



CATHOLIC CHARITIES NEWS

Volume 12, Number 3 Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice, Inc.

Spring 2013

2012 Annual Report

Last year Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice, Inc. assisted 40,182 people in Southwest Florida. Families and individuals required food, shelter, crisis intervention and life enriching social service programs. Your support has afforded Catholic Charities to help those in need to find their potential for success and become more self-sufficient. Thank you for your partnership in our mission to serve and empower all regardless of race, nationality or creed.



See our Annual Report on page 2

Catholic Charities Opens Farm Worker Housing Community

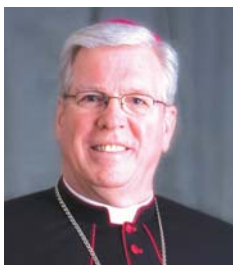
Arcadia—It was eight years in the making but the opening of the \$10 million Casa San Juan Bosco farm worker community was a joyful celebration held on January 23 with about 300 people in attendance that included a blessing ceremony and a fiesta with a mariachi band. Families began moving into the community soon after in February.



Casa San Juan Bosco farm worker community.

for the opening of Casa San Juan Bosco,” said Peter Routsis-Arroyo, CEO of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice, Inc. The Catholic Charities housing development consists of 53 three and four bedroom homes along with a community center, playground, computer lab, bus shelter, community

“It is an honor and privilege to stand here today *Farm Worker Housing on page 3*



Most Rev. Frank J. Dewane
Bishop

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www.catholiccharitiesdov.org

Annual Report For Year Ended June 30, 2012

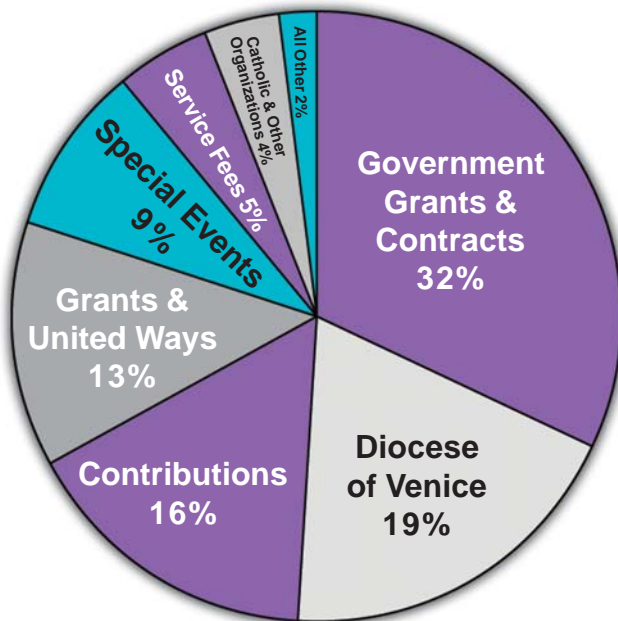


View our Profile on Charity Navigator at www.charitynavigator.org.

Catholic Charities,
Diocese of Venice, Inc.

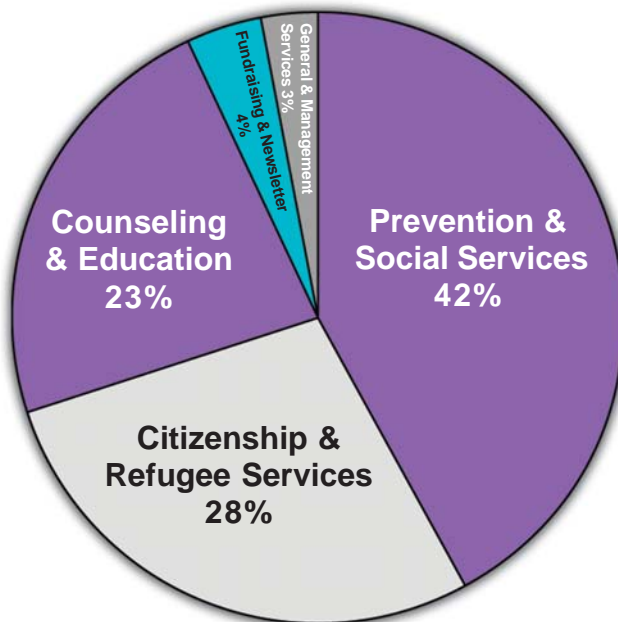


View our Profile on The Giving Partner at www.thegivingpartner.org.



