



Catholic Charities
of Onondaga County

20 23

ANNUAL REPORT

CREATING **HOPE**. TRANSFORMING **LIVES**.

OUR MISSION

Catholic Charities of Onondaga County is dedicated to caring for those in need while promoting human development, collaboration, and the elimination of poverty and injustice. We strive to empower those served to transform their lives in the spirit of God's love and compassion.



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A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

In 2023, Catholic Charities celebrated its 100th anniversary, marking a century of love and service to those in need in our community. We've had many great accomplishments over the past century – too numerous to list here – but I am particularly proud of our new Housing Services Center, which we opened in March 2023. This Center provides comprehensive housing and health services to those who are homeless and housing vulnerable. I am forever grateful to our staff and generous supporters who have made this Center a reality.

Our achievements are measured in many other ways as well – all rooted in the belief that hospitality should be at the forefront of service. We are widely known for both competent and compassionate care, and we are often sought out when someone finds themselves in crisis.

There is perhaps no better example of this commitment than a situation that occurred last winter. A woman rang our office doorbell with no appointment or specific request – she simply stated that she needed help. Our Receptionist, Crystal, buzzed her into the building saying, “Come on in. We’ll figure it out.” In just a few words, Crystal embodied the true spirit of

Catholic Charities: answering the call from a neighbor in need, inviting them into the warmth and safety of our agency, and figuring out how we can help them. Crystal’s hospitality and care in that moment was remarkable.

Our staff’s unwavering dedication to those who may otherwise be turned away is a source of pride for me, and I hope it is for you. The support we receive from our donors and funders, volunteers, Board members, and friends is a testament to our shared values of devoted service, hospitality, and comprehensive care. Sadly, human suffering will always be with us and, thanks to you, Catholic Charities will be there to meet it head-on.

Thank you for being in our corner and supporting the efforts of Catholic Charities. **You make the difference.**

Sincerely,

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

Michael F. Melara
Executive Director

A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT



As President of the Board, I was privileged to be a part of Catholic Charities as it celebrated a century of service in 2023. In this storied 100-year history, problems have arisen, crises have developed, and disparities have grown, but the agency's commitment to those it serves has remained steadfast.

Catholic Charities' Board of Directors is proud to witness the consistent efforts of leadership and staff as they navigate challenges and find new, innovative ways to provide support to those in need, creating hope and transforming lives. This is not a simple or straightforward task, but Catholic Charities continually rises to the occasion.

This commitment to hospitality is unique and wonderful for our community, and it is truly unparalleled. We could not have extended 100 years of service to this community without you. The generous support of our donors, community partners, funders, and neighbors is something for which we are continually grateful and humbled.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for being champions of our mission, and for your compassion and respect for the individuals we serve. We need you as much as our clients need us.

Sincerely,

Julian B. Modesti
President, Board of Directors

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Chief Human Resources Officer

Catherine J. Willson
Executive Assistant



CRISIS RESPONSE PROGRAMS

In an instant or over time, circumstances may shift, prompting a crisis that demands urgent aid. Despite varying causes, the outcome remains constant: those in crisis are vulnerable, and we stand ready to provide relief.

Catholic Charities' Crisis Response programs offer immediate shelter, food, rental assistance, hygiene products, utility payments, transportation to temporary housing, and more to people who are facing immediate needs. Our staff ensure access to essential resources, empowering individuals and families to focus on realizing their full potential.

For many members of our community, Catholic Charities' crisis and emergency services are a critical lifeline, providing vital support during extremely challenging times.

HOMELESS SERVICES

- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative
- Rapid Re-Housing
- HUD Rental Assistance Program
- Men's Shelter

EMERGENCY SERVICES

- Supportive Services for Veteran Families
- Food Pantries
- Relocation Assistance
- Emergency Assistance Services
- Homeless Prevention

PROGRAM TESTIMONIAL

A family came to us struggling to afford a security deposit for a new home. With assistance from Catholic Charities, they were able to access funds for the security deposit. Also, one of our **Emergency Assistance Services** Outreach Coordinators advocated on their behalf by communicating with the landlord of the property. With financial help and supportive services, the family was ready for its move-in. Their Outreach Coordinator made sure the family transitioned smoothly into housing, including providing them with food and other essentials.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



463

Guests welcomed at our
Men's Shelter



6186

Individuals served at our
Food Pantries



327

Individuals provided with long-term
safe and affordable housing in
our Permanent Supportive
Housing Program



STABILITY PROGRAMS

Finding stability in life can pose challenges, particularly when emerging from difficult situations. **Catholic Charities' Stability programs** strive to mitigate disruptive behaviors or conditions affecting the lives of those we assist. Individuals served may include seniors lacking a reliable advisor or refugee families adapting to a new culture.

