

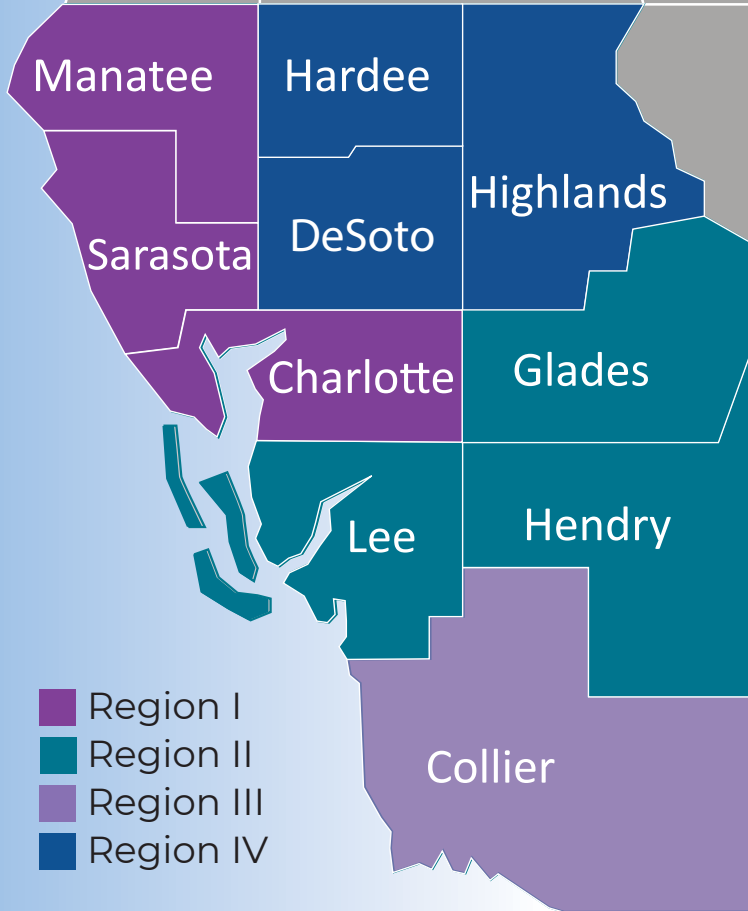


ANNUAL REPORT
Fiscal Year 2025



Providing Help. Creating Hope. Serving All.

STATS AND DEMOGRAPHICS



- Region I
- Region II
- Region III
- Region IV

101
Staff Members

274
Volunteers

155,060
Services Provided

34
Programs

10
Counties

10,000
Square Miles

21
Sites

MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



Dear Friends, Supporters, and Partners,

As we look back on 2025, I am deeply grateful for all that we have achieved together in service to our neighbors in need. Every meal, every shelter, every supportive conversation—we did this because of your trust, your faith, and your willingness to walk alongside us.

This year brought both challenges and blessings. Demand for our services continued to rise—families struggling with housing, individuals needing access to counseling, and children needing support to thrive. However, through your generous giving, the commitment of our volunteers, and the dedication of our staff, Catholic Charities continued to be a beacon of hope across our ten counties.

In these pages, you will see stories and metrics. But beyond those numbers are real lives changed: a mother regaining stability in her home, a child finding educational support, a senior receiving care and compassion. These human stories lie at the heart of our work.

Though our resources were stretched, we responded with creativity and prudence. We refined our operations, leveraged partnerships, and pursued sustainable models so that every dollar could stretch further to support our mission. We also opened new lines of collaboration with parishes, community nonprofits, and public agencies—because all of these challenges can be solved better together.

Looking ahead, our work is far from done. As economic pressures intensify, vulnerable people will continue to turn to us. We must remain steadfast in our commitment to recognizing the dignity of each person and serving them with compassion. With your continued support, we will deepen our impact, improve our systems, and expand our reach.

Thank you for your faith, your generosity, and your prayers. Because of you, we continue to manifest Christ's love in concrete, life-changing ways.

