

# 50 years of service to West Louisville



Sister Visitor Center Director, Sr. Shellee Intravia

**We will give them not only  
our hands to serve, but  
our hearts to love.**

*- Mother Teresa of Kolkata*



# A letter from Lisa



Lisa DeJaco Crutcher, *Chief Executive Officer*



Catholic Charities of Louisville is an apostolate of the Archdiocese of Louisville and member of Catholic Charities USA.

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Since taking the helm at Catholic Charities two years ago, I have seen our dedicated staff and volunteers carry out countless acts of care and compassion. This commitment to helping others has remained steadfast since Catholic Charities of Louisville was founded in 1939, although the agency has adapted to meet the changing needs of our diverse client base.

As our breadth of services has grown, so too has our need for a new headquarters, which is why we recently launched our Building a Brighter Future Capital Campaign to help fund the construction of a Catholic Charities Center. This center will enable us to offer enhanced services to more clients, including refugee families, human trafficking survivors, those who are unemployed and looking for work, expectant parents, older adults in long-term care facilities, and many more.

We strive to welcome, empower and strengthen all those we serve, and a new building is crucial in our continued efforts. Catholic Charities of Louisville has been doing important work for 80 years, and we're infusing this tradition of service with new energy and expanded outreach. Your support makes it possible for us to carry out our work, and on behalf of the individuals and families we serve, thank you!

My best to you,

*Lisa DeJaco Crutcher*

Catholic Charities of Louisville, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit. Tax ID number 61-1239600

## Refugee Client-Turned-Staffer: Meet John Bizimana

**John Bizimana** migrated to Louisville with his family in 2015 as a refugee from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. They were living in a refugee camp in Burundi before they were received by Catholic Charities.

As a client, John says he **had a wonderful experience with Catholic Charities** of Louisville, where he received assistance finding housing, acclimating to life in the United States and ultimately finding work to support his family. The Migration and Refugee Services' employment team initially found John a job at Ingram Micro, a technology, logistics and data management firm. He worked there for two years, putting in a lot of overtime to save money.

Through a friend and fellow refugee, John learned Catholic Charities was hiring a transporter to drive current refugee clients to and from appointments. **John was eager to use his experience to help others as he has been helped;** he applied and got the job. In addition



to working part-time as a transporter, he now works as an interpreter for Catholic Charities, speaking Kinyarwanda, Swahili and French, just to name a few.

Co-workers say John is an excellent colleague. He is flexible and a great problem solver, but most of all, **he genuinely cares for the clients and wants to see them succeed.** John is an asset in connecting refugees to each other and developing strong international communities in Louisville. We are thrilled to have him on our Catholic Charities team.

And we are pleased to report that two of John's sons are seeking further education, one at University of Louisville and the other at Jefferson Community and Technical College. He is very proud of them and happy they have this opportunity in America.

To learn more about Catholic Charities Language Services for yourself or your business, contact Alisa Pifine at (502) 637-9786 or [apifine@archlou.org](mailto:apifine@archlou.org).

## Help Us *Build a Brighter Future*

Catholic Charities has long operated in aging convents and church buildings, some of which are over 100 years old. These facilities are spread across two campuses 5 miles apart and none of the buildings were designed for office use. We've re-purposed these buildings as much as possible, but our offices still lack:

- Handicapped access
- Adequate heat and hot water
- Reliable electricity
- Enough desk space for employees, interns and volunteers
- Room for expanded outreach

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*“Lord, help us to live the virtue of generosity, to love without limits.”*

- Pope Francis

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Simply put, our facilities have become a barrier to program excellence. Luckily, we have a plan, but **we need your help.**

We are proposing a new Catholic Charities Center, constructed on the Holy Name parish campus next to our current Fourth Street location. This center will open up new opportunities through staff efficiency, collaboration and expanded programming, and it will be handicapped-accessible and energy-efficient. The cost of the project is \$7.5 million, and your support will help make our dream a reality.

Visit [cclou.org/building-a-brighter-future](http://cclou.org/building-a-brighter-future) to learn more or to donate.