Our Stability programs provide a range of social, emotional, mental, physical, and economic resources tailored to individual needs. Our staff craft personalized plans aimed at fostering community connections, refining communication abilities, and promoting independent living.

HEALTH SERVICES

- Children's Health Home
- Adult Health Home
- Elderly Services
- Clinical Services

REFUGEE SERVICES

- Refugee Resettlement
- Refugee Youth
- Employment
- Citizenship & Immigration Legal Services

PROGRAM TESTIMONIAL

Elderly Services supports hundreds of older adults in the community. An individual recently relocated to the area without stable housing or steady employment, facing homelessness and severe financial challenges. She came to Catholic Charities for help applying for Social Security, Medicaid, senior housing, and food assistance. One of our Neighborhood Advisors helped her navigate the enrollment processes, and now she is safely housed and benefiting from ongoing support from our Elderly Services team.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



761

Total refugees resettled



350

Adult Health Home
participants served



661

Individuals supported through
Elderly Services, **100%** of whom
continued residing safely at home



CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMS

Capacity Building programs empower individuals to enhance their knowledge, skills, and adaptive strategies, enabling them to better care for themselves and/or their families. Through personalized or group instruction, coaching, and mentorship, participants acquire skills needed to pursue their aspirations. These programs target healthy emotional, mental, and educational development by engaging with parents, children, single adults, and youth.

By combining educational resources with support from our dedicated staff, Catholic Charities creates an environment that fosters optimal learning opportunities.

CLINICAL, FAMILY, AND PEER SUPPORT SERVICES

- Mental Health Counseling
- Peer Support
- Family Preservation
- Early Intervention

DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

- Universal Pre-K
- Youth & Teen Skill Building
- School-Based Services

PROGRAM TESTIMONIAL

A student joined our **Pre-K program** at age three and initially struggled with managing his emotions, sharing, and listening. Through consistent expectations and our emotional learning model, his behavior improved. At age four, in a new classroom, he faced similar challenges, but with our teachers' support and emotional management protocols, his behavior steadily improved. He learned techniques to calm himself and express his feelings, reducing the severity of his outbursts. We are confident he will enter kindergarten with the emotional and social skills needed to succeed.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



72

Car seats distributed to expecting parents upon completion of safety training



96%

Of children served through our Family Preservation programs avoided foster care placement



100%

Of four-year-olds from our Pre-K program began Kindergarten ready to learn



38TH ANNUAL HOUSE OF PROVIDENCE AWARDS

PRESENTED BY

J.W. Burns and Company Investment Counsel

**Thank you to our
2023 Signature and Major Sponsors:**

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Barclay Damon, LLP
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Dermody, Burke & Brown, CPAs, LLC
Harris Beach PLLC
JMA Wireless
Murphy and Nolan, Inc.
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NBT Bank
Rich & Gardner Construction Company
St. Joseph's Health
The Bonadio Group

During the 38th Annual House of Providence Awards, Catholic Charities had the honor of acknowledging three outstanding leaders for their unwavering dedication to serving others: **Father Fred Daley** received the Bishop's Award, **Al-amin Muhammad** was presented with the Humanitarian Service Award, and **David de Silva** was posthumously recognized with the President's Award.