May God bless you abundantly,

Christopher M. Root
Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice, Inc.

Most Rev. Frank J. Dewane,
Bishop

Rev. Msgr. Stephen
McNamara,
Vicar General

Dr. Volodymyr Smeryk,
Chancellor

Christopher M. Root,
Chief Executive Officer

2024-2025 EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rita Cavuoto, Chair
Robert Farnham, Vice-Chair
Brenda Dolan, Treasurer

BOARD
Domenico Cricchio
Heather Groening
Paul Gulbrandsen
Sarah Landman
Joseph Malloff
Michele Tromble

“

“I am grateful to visit Guadalupe Social Services. I can receive the help I need for my family and me. We receive food from the food pantry, a hot meal from the Casa Maria Soup Kitchen, and feminine products through the clothing room program. Because of the essentials that GSS provides, my family and I do not have to worry about running low. We can count on GSS.”
– Maria G.

”



HOUSING SERVICES FISCAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

460
Individuals assisted through Rapid-Rehousing

378
Parents & Children at Casa San Juan Bosco

65
Seniors at St. John Paul II

73
Mothers & Children at Our Mother's House

132
People Housed at Family Haven

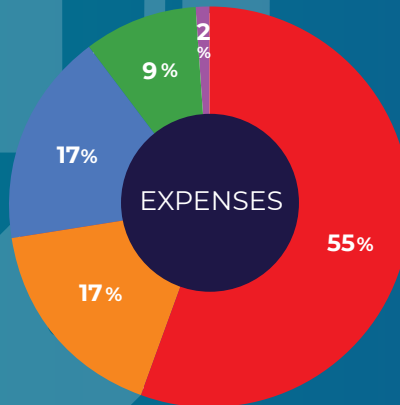
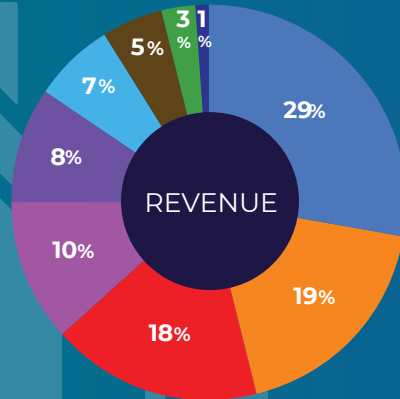
41
Low-Income Individuals & Families at Marion Manor

17
Low-Income Parents & Children at St. Dominic

20
Parents & Children at St. Monica

8
Vulnerable Residents at Casa San Jose

23
People Housed at New Paradigm



REVENUE

- 29% Government Grants - \$4,448,221
- 19% Catholic & Other Organizations - \$2,857,017
- 18% Contributions - \$2,809,802
- 10% Diocese of Venice - \$1,600,019
- 8% Foundations - \$1,229,883
- 7% Special Events - \$1,175,707
- 5% All Other - \$818,844
- 3% Program Service Fees - \$413,051
- 1% United Way & Other Grants - \$151,953

Total Revenue - \$15,352,544

EXPENSES

- 55% Direct Assistance & Social Services - \$8,528,814 *
- 17% Family Reunification Services - \$2,665,453
- 17% Behavioral Health & Education - \$2,592,571
- 9% Administrative - \$1,453,852
- 2% Fundraising - \$365,117