**With your help, we can reach our goal and change thousands of lives!**

Projected Annual Savings:

- \$130,000 on repairs and maintenance
- \$18,320 or more on utilities
- \$32,000 / 936 hours on mileage reimbursement



Rendering of New Campus

## Partnership with Louisville City FC

Thank you to **Louisville City FC** for supporting our **refugee community** this summer. The club is hosting summer soccer clinics for refugee youth, is donating tickets to refugee clients, volunteers and staff, and organized soccer scrimmages at our World Refugee Day event.

“Soccer reminds them of home. For most of the world, soccer is the common ground and common culture that **brings everyone together**. When people see a soccer ball, it lets down any barriers that they may have. Refugees in particular feel welcome, and it is a great way to integrate them into society. **The ball is a common language**. You can show up to a war torn area with a ball, or really anything round, and this will bring people of different ideologies and backgrounds together. There are instances where areas of the world war stopped around a soccer game. It is truly the world’s game.”

**Mario Sanchez, Lou City Youth Development & Community Relations**

“They’re in a new country and (soccer) is familiar. Soccer is a big sport in Africa. They get to connect with their peers. They get to laugh. It’s a **great opportunity for them and it’s good for their health**. Our program is to model what it’s like to be in an American school. That can be stressful for them. It’s a lot for them to process.”

**Shaali Singogo, Youth Services Coordinator,  
Catholic Charities Migration and Refugee Services**



Mario Sanchez, instructing at youth clinic



Lou City Staff at World Refugee Day



## “Beer with the Bishop”

Louisville City FC vs. North Carolina FC  
Saturday, August 24 - 3:00 p.m.

Cheer on Lou City with Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz under the covered pavilion at Slugger Field. All are invited, but we especially want to encourage fans, ages 20-45, to come out with friends and family for this fun summertime event.

**Tickets \$20:** Includes admission, “Bats Bucks” for concessions (including beer) and a donation to Catholic Charities.

**Buy Tickets Online:** [cclou.org/loufcgame](http://cclou.org/loufcgame)

**Questions:** Julia Ray [jray@archlou.org](mailto:jray@archlou.org) / (502) 637-9786



Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz

## Bakhita Launches Advisory Board

The Bakhita Empowerment Initiative, our anti-human trafficking program, recently launched a Bakhita Advisory Board with **former program participants** to inform programming staff, engage with the community, support board members and model positive, non-exploitative engagement with survivors.

“Survivor engagement is needed to inform programming, and we are very excited about the Bakhita Advisory Board, whose members will be **individuals who have been through programming at Bakhita and will represent the broad scope of survivors we come alongside in this work,**” says Marissa Castellanos, Bakhita Empowerment Initiative director.

The board has five members who represent the diverse backgrounds and experiences of Bakhita participants. The board first met in April and will meet bi-monthly.



A first public-facing event for any Bakhita advisory board member, Rohitkumar Joshi, spoke on a panel for the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators. Mr. Joshi highlighted the importance of law enforcement building rapport with potential victims during investigations and the value of victims accessing services.

*(Bakhita Empowerment Initiative Director, Marissa Castellanos to the right.)*

# Thank You

**Rotary**  
Club of Louisville



Bakhita staff Marissa Castellanos and Amy Nace-Degonda receive check from Rotary of Louisville at the group's monthly meeting in March.

...for generously donating \$20,000 to Catholic Charities of Louisville to support several Bakhita projects, including the Bakhita Advisory Board, a prevention education curriculum for adolescent boys, a labor conference, and the “Survivors Guide to Leaving,” a resource to adolescent girls participating in the *My Life My Choice* curriculum.

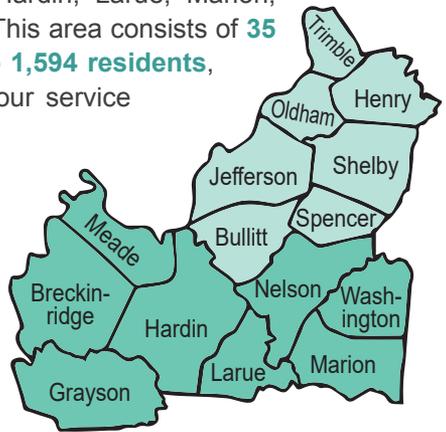
# Long-Term Care Ombudsman Expands Service Area

Catholic Charities **advocates on behalf of residents in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities** through our Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO) program.

