



Most Rev. Frank J. Dewane, *Bishop* Rev. Msgr. Stephen McNamara, *Vicar General* Dr. Volodymyr Smeryk, *Chancellor* Eduardo Gloria, *Interim CEO/Chief Operating Officer*

2020-2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard Rogan, *Chair* Rita Cavuoto, *Vice-Chair* Robert Hiniker, *Treasurer* Iris Gomez, *Secretary*

BOARD

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

The last two years have reminded us that change is inescapable; we've also learned that it's how we accept and adapt to change that determines our future successes.

In 2021, the Catholic Charities Board of Directors recognized that areas of greatest need had shifted significantly due to the pandemic. Working closely with the Leadership Team, the Board focused on new strategies to best serve our community.

The most urgent need was housing. In 2021, Catholic Charities provided shelter to 1,534 individuals, up 117 percent from last year, and provided food to 209,784 individuals, increasing food pantry services by 33 percent. Human trafficking, immigration, and youth services were also concerns that intensified during the year.

As you read this Annual Report, looking back on 2021 and forward into 2022, I hope you will be equally proud of our donors, volunteers, and the team's dedication as they continue to positively impact the community, respond quickly and remain pivotal to meet new demands. Despite the challenges and continued effects of the pandemic, I remain grateful to the staff and volunteers for continuing to serve, whether in person or remotely, working together as a team to achieve our goal of providing help, creating hope, and serving all.

Gratefully,

Polareda Almi

Eduardo Gloria, Interim CEO/Chief Operating Officer

Demographics

58%
HISPANIC/LATINO



57% WOMEN



16%
UNDER THE AGE OF 18



224,868
SERVICES PROVIDED TO INDIVIDUALS IN SOUTHWEST FLORIDA IN FISCAL YEAR 2021.

FISCAL YEAR 2021 BY THE NUMBERS



209,784
Pantry and Food Services
Provided to Indviduals



\$1,582,255
Dollars of Direct
Assistance Provided



5,058Behavioral Health
Services Provided



3,653Services for Victims of Human Trafficking



1,538
Families, Children,
and Individuals Housed



7,640 Calls for Help



219Education Services for Children and Adults



1,562Families Accessed
Supplemental
NutritionBenefits



286Immigration
Services Provided



5,662Services to Seniors

HOUSING SITES

CASA SAN JUAN BOSCO PHASE I & II

373 People Housed

ST. JOHN PAUL II PHASE I & II 92 People Housed

OUR MOTHER'S HOUSE 68 People Housed

FAMILY HAVEN 136 People Housed

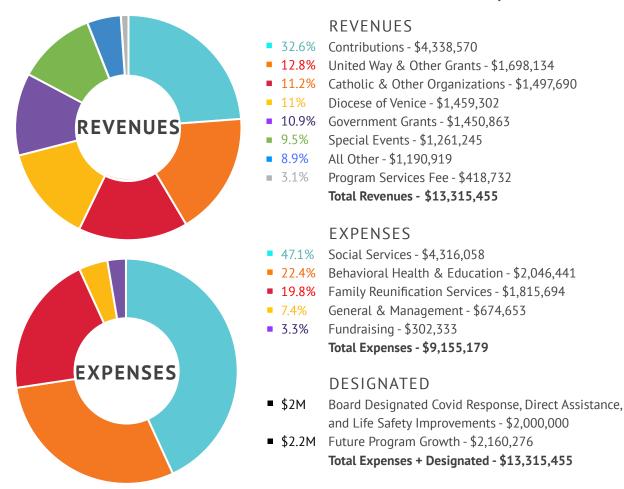
MARIAN MANOR 70 People Housed

ST. DOMINIC 24 People Housed

ST. MONICA 27 People Housed

CASA SAN JOSE8 People Housed

ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021



The Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice was presented with a new set of challenges in 2021. While the pandemic created uncertainty for all of us, it became clear that it affected those we serve even more. We reevaluated the areas of need and created a new set of priorities to ensure we remain on target to fulfill the changing needs of our community. These priorities were established to continue our mission and offer services to have the most significant impact.

SIX PRIORITIES

FOOD SECURITY Because of the dramatic increase in the need for food, Catholic Charities began strengthening its food distribution network by partnering with other nonprofit organizations and building a more extensive network to serve more people with healthier choices.

HOUSING Homelessness has become one of our biggest challenges. In 2021 more than 1,500 families came to Catholic Charities looking for assistance with housing. With the increased need to address affordable housing and prevent homelessness, we have increased our strategic partnership programs such as Rapid-Rehousing, which assisted us in providing individuals and families a safe place to call home in both Lee and Sarasota Counties.

ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING The Anti-Human Trafficking Program provides care, counseling, and a haven for those sold into labor or sex trafficking. This program offers comprehensive services to victims of human trafficking and seeks to stabilize, empower, and educate to promote emotional recovery and economic self-sufficiency. Our model for this program continues to be deployed throughout our 10-county reach,



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH The need for behavioral health has become even more apparent. Catholic Charities behavioral health services provides outpatient mental health therapy that is both accessible and culturally sensitive. We expanded outreach by partnering with schools and mental health professionals to bring better access to those in need.

IMMIGRATION As our diverse communities continue to grow, immigration becomes increasingly important to ensure that persons who have a legal path to permanent residency or citizenship can access accurate and reliable support to establish their legal status in our country. Catholic Charities is committed to this process which connects families and communities and promotes a balanced society.

