

NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 1

Summer 2018

Dear Friends,

Catholic Charities has long been committed to providing help and creating hope for the clients we serve. In order to better convey this mission and how it's carried out, we recently revamped our website, <u>www.cclou.org</u>. The new website reflects our efforts to assist the poor and vulnerable in our community with a broad range of programs that cluster under three themes: Welcome, Empower, Strengthen.



WELCOME: We have responded to Christ's call to "welcome the stranger" by helping our refugee and immigrant brothers and sisters achieve self-sufficiency. Our **Migration and Refugee Services** office assists those escaping persecution, enabling them to resettle with dignity, and **Immigration Legal Services** helps immigrants and refugees overcome legal barriers. Catholic Charities also houses the **Kentucky Office of Refugees**, coordinating statewide resettlement efforts.

EMPOWER: We operate several social-enterprise initiatives — revenuegenerating business ventures that empower clients while advancing a positive social mission. **Common Earth Gardens** improves the lives of refugees and native Louisvillians through agricultural opportunities; our culinary arts program, **Common Table**, trains a diverse clientele in need of job assistance. Through **Language Services**, we empower organizations and the community with resources to communicate with our Limited English Proficiency population.

STRENGTHEN: We provide a network of social services that strengthen vulnerable individuals of all ages. The **Bakhita Empowerment Initiative** comes alongside survivors of human trafficking as they regain control of their lives and work towards self sufficiency and healing, and our **Long-Term Care Ombudsman** program advocates on behalf of residents in nursing homes and other facilities. The heart of our **Sister Visitor Center** lies in Christ's command to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and shelter the homeless, and our **Family Support and Referral Center** offers resources to families, individuals and seniors.

I encourage you to read the stories on the following pages to learn what we've been doing so far this year, and visit <u>www.cclou.org</u> to learn more about the many ways we welcome, empower and strengthen those we serve.

My best to you, Lisa DeJaco Crutcher Chief Executive Officer



Inside this issue:

Sister Visitor Center Partnership Page 2

A Christmas Story in Summer **Page 2**

Migration and Refugee Services **Page 3**

Bakhita Empowerment Initiative Page 4

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Page 5

Mother-Infant Care: On-The-Go Page 5

Language Services
Page 5

Common Earth Gardens and Common Table Culinary Program **Page 6**

Share the Journey Immigration Workshop Page 6

How You Can Provide Help & Create Hope Page 7

Sister Visitor Center

Partnering with Dare to Care to Provide Access to Nutritious Food

Sister Visitor Center, which provides social services to thousands of residents, is located on the border of two neighborhoods identified as high-poverty food deserts. To address this dearth of healthy food, Sister Visitor is partnering with Dare to Care to launch a pilot program that will offer nutritious food in a convenient and affordable retail setting.



Catholic Charities will operate this retail center next to the client waiting area at Sister Visitor Center, 2235 W. Market St. The retail center will operate 40 hours a week and be staffed by a dedicated employee, selling frozen meat and produce, and potentially some fresh produce and healthy prepared meals.

"Many residents living in the neighborhoods surrounding Sister Visitor Center experience significant health disparities compared to Louisville averages, and the inability to access nutritious food is a key reason," says Lisa DeJaco Crutcher, CEO of Catholic Charities. "This program will make healthy foods accessible and affordable, resulting in better health and improved quality of life for the clients we serve."

Sister Visitor is a long-time neighborhood fixture that's optimally located on a major thoroughfare and bus line, making it easy for potential customers to access. In addition to the food offered for sale, nutrition education will be provided through recipes developed by Common Table, Catholic Charities' culinary arts training program.

Louisville Forward will fund the pilot program and assist in evaluating its progress and potential expansion. The Center for Health Equity also will advise on best practices to ensure success.

A Christmas Story for the Summer

Every Christmas, our Sister Visitor Center sponsors families in need, providing necessities like food, clothing and toiletries, as well as toys, games and books to help create a joyful holiday. Here's the story of one such family, whose experience exemplifies our mission to strengthen and restore hope:



Last year, a mother of three came to Sister Visitor Center to get help with her LG&E bill. The woman was moving to a new apartment, seeking a fresh start. She needed to transfer her account, but that wasn't possible until she paid off an outstanding balance

— something she could not afford to do. We provided emergency assistance that enabled her to pay the bill and get her family settled. As the holidays approached, a case manager suggested this mother and her kids would make ideal recipients of our Christmas assistance program. The mom was grateful, but when asked about toys, she was reluctant to request any such items.

