



# CATHOLIC CHARITIES

## DIOCESE OF DES MOINES

*because we all need a little help along the way*

### ANNUAL REPORT 2012



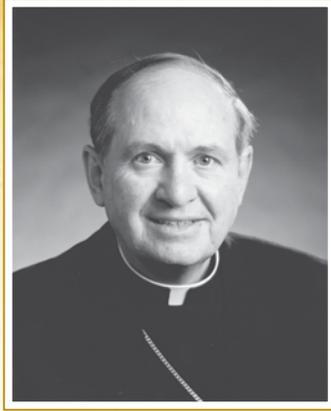
[WWW.CATHOLICCHARITIESDM.ORG](http://WWW.CATHOLICCHARITIESDM.ORG)

*Because we all need a  
little help along the way...*

*Guided by the teachings  
of the Catholic Church,  
we serve all people in  
need with compassion,  
competence, advocate for  
justice and encourage all  
people of good will to join  
in these efforts.*



## FROM THE PRESIDENT



## MOST REVEREND RICHARD E. PATES

Dear Friends,

Since the inception of the Diocese of Des Moines, 100 years ago, the Catholic Church has reached out to the poor and vulnerable in central and southwest Iowa in their time of need. Today, we know this Catholic response to social needs as Catholic Charities.

Just as the Most Reverend Thomas W. Drumm intended in 1925 when Catholic Charities officially came into existence, the agency provides an organized, compassionate, professional response to the ever-changing needs of our friends and neighbors.

I invite you to learn more about our efforts and find your way to assist us in our work, through volunteer efforts, board or committee participation, donations, and prayer for those we serve now and in the years to come. Many will benefit from your involvement, especially you.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

+ *Richard E. Pates*

Most Reverend Richard E. Pates  
Bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines  
President, Catholic Charities

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



### NANCY GALEAZZI

*Dear community of supporters,*

As we look back at this past year and reflect on the significance of our major initiatives and accomplishments, it becomes clear that Catholic Charities is as dynamic as the people and communities we serve.

Our ability as an agency to respond to evolving needs and societal changes is essential as we maneuver through recessions, “belt-tightening” and the new challenges our clients face.

As a Catholic Charities supporter, you are part of this dynamic response to help the poor and vulnerable. This year, you helped us rise to the challenges of possible program closure (Refugee Resettlement, page 6) and an overwhelming need in our community for family housing for the homeless (St. Joseph Expansion, page 5).

We are grateful for your participation in these important efforts and ask for your continued prayers, support and encouragement.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Galeazzi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nancy Galeazzi  
Executive Director  
Catholic Charities

*“For we are his workmanship,  
created in Christ Jesus  
for good works, which God  
prepared beforehand, that  
we should walk in them.”*

*Ephesians 2:10*

- St. Mary Family Center volunteers contributed 7,847 hours
- More than 450 volunteers from the Phoenix House Domestic Violence Program and Sexual Abuse Program volunteered 2,387 hours
- St. Joseph Emergency Family Shelter volunteers contributed more than 2000 hours
- Refugee Resettlement volunteers gave 5,000 hours to help welcome and resettle refugees displaced by war and persecution
- Board and committee members, Parish Ambassadors and Hispanic Community Outreach volunteers contributed hundreds more hours throughout the year – a contribution that truly makes our work possible.



# Employment is avenue toward self-sufficiency

*By Patrick Schacherer, Staff member at Catholic Charities*

On an unusually warm winter morning in late January, I met David. David had just arrived four days prior from Malaysia, after fleeing his home country of Burma (Myanmar). The travel days between Malaysia and the United States had been long and the destination truly a mystery. Upon arrival, David experienced the coldest day of his life, as well as the usual stress of being a newly arrived refugee. And yet, nothing could dampen David's spirits. He was eager to learn about his new city and country and to get his first job.



It became apparent quickly that David was very bright, yet had never been given a fair chance to prove himself. Growing up in a small village in Burma, David experienced oppression and witnessed unspeakable atrocities. He fled to other countries, only to be deported. Somewhere along the treacherous journey, David learned how to speak English quite well, making him readily employable.

As fate would have it, a position as a lobby attendant at a hotel opened ten days after David's arrival. David was thrilled to think he might have a job. Leaving nothing to chance, David was very prepared for the interview and was hired immediately. After being given his uniform, David's normally stoic demeanor turned to that of a child receiving a new toy. He was finally given a fair chance to prove himself.

At Catholic Charities, we strive to provide an avenue towards self-sufficiency for our refugee clients which is best accomplished through steady employment. Even through tough economic times, we have been blessed with a number of community partners that are able to provide jobs for our hardworking clients.

## Positive mental health and wellness: Fuel for the Journey

In the Spring of 2012, Catholic Charities announced the rebranding of its professional counseling services to Center for Life Counseling. A mainstay in the Diocese of Des Moines for more than 60 years, Center for Life Counseling is a valuable resource for people needing a “little help along the way”. Masters level therapists offer professional therapy to individuals, couples and families of all faiths in the Des Moines Metro and Council Bluffs area. In addition to professional therapy, Center for Life Counseling seeks to educate people about the significance of mental health to their overall health and wellness.



Center for Life  
COUNSELING



“Professional therapy helps people find new ways to think about the difficult situations they face and accept responsibility for their own lives,” said Catholic Charities Executive Director Nancy Galeazzi, LISW. “Our therapists provide supportive relationships with a focus on managing anxiety in a positive way, which is so important to a person’s overall health and wellness.”