Total Expenses - \$15,605,809

*** INCLUDES FUNDS EXPENSED FROM PRIOR FISCAL YEAR**

Hurricane Ian relief restricted funds from FY 2023 - \$253,265

FISCAL YEAR 2025 SUPPORT SERVICES



95,019

Pantry and Food Services
Provided to Individuals



3,652,953

Dollars of Direct
Assistance Provided



4,528

Behavioral Health
Services Provided



5,449

Services for Victims
of Human Trafficking



1,217

Families, Children,
and Individuals Housed



18,974

Calls for Help



11,955

Education Services for
Children and Adults



756

Families Accessed
Supplemental
Nutrition Benefits



1,269

Immigration
Services Provided



15,893

Services to Seniors

SUCCESS STORY

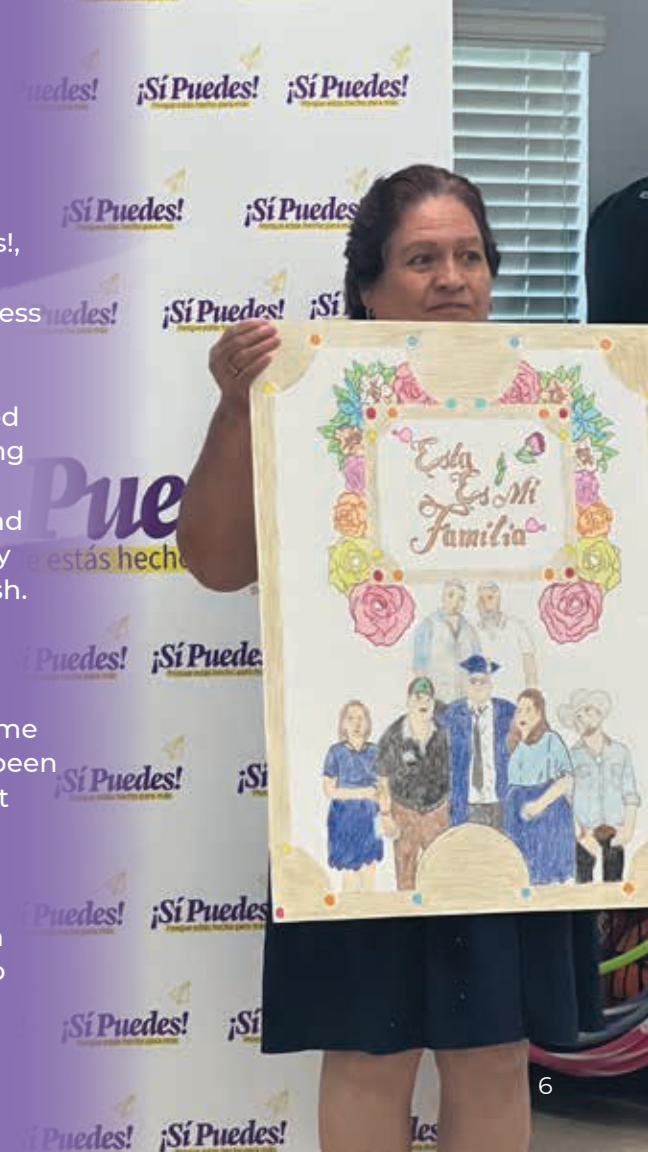
HOPE BEGINS AT HOME

Catholic Charities has partnered with Maria Elena, founder of Si Puedes!, to offer personal development courses that help Latino families build confidence, strengthen relationships, and overcome barriers to happiness and success.

When Maria walked into the Si Puedes! workshop in Arcadia, she carried a quiet mix of hope and skepticism. Life had been hard, and the growing distance between her and her sons felt impossible to bridge. For years, they had retreated into their own worlds, leaving Maria and her husband feeling like strangers in their own home. But through one simple family project assigned in the workshop, something beautiful began to flourish. Conversations sparked, laughter returned, and the warmth of family connection filled their home once again.

The workshop gave Maria's family something priceless—a reason to come together, to communicate, and to rediscover the love that had always been there. "I'm so happy I participated," she said through tears. "This project really helped me and my family."

Programs like Si Puedes! embody the mission of Catholic Charities—to strengthen families, restore hope, and empower individuals to live with dignity. By providing opportunities for growth and connection, we help families rediscover the love and resilience that carry them through life's challenges.