Revenues

Government Grants & Contracts	32%	.....	\$2,468,735
Diocese of Venice	19%	.....	\$1,425,000
Contributions	16%	.....	\$1,197,335
Grants & United Ways	13%	.....	\$1,026,877
Special Events	9%	.....	\$708,670
Service Fees	5%	.....	\$407,446
Catholic & Other Organizations	4%	.....	\$287,940
All Other	2%	.....	\$153,830
Total Revenues		.....	\$7,675,833



Expenditures

Prevention & Social Services	42%	.....	\$3,220,208
Citizenship & Refugee Services	28%	.....	\$2,108,195
Counseling & Education	23%	.....	\$1,750,979
Fundraising & Newsletter	4%	.....	\$265,981
General & Management Services	3%	.....	\$249,882
Total Expenditures		.....	\$7,595,245

*The Diocese of Venice and its parishes provide additional support through in-kind donations including volunteer hours, physical space, and food drives.

Please see a list of Catholic Charities Programs and Services on page 5.

Farm Worker Housing from page 1

Community Center at the Casa San Juan Bosco farm worker community.



Playground at the Casa San Juan Bosco farm worker community.

garden and soccer fields. “This is going to be a beautiful community where people can live with dignity,” he said.

“This new community will provide an opportunity for decent and affordable living for farm workers,” said Keith Keene, the Mayor of the City of Arcadia. “We welcome Casa San Juan Bosco to Arcadia.”

“What a marvelous example of cooperation between governments and faith based organizations,” said Rev. Jerome Carosella, Pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Parish. “So many people worked so hard for so long.” The Boca Grande parish paid for the community center with a \$500,000 donation. St. Thomas More Parish in Sarasota donated the computers for the computer lab and equipment for the soccer fields.

Representatives from United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), DeSoto County, City of Arcadia, Florida Housing Finance, Florida Nonprofit Housing, National Development, Brooks and Freund, the Diocese of Venice, the Florida Catholic Conference, and Gulf Citrus Growers were in attendance at the blessing ceremony.

Construction of Casa San Juan Bosco, named after St. John Bosco who is known for his legacy of service to the underprivileged, began in October 2011. The family-friendly neighborhood was built on a 29-acre lot in DeSoto County and features 16 four bedroom/two bath units and 37 three bedroom/two bath units, along with a 1,600 square-foot community center with a computer lab and offices for on-site personnel.

“Agribusiness is the largest industry in our state, other than tourism, and this housing project will allow hard-working farm worker families to remain together and live in safe, clean, and affordable housing,” Routsis-Arroyo said.

National Development of America LLC was the project developer and the homes were built by Brooks & Freund LLC. NDC Real Estate Management will manage the property.

Funding for the housing project was through the Florida Housing Finance Corporation and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Forty-four of the homes will be eligible

for rental assistance through the USDA.

Bishop Frank Dewane of the Diocese of Venice credited the hard work of Catholic Charities staff, board members and volunteers along with private supporters, and for their perseverance in seeing the work completed. Bishop Dewane also was involved in moving the project successfully toward completion. In addition, Sister Cathy Buster, Sisters of Providence, and Sister Ann DeNicolo, Sisters of Charity, were instrumental in seeing their dream of a farm worker housing community in Arcadia convert to a reality.

Casa San Juan Bosco is an answer to a lack of affordable housing in DeSoto County. After Hurricane Charley destroyed a large portion of low-income homes in 2004, Catholic Charities set forth to provide decent homes for farm workers and their families.

“There was a need for quality, affordable housing prior to Hurricane Charley, but out of the devastation, this project was born,” Routsis-Arroyo said. “This is not just a housing complex, but a community.”

Patrons Don Cowboy Boots And Hats To Support Arcadia Programs

Lake Suzy—The dance floor was filled with patrons scooting and sliding to the country music band featured at the 2013 Boots and Bandannas Dinner Dance. The lively fundraiser was held on March 9 at the Kingsway Country Club and benefitted Catholic Charities of DeSoto County.

About 175 guests, dressed in western-themed garb, enjoyed an evening with a silent and a bucket auction, and a 50/50 raffle. The agenda also included

Patrons Don Cowboy Boots on page 6



Boots and Bandannas Sponsors Mary Kay and Mario Pasin stand by a Radio Flyer wagon they donated to the event's silent auction. The Pasin family is the founder and owner of the Radio Flyer Company.