If you or someone you know is interested in talking with a therapist, contact Center for Life Counseling in Des Moines at 515-237-5045 or in Council Bluffs at 712-328-3086 or go to [www.CenterforLifeCounseling.org](http://www.CenterforLifeCounseling.org) for information and tips from the therapists.

## Clean, organized and welcoming...

These are attributes of the grocery stores many of us shop at. In fact, according to the Food Marketing Institute's 2000 consumer trends survey, the four top characteristics of a successful grocery store are a clean/neat store, high quality produce, high quality meats and courteous, friendly employees.

Providing this kind of atmosphere and quality service is a top priority at St. Mary Family Center, Catholic Charities food pantry and free clothing closet in Des Moines. But unlike many grocery store chains, resources to maintain this quality are a challenge.

"We rely on volunteers and donations for much of what we do at St. Mary's," said Pat Nestvedt, associate director and volunteer coordinator at Catholic Charities. "Creating an organized and welcoming atmosphere depends greatly on our volunteers and donors."

Thanks to generous volunteers and donations over the years, St. Mary Family Center has received numerous updates including customized clothing racks, a remodel of the food distribution area, pantry redesign and even a walk-in cooler to keep meat and dairy products. Most recently, a



*St. Mary Family  
Center volunteers  
contributed 7,847 hours.*



group of dedicated volunteers and staff took on the task of pulling up the carpet, painting and reorganizing the flow of donations and traffic for a cleaner, healthier environment.

“Providing the clients who come to St. Mary’s with a clean, dignified atmosphere is as important as the food, clothing and financial assistance we provide. We want our clients to feel truly welcome when they arrive and hopeful when they leave,” said Megan Thibodeau, Program Coordinator of Poverty Reduction for Catholic Charities.

**For more information about St. Mary Family Center go to [www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org).**

### **Matthew 25:35**

*“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me”*

Valerie, Ricardo and their two children set out on an Amtrak train with nothing more than suitcases in hand and hopes of a better life in the Midwest. While living in Boston, Ricardo had been a maintenance worker and Valerie was employed in retail. “The same opportunities aren’t available out there. You don’t apply for a job and get calls back,” Ricardo remarked about the job market in Boston. “It’s tough. So we packed up and left.”



When they arrived in Des Moines they found Catholic Charities and St. Joseph Emergency Family Center. The shelter had room to house their family for the next 30 days. “St. Joe’s immediately gave us what we needed. Whether it was food, clothing, transportation or a referral, they were there to help us out. St. Joe’s sets you up for success and it’s up to the individual to move forward.”

*Continued from pg. 11*

Ricardo and Valerie continue to search for employment, but with the resources provided by St. Joseph, they are optimistic about the future. Ricardo remarked “I’ve gotten a couple of calls that sound promising. We really want to be part of this growing economy so that we can give back to St. Joe’s and set an example for our kids.” While at St. Joseph Emergency Family Shelter, they were able to find affordable housing to move into at the end of their 30-day stay.

“They have the most positive attitudes,” said Sherry Kepner, Family Advocate at St. Joseph Emergency Family Shelter, “They will succeed. No doubt about it.”

St. Joseph Emergency Family Shelter provides resources to lift families out of poverty in a sustainable manner. By providing resources for clothing, housing, employment, food and childcare, St. Joseph seeks to provide an avenue out of poverty for each family that walks through the door, treating all with dignity and respect.

*St. Joseph Emergency Family  
Shelter volunteers contributed  
more than 2000 hours*

# Catholic Charities

## Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2012

<b>Expenses</b>		
Counseling	\$447,457	16.7%
Adoption & Pregnancy Counseling	\$71,692	2.7%
St. Joseph Emergency Family Shelter	\$295,522	11%
St. Mary Family Center	\$157,970	5.9%
Hispanic Outreach	\$97,764	3.6%
Immigrant and Refugee Service	\$271,448	10.1%
Domestic Abusee	\$509,936	18%
Development/Fundraising	\$119,412	4.5%
Administration	\$496,973	18.5%
Financial Assistance	\$215,817	8%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,681,796</b>	

*\* Pre-audited revenue and expense amounts shown here are for fiscal year 2010/2011. Catholic Charities is audited annually by an independent public accounting firm. For more information visit [www.CatholicCharities.org](http://www.CatholicCharities.org)*

<b>Revenue</b>		
Description	Actual	%
Contributions	\$598,723.14	20.4%
Annual Diocesan Appeal*	\$230,000.04	7.8%
Extraordinary Income**	\$346,969.60	11.8%
Bequests	\$0.00	0%
Grants	\$813,160.32	27.7%
United Way (Central Iowa and Midlands)	\$584,267.92	19.9%
Investment & Endowment	\$156,531.31	5.3%
Fees	\$207,888.25	7.1%
Total Revenue	\$2,937,540.58	100%

*\* The Diocese of Des Moines Annual Diocesan Appeal supports Catholic Charities by providing both direct operating revenue as well as facility and administrative support.*

*\*\* Extraordinary income represents funds designated for the expansion of St. Joseph Emergency Family Shelter and assets attributed to a warehouse gifted to Catholic Charities in FY2010/2011.*







601 Grand Ave  
Des Moines, IA 50309

[www.catholiccharitiesdm.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesdm.org)



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