For years, Catholic Charities has offered this **no-cost service to families** in Bullitt, Henry, Jefferson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer and Trimble counties, but we recently expanded.

Our LTCO staff is now providing service for the “Lincoln Trail” area, which includes: Breckenridge, Grayson, Hardin, Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson and Washington counties. This area consists of **35 long-term care facilities** that are home to **1,594 residents**, bringing the total number of residents in our service area to **approximately 9,600**.

The Catholic Charities ombudsmen support these residents when they are most vulnerable. We listen to their stories and we remind them they are not forgotten. Whenever possible, our ombudsmen strive to fill their days with joy, but above all else, we make sure their voices are heard.



Call Catholic Charities Long-Term Care Ombudsman team at (502) 637-9786 to contact an advocate or ask any questions.

## Become a Certified Long-Term Care Ombudsman

Are you dedicated to improving the quality of life for the residents who reside in long-term care facilities?

By becoming a Certified Long Term Care Ombudsman, you can be an advocate to help protect the rights of nursing home residents by identifying, investigating, and working to resolve residents' concerns.

To learn more about the program and the free training, contact Essie Reilly at (502) 637-9786 or [ereilly@archlou.org](mailto:ereilly@archlou.org).



Ombudsman, Bill Stopher and nursing home resident



Sister Visitor Center, Market Street

# Sister Visitor Center 50 years a

The **Sister Visitor Center** opened its doors in 1969 as an outreach effort by the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth. Since then, Sister Visitor Center has been providing help and creating hope in west Louisville for half a century. Many of these sisters taught in west Louisville's Catholic schools and had grown concerned by the increasing number of students arriving each morning hungry and dressed in dirty clothes or missing school altogether due to troubles at home. Sister Visitor was created to help these families in crisis.

*"I thank God for Sister Visitor!  
They have helped me through  
many tough times."*

- Recent emergency assistance recipient

Catholic Charities officially took over the agency in 1991. Now in its 50th year, Sister Visitor continues to serve as an emergency crisis center for residents of the Portland, Shawnee and Russell areas, three of the poorest neighborhoods in

Jefferson County.

**Sister Visitor Center** provides the most basic of human needs: food, clothing, rent and utility assistance, and

**medicines.** Staff and volunteers serve around **300 households** each month, more than **700 individuals**, providing clients with much-needed items, many



Clothes Closet



Food Pantry

# Visitor Center

*of service to the West End*

of which food stamps cannot purchase.

Sister Visitor's West Market Street facility — built in 1900 — was expanded a decade ago to meet an increasing demand for assistance. The renovation resulted in additional space for a food pantry and clothing closet, along with a larger lobby to welcome clients.

"I am honored to be a part of the Sister Visitor Center, especially in serving the people of the West End of Louisville for

50 year! I am blessed each and every day to be a source of HOPE for many people! I pray that we can continue to enrich the lives of the people we serve through the Grace of God!" says Sister Visitor Program Director, Sr. Shellie Intravia.

The heart of the Sister Visitor Center lies in the command of Christ to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and shelter the

homeless. Sister Visitor has carried out this mission for 50 years — and as long as there is need, our dedicated staff and volunteers will continue to do so.



Food Assistance



Volunteering



Rent / Utility Assistance

# Sister Visitor Center Block Party

HONORING 50 YEARS IN WEST LOUISVILLE

All are welcome!  
Join us for food, kids activities, music and more!