Emerald Ball Guests Enjoy Irish Charm

Naples—The 2013 Emerald Ball was held on the eve of St. Patrick's Day, March 16, at the Ritz Carlton Beach Resort. More than 300 patrons attended the black-tie, Irish-style fundraiser that benefitted Catholic Charities of Collier County.

Many guests were adorned in green and were treated to a cocktail hour, silent and live auctions, dinner and dancing. Some of the gala's exciting auction items included a stay at a castle in Ireland, Dinner with the Bishop, a wine tour and tasting getaway, an African safari,

Emerald Ball on page 7



John and Brenda Fitzgerald were presented the James McTague Humanitarian Award at the 2013 Emerald Ball.

Wish List

Catholic Charities programs appreciate any help you can give.

Arcadia

- Call Andy at 863-494-1068
- Tall kitchen garbage bags
 - Printer and copier paper
 - Toaster oven
 - Household items

Arcadia

- Call Lily at 863-884-2123
- Computer mouse pads
 - Living room and dining room sets
 - Single and full-size beds

Bonita Springs/Fort Myers

- Call Matthew at 239-390-2928
- Soccer, football and basket balls
 - Squirt guns, beach supplies, sidewalk chalk, and water balloons
 - Large coolers and water coolers
 - Colored construction paper, markers, board games, jewelry kits, poster board, and stickers
 - Sunscreen, cold packs, insect repellent, and hand sanitizer

Fort Myers

- Call Alex at 239-337-4193
- Wal-Mart gift cards
 - Monetary donations to assist with utility, transportation and medical bills for victims of human trafficking

Fort Myers

- Call Bill at 239-699-3728
- Three media carts on wheels for electronics

Immokalee

- Call Ninfa at 239-657-6242
- Tutors for School on Wheels Program
 - Peanut Butter and Jelly
 - Canned vegetables and beans
 - Juice, tuna, pasta, rice and cereal

North Port

- Call Mary at 941-244-9490
- Gift cards to Staples, Wal-Mart and Publix
 - Two new flat screen 19" computer monitors

North Port

- Call Slav at 941-493-8231
- Large file cabinet

Sarasota

- Call Sandy at 941-366-1886
- Printer/fax machine
 - Hard plastic mat for under a chair

Venice

- Call Joyce at 941-485-6264
- New twin bed sheet sets
 - New crib sheets
 - Car(s)
 - Outside push brooms

Just visit www.catholiccharitiesdov.org and click on the **Click & Give** logo to make a gift that will have an immediate impact for those who need it most!

**Catholic Charities,
Diocese of Venice, Inc.**
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Venice, FL 34285
(941) 488-5581 • (941) 484-9543
www.catholiccharitiesdov.org
www.facebook.com/
CatholicCharitiesDioceseOfVenice

Programs & Services Locations

Arcadia
Boca Grande
Bonita Springs
Bradenton
Clewiston
Fort Myers
Highlands and Hardee Counties Outreach Services
Immokalee
Naples
North Port
Palmetto
Port Charlotte
Sarasota
Venice
Wauchula

Programs & Services

Affordable Housing
After-School Program
After-School Reading Program
After-School Tutoring Program
Casework Services/Needs Assessment
Citizenship Classes
Citizenship Services
Clothing Bank
Counseling Services
Day Care Center
Disaster Preparedness and Response
Distribution of FEMA Funds
DUI Groups
Early Learning Center
Elderly Services
English Classes
Farm Worker Housing
Financial Assistance
First Time Home Buyer Class
Food Assistance
Food Pantry
Food Stamps/Medicaid Applications
HIV/AIDS Support Services
HIV/AIDS Housing
Housing Counseling and Foreclosure Prevention
Human Trafficking Program
Infant/Toddler Supplies
Residential Program for Mothers and Children
Refugee Services
Refugee Youth Program
School on Wheels Program
Soup Kitchen
Summer Youth Program
Tutoring
Veterans Home
Youth Mentoring Program

Catholic Charities is a non-profit organization under section 501 (c) (3) of the IRS code. Our Florida registration number is CH4196. Catholic Charities receives 100% of each contribution.

CEO's Corner

Our Spring edition of this newsletter always affords me the opportunity to thank all of our supporters for their generous spirit. Last year, we served 40,182 people in Southwest Florida and it is because of your willingness to partner with Catholic Charities that we were able to help so many in need. Our annual report information is featured in this newsletter and highlights the assistance we offer and how your donations are used. Please take the time to review it.

