 708,686
Unrestricted Net Assets 1,355,804
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets 1,752,787
Permanently Restricted Net Assets 3,656,151
Net Income 270,117
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS 7,894,759

REVENUE
Program Fees 1,824,162
Contributions & Grants 3,038,189
Investment & Other Income 218,217
TOTAL 5,080,568

PROGRAM EXPENSES
Adoption Services 645,277
Community Homeless Facilities 1,103,567
Disability Services 1,263,375
Domestic Abuse 67,330
General Administration & Development 441,431
Legal & Immigration Assistance 131,545
Disaster Assistance 54,401
Representative Payee 219,046
St. Lawrence Community Services 883,879
TOTAL 4,809,851

Thank you! Your services were excellent. I continue to lower my debt and am doing so much better! - client from SLCS
In November of 2018, a local family called our disaster recovery helpline. Their home had been damaged in the fall flooding. Their entire basement, which contained two bedrooms, was a complete loss. They applied to FEMA for assistance, but because the flood did not destroy the first floor, they were denied assistance. The family continued to appeal, but were continually denied.

This family home’s basement was a walk out basement. Because of the size of their family, this basement level to their home included two utilized bedrooms. All of the flooring and most of the drywall needed to be replaced. This family stated that they had family members who were willing to do the repair work for free, they just needed help with the materials. Catholic Charities worked with this family and supplied them $2,600 in direct aid so they could purchase flooring and the needed materials to get this needed living space refurbished.

By the end of the year, this family had received the assistance and all repairs were made. They are back utilizing the living space and are very grateful for the support of our community.