YOUTH FORMATION Children deserve every opportunity to learn and grow. Catholic Charities believes that children are couriers of the future and hold the importance of education to ensure future solid communities. We must give every opportunity to our youth and fulfill our mission to facilitate engagement, a passion for learning, and confidence, and create a clear path for a successful future. This year we helped close the digital divide by providing computers and internet access to low-income families, increasing youth programs, summer reading programs, tutoring, and 4-H education.

The people behind the numbers.

"I have been coming to Catholic Charities for counseling since I was a child. Through this process, you've helped me grow and become more responsible. I look forward to our conversations and learning the tools to help me in my everyday life. I am so thankful for your commitment to those in need."

- Jake, Mental Health Counseling

"I have always worked hard for my family, but SNAP helped us cope with the loss of income during the pandemic. Currently, we are homeless, but if I didn't have the SNAP benefits, we would be homeless and hungry. And now, you are helping us find a home we can afford; Catholic Charities is a blessing!"

– Lucas, SNAP Benefits Program

"I am beyond grateful to Catholic Charities for going the distance. Through the Rapid-Rehousing program, I was able to get affordable housing and Housing Authority benefits. Once I moved into my new home, the Senior Support program gave me new bedsheets that were donated to the program, as a housewarming gift! Thank you, Catholic Charities, for making sure I have sanctuary in my life."

– Maria, Senior Support Services and Rapid-Rehousing

"It has only been a few months since I have moved into Our Mother's House, but it has already been life changing. After years of being taken advantage of and being abused, I took a leap of faith and found myself in the comfort of Our Mother's House. In a short amount of time, my son and I are both thriving, and I have found my voice again. Our Mother's House has brightened our future and restored my belief in humanity."

- Bethany, Our Mother's House

"I arrived in this country from Venezuela in June 2016. In my country, I was a lawyer, but I have been working as an Uber driver here. Since I don't speak English well, it's been difficult getting back in my field, but Catholic Charities helped me! In the Empowerment Program I was able to take English classes and study Immigration. They gave me the encouragement I needed. I'm very grateful that I can finally see my dreams coming true."

- Carmen, Empowerment Program





COVID-19 RESPONSE

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WAS HIT HARD BY COVID-19.

To address the evolving needs, Catholic Charities focused operations on increased food distribution at our food pantries, increased financial assistance to ensure families did not fall into homelessness, and implemented tele-mental health services across all ten counties allowing so many to receive the quidance they needed.

As the Pandemic lingers on, the effects and impact continues to cast tremendous uncertainty over our community. Catholic Charities remains resolved and committed to serve, grateful for the generous support received from county partners, foundations, donors, and volunteers who not only maintained their support during this time, but also increased contributions to ensure lives are saved.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I write to you this year, I reflect on all that has changed in our world and how we've adapted and accepted many of these changes as our new normal. I am also filled with love and gratitude and recognize that some of these changes are also blessings.

While the pandemic has certainly taken its toll on all of us, we've also witnessed unexpected wonders, such as our community's continued generosity, even when faced with their own increased burdens. Our volunteers and donors never gave up and offered their time and support in abundance.

Throughout this annual report, you will see the data that reflects the remarkable achievements that the Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice, Inc. and its supporters have brought to the community. These accomplishments were a collective effort, and I thank you all for your generosity and compassion.

May the Scripture that guides our work each day continue to give us the reason for our hope and tenacity. Knowing that our Lord will never give us more than we are capable of handling, I'm grateful that our team has risen to the challenge and not only overcome but excelled. These blessings are a testament to the remarkable kindness and generosity of you, our donors, partners, staff, and volunteers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Frank J. Dewane, Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida

"Faith grows when it is lived and shaped by Love." – Pope Francis















CATHOLIC CHARITIES DIOCESE OF VENICE, INC.

WWW.CATHOLICCHARITIESDOV.ORG



SERVICE LOCATIONS

Arcadia Bradenton
Boca Grande Clewiston
Bonita Springs Fort Myers

Immokalee Naples North Port Palmetto Venice Port Charlotte Wauchula

Sarasota

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Adult Education

Affordable Housing

After-School Programs

Anti-Human Trafficking

Assistance & Housing

Case Management Services

Clothing Distribution

Counseling Services

Disaster Response & Recovery

Early Learning Centers

Career Development & Empowerment

English Classes

Farm Worker Housing

Financial Assistance

Food Assistance and Pantry

Supplemental Assistance Program (SNAP)

HIV/AIDS Support

Services & Housing

Immigration Services

Infant/Toddler Supplies

Rapid-Rehousing

Residential Program for

Mothers & Children

Senior Housing

Senior Services

Shower Program & Clothing Exchange

Soup Kitchen

Summer Youth Program

Transitional Housing

Veterans Housing

Youth Mentoring Program



Catholic Charities Affiliated Agencies

Catholic Charities Foundation

Mary Pat McNally, Chair Bob Klosterman, Vice-Chair Robert Weaver, Treasurer JoAnne Kuehner, Secretary Louis Baumer, Foundation Director

2020-2021 Board

Jonathan Anderson Connie Blum* James D. Cyr John Fitzgerald* Ric Gregoria* Jeff McManus Bob Oxnard Kathleen Rey Lew Schmidt* Hal Smith Mary Varnum *Honorary

Housing Entities Board

Eddie Gloria, President Dr. Volodymyr Smeryk, Chancellor Dick Maier, Secretary Joe Rego, Buildings Representative

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