REBUILDING HOPE AFTER THE HURRICANES HELPING FAMILIES RECOVER AND REBUILD ACROSS SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

RECOVERY IN ACTION

Long-Term Recovery Group Lee County



500

Disaster Recovery
Cases Assisted



\$11.1 million

In Aid
Provided



149

Houses Replaced

148

Homes Repaired

Disaster Case Management Program: Hurricane Ian Response



738

Homes Served



414

Individuals Supported



\$4.7 million

In Aid Provided

Rapid Response Hurricanes Debbie, Helene, & Milton



8,100+

Provided with Food, Hygiene
kits and Emergency Supplies

SUCCESS STORY

A HOME RESTORED, A FAMILY RENEWED

An elderly, disabled man caring for his elderly mother faced devastating damage when Hurricane Ian flooded their home with four feet of water. Storm-damaged HVAC, toxic mold, and years of hoarding made recovery overwhelming, leaving them in unsafe conditions. When he reached out to Catholic Charities, what began as a simple request for a storage container quickly revealed a much larger need.

With comprehensive planning and the support of community partners along with local Catholic parishes—Catholic Charities coordinated junk removal, mold remediation, home reconstruction, new HVAC and water systems, and temporary housing during the rebuild. By November 2024, the family returned to a safe, restored home.

Thanks to the collaborative efforts of these partners, this family gained not only a rebuilt home but renewed hope and peace of mind in the face of disaster.



SIX PRIORITIES

Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice, Inc. is committed to serving communities across Southwest Florida. To fulfill this mission, the organization is structured around six key priorities that guide its goals and service to those in need.

1. Food Security

By building strategic partnerships across Southwest Florida, Catholic Charities strengthens its food distribution network to deliver sustainable, impactful support to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity.

2. Housing

As a leading provider of low-income housing in Southwest Florida, we develop safe, sustainable, and affordable housing solutions to support families in need. We achieve this through Catholic Charities-owned properties and collaborations with local partners.

3. Anti-Human Trafficking

Southwest Florida ranks among the highest regions in the nation for incidents of human trafficking. In response, Catholic Charities has established an innovative and comprehensive system of care that includes direct assistance, trauma-informed counseling, and safe housing for victims. Our approach supports both intervention and recovery to protect and empower survivors.

4. Behavioral Health

Catholic Charities behavioral health services offer culturally sensitive, outpatient mental health therapy. By partnering with schools and Catholic Charities licensed mental health professionals, we provide accessible care that supports children and adults on their path to mental stability and self-sufficiency.

5. Immigration

As Southwest Florida continues to grow, Catholic Charities supports individuals pursuing legal residency or citizenship through the expertise of Department of Justice–certified staff, offering assistance with family reunification, work authorization, residency adjustments, consular processing, and U.S. citizenship applications to foster successful community integration.

6. Youth Development

Catholic Charities believes that children carry the promise of the future. Its youth programs engage young people intentionally and constructively, emphasizing their strengths and potential. After-school and summer reading programs serve students from kindergarten through grade 12, providing positive experiences and valuable learning opportunities.



THE FOUR PILLARS OF OUR ORGANIZATION

Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice, Inc. is dedicated to offering comprehensive support to individuals throughout Southwest Florida. The mission is to help people overcome challenges, fostering self-sufficiency and well-being, regardless of race, nationality, or faith. With over 21 sites—including offices, housing developments, and outreach services—the organization addresses the growing needs of vulnerable populations across the region.

1. Donors

are the foundation of our organization, enabling us to realize the mission of “Providing Help, Creating Hope, and Serving All.” Your generosity powers the programs and services that make a difference in individuals’ lives.

2. Staff

Staff members at Catholic Charities bring a wealth of diverse skills and a shared dedication to serving and uplifting others. Their expertise and collaborative approach enable the organization to fulfill its mission with unity and compassion.

3. Those We Serve

Catholic Charities prioritizes understanding the unique needs of the individuals it serves, ensuring that support addresses challenges such as homelessness, food insecurity, mental health issues, human trafficking, and disaster recovery.

4. Volunteers

Volunteers are essential advocates for the Catholic Charities mission, offering their time and skills to broaden our impact. Their dedication strengthens the services we provide and extends its reach to help even more individuals and families.