Father Fred Daley
Bishop's Award



Al-amin Muhammad
Humanitarian Service Award



David de Silva
President's Award

HOUSING SERVICES CENTER CAMPAIGN

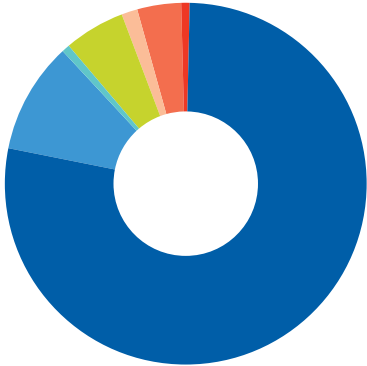


Pledges and/or Gifts Since 2021

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Allyn Family Foundation
Edward and Sharon Barno
The Besaw Family
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Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Valenti
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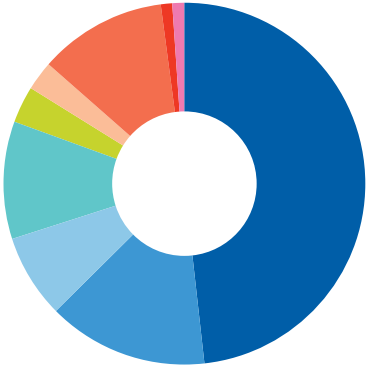
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

From audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023, excluding non-cash depreciation expense
(In millions)



OPERATING SUPPORT: \$28.1 M

●	\$22.1 M	78.1%	Government Support
●	\$2.8 M	10.1%	Special Events & Contributions
●	\$0.1 M	0.4%	Investment Income
●	\$1.5 M	5.5%	Program Service Fees
●	\$0.4 M	1.5%	Rental Income
●	\$1.1 M	4.1%	Management & Accounting Fees
●	\$0.1 M	0.3%	Consulting & Other Income
	\$28.1 M	100%	



OPERATING EXPENSES: \$28.5 M

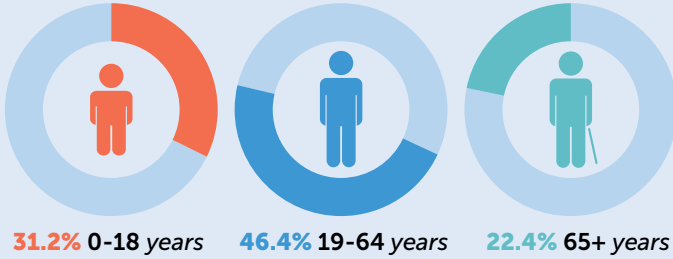
●	\$13.7 M	48.1%	Salaries & Fringe Benefits
●	\$4.1 M	14.3%	Occupancy
●	\$2.2 M	7.6%	Professional Fees
●	\$3.0 M	10.5%	Specific Assistance
●	\$0.9 M	3.3%	Program Supplies
●	\$0.8 M	2.6%	Transportation & Equipment
●	\$3.3 M	11.6%	Management & General
●	\$0.3 M	1.1%	Donor Engagement
●	\$0.2 M	0.9%	In-Kind Rent