Once again our annual Christmas Appeal was a success. Your contributions to this important campaign helped us to raise \$480,440 and to exceed our goal! On behalf of the many people that will benefit from the programs and services of Catholic Charities, I would like to extend my gratitude.

I also want to express my appreciation to everyone who attended one of the many Catholic Charities fundraisers that took place over the past few months. The proceeds from these events are necessary to continue to offer the type of help many poor families and individuals in our community need to become self sufficient. A special thank you to all of the event chairs, committee members, and sponsors who graciously gave of their time, talent, and treasure to make these vital fundraisers successful.

Catholic Charities is so fortunate to have many devoted supporters!

May the good Lord bless you,

Pete Routsis-Arroyo

Peter Routsis-Arroyo
Chief Executive Officer



Visit our website at www.catholiccharitiesdov.org

Upcoming Events

April
Fort Myers **The 10th Annual Charity Golf Classic** for the African Caribbean American Catholic Center (AFCAAM) of Catholic Charities will be held on **Friday, April 12** at The Forest Country Club located at 6100 Club Boulevard in Fort Myers. Registration is at noon and play begins at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$150 per person. Proceeds will benefit the mentoring and reading programs offered at the center. Various prizes will be awarded to contest winners. Students from the Mentoring Program will be participating in the golf classic. For more information, please contact David Young at AFCAAM at 239-461-0234.

Winter Wonderland At Catholic Charities Ball

Sarasota—About 400 patrons attended the 2013 Catholic Charities Ball on January 26 at the Ritz Carlton. Decorated in an elegant winter theme, the black-tie gala benefitted the programs and services of Catholic Charities of Sarasota and Manatee Counties.

The evening offered a cocktail hour, dinner and dancing and featured a raffle for one year of free tuition at any Catholic school in Sarasota and Manatee Counties and both silent and live auctions. Some of the auction items included Dinner with the Bishop, a villa in Italy, trips to Rome and Las Vegas, a condo in Colorado,

and stunning jewelry. Opera singer Joe Spinella treated guests with a special performance at the start of the dinner.

Catholic Charities of Sarasota and Manatee Counties offers mental health counseling, a residential program for mothers and their children, an early learning center, HIV/

AIDS support services, financial assistance, senior services, home-ownership counseling and classes, citizenship classes and services, and refugee services.



2013 Catholic Charities Ball Co-Chairs Mary Keane-Barbetta (left to right), Julie Delaney and Bridget Spiess.

Proceeds from this annual fundraiser go directly to help clients in need.

For more information, please call 941-355-4680.

Auctions And Wine Tasting Make For A Fun-Filled Event

Venice—A host of exciting auction items engaged the more than 300 guests that attended the 2013 Our Mother's House Annual Wine Tasting Auction and Dinner Dance on February 28. The fundraiser was held at the Plantation Golf and Country Club and benefitted the Catholic Charities program.

Patrons tasted a diverse set of wines and participated in a silent and a bucket auction, and a 50/50 raffle. New to the event this year was the Big Spender Private Bid Card where attendees put forth their best bid for a complete Pandora bracelet and/or four



Robert and Lynne Keller were the Event Underwriters for the 2013 Our Mother's House Annual Wine Tasting Auction and Dinner Dance.

tickets to Disney, and/or two tickets to fly anywhere on Southwest Airlines. A dinner and

dancing also were on the evening's agenda. The entire event was underwritten by Lynne and Robert Keller, so all proceeds went directly to the program.

Our Mother's House is a residential program for homeless mothers and their children that is committed to helping them attain self-sufficiency. The funds raised are used to ensure that the mothers and children receive the programming and services they need to lead healthy and independent lives.

For more information, please call 941-485-6264.

Patrons Don Cowboy Boots from page 4

a cocktail hour, dinner and dancing. A variety of auction items were provided such as a box of fresh tomatoes, radio flyer wagons, Swarovski crystal

bracelets, bicycles, canoe and kayak trips, and Joan Carroll's famous chocolate basket.

Catholic Charities of DeSoto County caters to the rural poor of Arcadia and surrounding communities. Programs and services offered there include an

after school tutoring program, citizenship services, food pantry and direct assistance. All proceeds from the Boots and Bandannas Dinner Dance directly benefit clients in need.

For more information, please call 863-494-1068.

Fat Tuesday Fundraiser Supports Community Center

Sarasota—Bethesda House of Catholic Charities hosted the 2013 Mardi Gras Madness event on Fat Tuesday, February 12 at the Sarasota Yacht Club. Dressed in festive masks and colorful beads, about 150 people attended the fundraiser for the HIV/AIDS community center.