On the block of 23<sup>rd</sup> and Market Street  
Wednesday - August 7, 2019  
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

FREE health screenings



CATHOLIC  
CHARITIES  
OF LOUISVILLE, INC.  
PROVIDING WITH CARE AND HOPE

**Thank you to our Sponsors:** Shaheen's Dept Store, Miller's Ace Hardware, Walker Mechanical, Zeke's Pawn Shop, Ursuline Sisters of Mt. St. Joseph, Good Shepherd Men's Club, Better Built Construction, Caudill Seed

## Common Earth Gardens Farmers Markets

Common Earth Gardens is dedicated to improving the quality of life of refugee families through agricultural opportunities. You can support some of our Common Earth families by shopping at these local farmers markets:

### Beechmont Open Air Market

Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
4734 S. Third St.  
Malambo Farm & CK Farm

### Douglas Loop Farmers Market

Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
2005 Douglas Blvd.  
Khamisi Family Farm

### St. Matthews Farmers Market

Saturday, 8 a.m. to Noon  
4100 Shelbyville Road  
Bakar Family Farm

### Rainbow Blossom Farmers Market

Sunday, Noon to 4 p.m.  
3738 Lexington Road  
Hamiso's Family Farm & Bakar Family Farm

### Shively Farmers Market

Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Shively Park, 1902 Park Road  
Mana Family Farm



Amina

## Common Table Offers Catering

Let Common Table, our culinary arts training program, **cater your next meeting or wedding**. We offer a wide range of options to please any palate.

All **revenue generated** through catering **supports the training program, which works to help reduce poverty through employment**.

You can also visit us and see us in action.

The **Common Table Garden Cafe is open** Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We are located at 2234 W. Market St. in the basement of the former St. Anthony school building. If you need to reach the kitchen, please call 502-873-2566 x219.



Freddy Hackett

To place an order, plan your event, or hear more information, contact Laura Stevens at (502) 873-2566 x256 or [lstevens@archlou.org](mailto:lstevens@archlou.org).



Deacon Dinner



### Sample menu items include:

- **Breakfast** - Quiche, French Toast Casserole, Pastries, Yogurt and Granola
- **Boxed Lunches** - Chicken Salad, Hummus and Veggie Wrap, Roast Beef and Cheddar
- **Hot Buffets** - BBQ Chicken, Fajita Bar, Baked Penne Pasta, Thai Curry with Rice, Heavy Appetizers

*\*We are excited about our new chef Mekeda Freeman-Woods, so stay tuned for new recipes!\**

## Be Golden Events

In February, Catholic Charities launched Be Golden, a year-long campaign that intends to reach across faith traditions and urge compassion for all, but with a particular focus on immigrants. Check out [begolden.cclou.org](http://begolden.cclou.org) to learn more and join us at an upcoming Be Golden event:



Mayor Fischer, Archbishop Kurtz and Be Golden Supporters

### Interfaith Paths to Peace Presents:

Hiroshima/Nagasaki Peace Lantern Ceremony

Saturday, August 3, 8:00 p.m.

Putney's Pond and the Woodlands | Putney Lane, Prospect, KY 40059

#BEGOLDEN

### Naturalization Ceremony celebrating new citizenship for 100 immigrants in Louisville

Friday, August, 9, 11:00 a.m.

Speed Art Museum (The American Library exhibit)

### WorldFest: A celebration of international food, music, dance and culture

Friday, August, 30 through Monday, September 2

The Belvedere | 141 N. Sixth St., Louisville, KY 40202

### Yinka Shonibare CBE:

The American Library exhibit celebrates immigrants to the U.S.

Through September 15

Speed Art Museum | 2035 S. Third St., Louisville, KY 40208

We encourage you to join us on this journey to Be Golden, to open your heart to others and practice kindness in your daily life.

## 4 Fast Facts from the Kentucky Office for Refugees (KOR)

1. Kentucky ranks 5th in the nation in the number of refugee arrivals.
2. Resettlement agencies in Kentucky welcomed 1,902 newcomers in 2018.
3. Established in June 2006 as a department of Catholic Charities KOR serves as the state refugee coordinator for Kentucky; it is one of 12 states that offers refugee resettlement through a nonprofit rather than a traditional state-administered program.
4. KOR administers and awards federal funds from the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) to service providers throughout Kentucky.



KENTUCKY OFFICE  
FOR REFUGEES

Learn more about our mission at [kentuckyrefugees.org](http://kentuckyrefugees.org).