SUCCESS STORY

FROM COURAGE TO HOME

When Clarissa arrived at Our Mother's House with her four-month-old baby, she had little more than courage. Fleeing domestic violence, she came with only the clothes on her back, unsure of what lay ahead. Our staff helped her stabilize — providing safety, food, and a supportive community. With guidance and encouragement, Clarissa began rebuilding her life, attending classes, meeting with her case manager, and setting goals for independence.

Over the next two years, Clarissa worked tirelessly, embracing every opportunity. At one of our fundraising events, her determination caught the attention of an orthodontist, who offered her a job as an orthodontic assistant — a life-changing career. With steady work and financial guidance, she saved over \$5,000, built her credit, and strengthened her independence.

Just two years after arriving with nothing, Clarissa achieved the extraordinary: purchasing her first home before age 30. Today, she and her daughter are thriving — a powerful reminder that with safety, guidance, and opportunity, transformation is possible.

SUCCESS STORY

TURNING STRUGGLE INTO SERVICE

A gentleman came to our Clewiston pantry in dire straits—behind on bills, out of work due to health issues, and worried about feeding his family. We quickly registered him in the pantry and connected him with other programs and services to help ease his burden.

With continued support, he got back to work—but then tragedy struck: his kidneys failed, and he required dialysis. Once again, we connected him with the resources he needed to manage his health while continuing to support his family.

Through God's guidance and the support of Catholic Charities, he is empowered to give back, volunteering at the pantry and serving others who find themselves in similar situations. He is not only a cherished member of our DOV family but also a model of faith and service for others to follow.



MESSAGE FROM OUR BISHOP



“Let us not grow weary in doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all.” - Galatians 6:9-10

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This year has been a time of grace and renewal for the Church. The witness of Pope Francis was celebrated as the church mourned his death, and the ministry of Pope Leo XIV as successor of St. Peter has begun. These moments are a reminder of Christ's presence and the enduring mission of His Church in every age. As the Church also continues through the Jubilee Year 2025, all of the Faithful are invited to walk together in faith, rediscovering God's mercy as living witnesses to the hope in the world.

Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice embraces this call daily. Guided by Church teaching, Catholic Charities serves with compassion and dedication, feeding the hungry, sheltering the vulnerable, welcoming the stranger, and strengthening families. In these works of mercy, Christ is encountered and hope is renewed. We do this not because those who come to us are Catholic, but because we are.

The Annual Report is more than data. It shares stories of lives touched, opportunities created, and communities strengthened through your generosity. These blessings are possible because of your faith and commitment to the Gospel in action.

May the Lord bless you and your families abundantly, and may His presence guide our shared journey of service and hope.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ Frank J. Dewane".

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



SERVICE LOCATIONS

Arcadia

Boca Grande

Bonita Springs

Bradenton

Clewiston

Fort Myers

Immokalee

Naples

North Port

Port Charlotte

Sarasota

Venice

Wauchula

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Adult Education

Affordable Housing

After-School Programs

Anti-Human Trafficking Assistance

Career Development & Empowerment

Case Management

Clothing Distribution

Counseling Services

Disaster Response & Recovery

Early Learning Centers

Emergency Shelter

English Classes

Farm Worker Housing

Financial Assistance

Homeless Prevention

Housing for Homeless Families

Immigration Services

Infant/Toddler Supplies

Pantry & Food Assistance

Rapid-Rehousing

Residential Program for
Mothers & Children

Senior Housing

Senior Services

Soup Kitchen

Summer Youth Program

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
Program (SNAP)

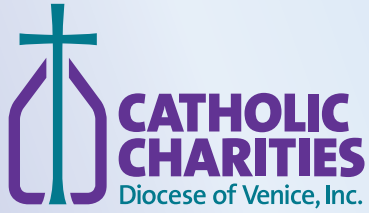
Transitional Housing

Veteran Services

Vulnerable Population Housing



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Venice, FL 34285
941-486-4700



1000 Pinebrook Road
Venice, FL 34285

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