Along with a cocktail hour, dinner and dancing, patrons enjoyed both a silent and a bucket auction, and a 50/50 raffle. Auction items featured jewelry, weekend getaways, orchids,



Nathalie and Catholic Charities Board Member Nigel Mould don their Mardi Gras masks.

home decor, large baskets of goodies, and much more. A

contest also was held for the most outlandish Mardi Gras mask.

Bethesda House of Catholic Charities offers professional and compassionate assistance for those suffering with HIV/AIDS such as a food pantry, clothing bank, case management, laundry and shower facilities, support groups and counseling, financial assistance, job training, and referrals to medical services. The mission of the program is to provide services with love, compassion, dignity and respect to help clients live healthy, more satisfying and independent lives.

For more information, please call 941-366-1886.

Venetian Ball Adorned As Venice Film Festival

Fort Myers—The Venice Film Festival or “Festival di Venezia” was the creative theme for the 2013 Venetian Charity Ball on March 2 at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point. More than 500 patrons attended the annual fundraiser for the programs and services of Catholic Charities of Lee, Hendry, and Glades Counties.

Star studded vignettes adorned the gala and a raffle was held for the “Famosi Del Cinema Table” where one lucky table of guests received an exclusive menu and special decorations to match the pageantry of the event. A cocktail hour, dinner and dancing also were offered along with silent and live auctions.

Popular auction items included two puppies, a lease on a new Fiat, a villa in Italy, a trip to Washington D. C., and Dinner with the Bishop. The evening’s highlight was the presentation of the Catholic Charities Frank Galeana Sr. Humanitarian Award to dedicated and long-time volunteers Ada and Giovanni Trapanese.



Ada and Giovanni Trapanese were presented the Catholic Charities Frank Galeana Sr. Humanitarian Award at the 2013 Venetian Charity Ball.

Catholic Charities of Lee, Hendry and Glades Counties offers a human trafficking program, refugee services, elderly services, food pantries, citizenship services, youth tutoring and mentoring, adult education, youth programs, case management, financial assistance, and infant/toddler assistance. Proceeds from the event directly benefit these programs and services.

For more information, please call 239-334-4007.

Emerald Ball from page 4

a historical journey to Normandy, a luxury trip to Austria, and a villa in France. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the James McTague Humanitarian Award to John and Brenda Fitzgerald who have devoted more than 20 years of service to Catholic Charities.

All proceeds from the Emerald Ball go to the programs and services of Catholic Charities of Collier County which include a soup kitchen, financial assistance, mental health counseling for adults and children, citizenship and legal services, food pantries and distribution, School on Wheels, refugee services, and special projects such as Undy Sunday.

For more information, please call 239-455-2655.



**11th Annual
Christmas Appeal
Reaches \$480,440**

Your gifts help Catholic Charities to provide programs and services that will assist those in need to live a better life.

**Thank you for your
outstanding generosity!**

Catholic Charities on



Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice, Inc. is now on The Fundraiser Hub and can receive donations through purchases of “deals of the day” on the web site. Items include big discounts at local restaurants, hair salons and beauty products, automotive stores and items, fitness centers, entertainment, and much more.

Simply go to www.thefundraiserhub.com and purchase an item and select Catholic Charities to receive a donation. A percentage of each purchase will automatically go to the designated charity. The web site also features a Healthy Options cookbook, menu planner, food journal, pedometer, coupons, events and more.



Catholic Charities
11th Annual
Christmas Appeal



Catholic Charities
Diocese of Venice, Inc.
P.O. Box 2116
Venice, FL 34284-2116

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**Emergency Financial Assistance • Food Pantries • Tutoring
Early Learning • Mental Health Counseling
Residential Care for Mothers & Children**

**Catholic Charities serves and empowers ALL in need,
regardless of race, nationality or creed.**

The Good Samaritan Guild

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____



Mail to:
**Catholic Charities
Foundation**
5824 Bee Ridge Rd. PMB 409
Sarasota, FL 34233-5065
Or:
Use the enclosed envelope.

- WILLS WORKSHEETS**
Send a set of wills worksheets, if you do not have a will or are updating yours.
- FOUNDATION**
Please send me information about the Catholic Charities Foundation and the Good Samaritan Guild.
- MASS CARDS**
Send two samples of the Good Samaritan Mass Card. (Please enclose \$1.00 for postage.)