## Immigration Legal Services Apprentice Program

The need for competent **immigration attorneys** has increased due to **shifting policies and immigrant populations**. In response, our Immigration Legal Services department has created an apprentice program aimed at expanding the pool of qualified immigration attorneys in Louisville.

Through the program, our **experienced legal staff will mentor apprentices** as they learn the ins and outs of immigration law and practice.



Legal Immigration Services apprentice, Aral Egilmez and program director, Rebecca Sim

## Grandparents Raising Grandchild Support

In May and June 2019, Family Support Services offered a **specialized program to grandparents who are raising grandchildren**. The Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency (KIPDA) funded the program.

Each week, the grandmothers who attended learned important information to help their families stay safe, healthy, and happy. With the help of partners like **Norton Children's Hospital, Bounce, and Exploited Children's Help Organization**, many topics were covered such as, building resilient families, healthy eating, and internet safety.

These grandparents also received valuable resources including swim passes to **Home of the Innocents Aquatic Therapy Center** and certificates for a holistic health physical health treatment.

All the participants were engaged and voiced their appreciation of the services offered.



Grandparent's Support Group

# Get to Know Us Get Involved Give Back

Catholic Charities is committed to helping and empowering those who are poor, vulnerable and living on the edges of society, but **we couldn't do it without the support of generous donors and volunteers.**

## Top Volunteer Needs

- **Mother Infant Care Daycare Assistant** — Tues. and Thurs. 10 a.m. to noon
- **New Horizons Mentoring** — Year-long commitment, two hours a week helping a refugee youth with English
- **Transportation Assistant** — Once a week for two hours, driving refugee families to and from appointments; must have a valid driver's license and car
- **Family Learning Center** — Once a week, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. beginning in August; choose between tutoring refugee adults in English, homework help for high school aged kids, or assisting in the daycare

Contact Kristi Mattingly at [kmatingly@archlou.org](mailto:kmatingly@archlou.org) for more opportunities and to get started.



## Top Donation Needs

- **New Baby Items** — Cribs, pack-and-plays, car seats
- **Gift Cards** — Target, Walmart, Kroger
- **Hygiene Items** — Laundry detergent, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, razors, shaving cream
- **Kitchenware** — Pots and pans, silverware

For the most up to date items, visit [cclou.org/giveback](http://cclou.org/giveback).



# Connect With Us! Join us for Mission and a Meal

Please join us for an upcoming **Connect Series** session, where you'll learn more about the many ways we provide help and create hope. It's a **free event** where you'll also enjoy a complimentary breakfast or lunch, prepared by our Common Table culinary training program.

Catholic Charities **offers a wide variety of programming**, which our Connect Series categorizes and presents in three rolling sessions: Welcome, Empower and Strengthen. The program is held on our **St. Anthony campus at 2234 W Market St.** (40212) Visit [www.cclou.org/connect](http://www.cclou.org/connect) to learn more and to register.

## Strengthen

Family Support Services  
Bakhita Empowerment Initiative  
Sister Visitor Center  
Long Term Care Ombudsman

**August 1**  
4:30-5:30pm (Th)

**October 30**  
12:00-1:00pm (W)

**January 16**  
12:00-1:00pm (Th)

## Welcome

Migration & Refugee Services  
Immigration Legal Services  
Kentucky Office for Refugees

**September 5**  
4:30-5:30pm (Th)

**November 20**  
8:00-9:00am (W)

## Empower

Common Table  
Common Earth Gardens  
Language Services

**October 10**  
8:00-9:00am (Th)

**December 11**  
12:00-1:00pm (W)



## Reserve Your Spot

Email: [events@archlou.org](mailto:events@archlou.org) Call: Julia Ray 502.637.9786 x205

Online: [www.cclou.org/connect](http://www.cclou.org/connect)

## ***Free Event. Reservations Encouraged.***

Let us know which date(s) you are interested in and feel free to bring a friend, family member or coworker.

*Providing Help.  
Creating Hope.*



2911 S. 4th Street  
Louisville, KY 40208

**Donating online is quick, easy and goes a long way toward changing lives. Visit [cclou.org](http://cclou.org) to make a difference today!**