Sister Shellie Intravia, director of Sister Visitor Center, personally followed up and learned just how dire the family's situation had become. They had only one bed, which was used by the woman's 6-year-old daughter. The rest of the family slept on the floor. They didn't have a table or chairs, dishes, pots or pans, or even a stove or microwave. Given the circumstances, it's not surprising this client couldn't fathom asking for toys when her family lacked basic essentials.

Within a matter of days, Catholic Charities had fully furnished the home. In subsequent visits with this client, it was clear a weight had been lifted. Life was going to be better. Her kids would get a hot meal and a good night's sleep. There was hope. There was a light at the end of the tunnel.

Refugee Services

Migration and Refugee Services Hosts 'We Are All Kentucky' Letter-Writing Campaign

Dozens of people gathered for our second annual We Are All Kentucky letter-writing campaign, where they put pen to paper in support of refugees and immigrants. Catholic Charities organized the event, which took place at St. Francis of Assisi on Jan. 30.

The Catholic Charities letter-writing campaign was one of several across Kentucky, and all letters and postcards were delivered to state lawmakers during Refugee and Immigrant Day at the Capitol.

Participants wrote letters urging state legislators to make the Bluegrass State a safe, welcoming place for refugees and immigrants. They also made posters that conveyed the message "We are all Kentucky."

"We had a great turnout of staff, former clients, and community

members representing a number of our community partners," Migration and Refugee Services Director Colin Triplett says of the letter-writing campaign. "Participants were assisted to find out who their legislators are and had the opportunity to write letters to them, as well as create posters welcoming and advocating for refugees."

Archbishop: 'Every human being deserves to be treated with respect'



On March 7, hundreds of advocates participated in the fifth annual Refugee and Immigrant Day at the Capitol in Frankfort. Catholic Charities cosponsored the event, which took place inside the Capitol Rotunda and featured a diverse includina lineup of speakers, refugees, immigrants, advocates, and political and faith leaders. The message of the day: All are welcome in Kentucky.



Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, who spoke during the event, acknowledged his own immigrant roots and said of immigration, "Every human being deserves to be treated with respect and with the dignity that God has given them. And you and I need to be part of that effort to treat people with dignity."



"CBS Sunday Morning" correspondent Martha Teichner brought a camera crew to Catholic Charities on April 9 to capture Louisville Orchestra conductor Teddy Abrams playing music with our refugee clients. It was a thrilling experience for all involved!

The feature was slated to air this spring, but an exact date had not been announced by the time this newsletter went to press. If it's already aired, you can still check it out online: Visit the "CBS Sunday Morning" website at <u>www.cbsnews.com/sunday-morning</u> to view our segment!



Bakhita Empowerment Initiative

Stop Traffic: Derby Eve Gala Supports Survivors



The inaugural "Stop Traffic" Derby Eve gala was a success, raising nearly **\$4,000** to benefit human-trafficking survivors assisted by Catholic Charities of Louisville.

Attendees enjoyed a night of music, dancing, food and more at La Casita Center in Old Louisville. The soiree was hosted by B96.5's Juan Hustle.

The evening kicked off with a photo exhibit and sale featuring the work of local photographers, and a portion of those profits also will benefit survivors. The good times continued for a good cause late into the night, with an afterparty at Butchertown Social.

A special thank you to anti-humantrafficking advocate Soha Saiyed, who planned the party.

"I can't yet put into words how thankful I am for everyone who donated, sponsored, volunteered at, and showed up for Stop Traffic: A Gala to Benefit Human Trafficking Survivors," Saiyed said in a Facebook post after the gala. "Y'all are the best!"

Bakhita Freedom Racers Pound the Pavement to Raise Funds for Anti-Human-Trafficking Program

The Bakhita Freedom Racers woke at the crack of dawn on Saturday, April 28, took their marks at the corner of Brook and Main streets in downtown Louisville, then ran 13.1 miles for a good cause. The group of 15 runners participated in the Kentucky Derby Festival Half Marathon to raise money for the Bakhita Empowerment Initiative, the anti-human-trafficking program of Catholic Charities.

The Freedom Racers raised more than **\$6,000**, which will help Bakhita empower survivors through direct assistance and case management. The road to self-sufficiency includes finding a safe home, obtaining permanent, full-time work, and accessing mental health services.

Because the Bakhita Empowerment Initiative is funded primarily by government grants, which can be unpredictable, the money raised by the Freedom Racers will go a long way toward helping fund the lifechanging services we provide.