\$28.5 M 100%

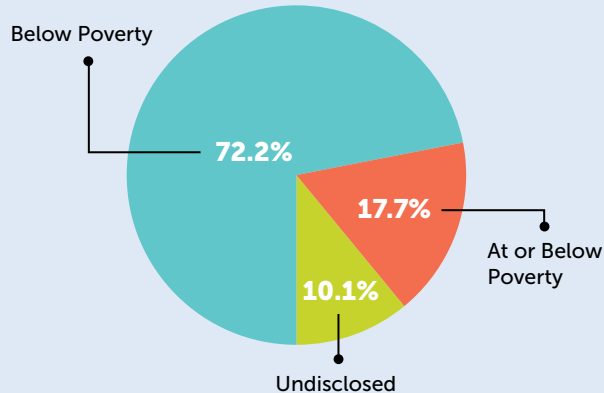
DEMOGRAPHICS

14,695 Unduplicated Clients Served in 2023

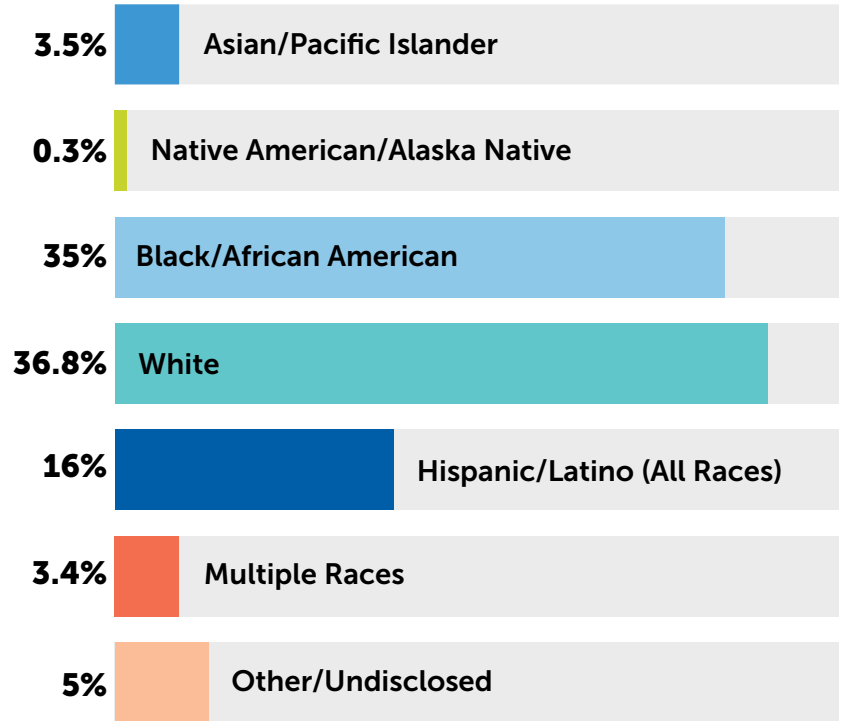
Age



Income Level



Race and Ethnicity



LEAVE A LEGACY

Catholic Charities proudly partners with the Central New York Community Foundation to assist donors with planned giving. If you would like to explore options for including Catholic Charities in your financial or estate planning, please contact:

Thomas M. Griffith

Vice President of Development
Central New York Community Foundation
TGriffith@cnycf.org
315-883-5544

or

Kacee Shuler

Director of Donor Engagement
Catholic Charities of Onondaga County
KShuler@ccoc.us
315-362-7622



CENTRAL NEW YORK
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

GIFTS OF STOCK



Donating shares of stock could be an ideal way to support Catholic Charities while avoiding long-term capital gains income tax.

To discuss potential income tax benefits, please contact:

Kacee Shuler

Director of Donor Engagement
Catholic Charities of Onondaga County
KShuler@ccoc.us
315-362-7622



HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

Gifts made between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023

The Honor Roll of Donors acknowledges the cumulative giving of individuals and organizations that supported Catholic Charities via a financial contribution during the period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

Special recognition is given to members of the 1923 Society, our premiere giving society named for the year Catholic Charities of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse was incorporated. 1923 Society members have made unrestricted gifts totaling \$1,000 or more annually.

- **Circle of Light Members** have made an annual unrestricted gift of at least \$10,000
- **Leadership Members** have made an annual unrestricted gift of at least \$5,000
- **Sustaining Members** have made an annual unrestricted gift of at least \$1,000

The publication of the Honor Roll is intended to recognize and sincerely thank our donors. We have made every effort to ensure this list is comprehensive and accurate. Notwithstanding, please advise of any errors of omission or fact by emailing us at giving@ccoc.us.

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P. Drescher Co. Inc.
Partners in Franciscan Ministries
Rich & Gardner Construction Company
Skaneateles Vincent House Guild
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Valenti
Estate of John Wood

LEADERSHIP MEMBERS \$5,000 - \$9,999

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Woodlawn Cemetery
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Drs. Jeffrey and
Marybeth Carlberg
Mark Winker

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Loretta Hoey

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Catherine Mai

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Catherine Mai

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Father Frederick R. Mannara

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Michael F. Melara

Angela and Edward Bernat
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Mary Kay and Jim Moore

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Daniel Hurley and Judy Drucker

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Ann Sherwood

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Lisa De Silva

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Joseph Thoppil

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Peter Worn

Fritz Messere and Nola J. Heidlebaugh

Patricia & Scott Young

Margaret Connolly

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Matthew J. Barber
Angela and Edward Bernat
Dennis and Mary Anne Brady
Lynn and Sean Branagan
Janet D. Callahan
Bill and Rosemary Collins
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David Duggan, M.D. and Lynn Cleary, M.D.
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