Thanks to our dedicated team of runners, and to those who donated to their efforts!

Labor Trafficking Conference

The Bakhita Empowerment Initiative is co-sponsoring a regional labor trafficking conference on October 25 & 26, 2018. The objectives of this two day conference are to increase capacity of organizations to address labor trafficking, address trends specific to labor trafficking, and highlight and problem-solve challenges related to labor trafficking.

Visit <u>www.cclou.org/labor</u> for more information.

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Honoring Bakhita for 10 years of Service

Join Catholic Charities on Thursday, October 25, 2018 from 5:30-7:30 PM at The Ice House as we honor the Bakhita Empowerment Initiative for 10 years of service to over 250 survivors of human trafficking across Kentucky. Visit <u>www.cclou.org/10</u> for more information to purchase tickets (\$50 per person).

Ombudsman Program

Fish Fry Face-Off: Parishes Compete to Raise Money for Ombudsman Program

During the Lenten fish fry season, Holy Trinity and St. Gabriel parishes faced off in a friendly competition for a shared cause: to raise funds for Catholic Charities of Louisville's Long-term Care Ombudsman Program.

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program advocates on behalf of residents in nursing homes and other longterm care facilities. Catholic Charities holds the Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency contract to administer the Ombudsman Program, and we carry out this service at no cost to clients.

Both parishes donated a portion of proceeds from a single fish fry, generating a grand total of \$2,798 for Catholic Charities. Holy Trinity eked out ahead with \$1,553, while St. Gabriel raised \$1,245. Catholic Charities is grateful for the hard work and generosity of both parishes!





Mother-Infant Care



Mother-Infant Care: On-The-Go

Family Support and Referral Center is expanding its services to provide tailored Mother-Infant Care curriculum to community agencies and groups.

In April, Family Support collaborated with Urban Strategies to offer a one-day workshop to Beecher Terrace residents on safe baby sleep and car seat use. The department also hosted Kitchen Table Conversations: Grandparents Support Group, a workshop on mindfulness for grandparents who raise grandchildren.

The team will provide custom workshops upon request to any organization that works with parents of children under 5. Workshops can address various topics, including labor and birth, breastfeeding, infant safety, financial education, and more.

Language Services

Communication is Key: Language Services Can Help

Do you know of a local business, medical office or organization that serves a multi-lingual clientele? Catholic Charities offers interpreting and translation services in over 50 languages, helping organizations deliver their message and, when necessary, comply with obligations of federal law.

For more information, contact Language Services at 502-637-9786.

Common Table and Common Earth

Common Table serves up boxed lunches, soup subscriptions

Common Table had a busy spring, serving up tasty boxed lunches for Oaks and Derby attendees. **Let us cater your next event**! We offer a menu that's perfect for meetings, conferences, picnics and more. During the growing season, we even purchase local produce from our Common Earth farmers. Email Rachel Brunner, rbrunner@archlou.org, for details.



We're also gearing up for our **summer salad subscription**. If there's enough interest at a particular business or parish, Common Table may add that location as a pick-up site. Follow CommonTableKY on Facebook for the latest updates.



Common Earth staff recently recorded crop plans for our Incubator Farmers. Look for our Common Earth farmers at local farmers markets this summer!

Our farmers are in need of the following donated items: grub hoes, shovels, wheelbarrows, and milk crates. The program is also in need of a pickup truck. Contact Rachel Brunner, rbrunner@archlou.org, for more info.

Immigration Legal Services

Share the Journey Immigration Workshop

Catholic Charities and the Archdiocese of Louisville's Office for Multicultural Ministry teamed up to host a Share the Journey Immigration Workshop on March 3. The workshop provided immigrants, pastors, and others in the wider faith community with resources to support individuals and families during these challenging times.

"Given the current political climate and the fears that has created, it's important now more than ever for the church to come together and bring support and assurance to our brothers and sisters most affected by this issue and learn what we all can do," said Deacon Lucio Caruso of Catholic Charities.

Speakers included Michelle Sardone, Director of Legalization at Catholic Legal Immigration **Journey** Rebecca Sim, Director of Immigration Legal Services at Catholic Charities, discussed local laws **#sharejourney** affecting immigrants, and Ricky Santiago of the Mayor's Office on Globalization addressed the **#sharejourney** immigrant presence in our community.

The next Share the Journey Immigration Workshop is Tuesday, June 26 9 AM to 12 PM at the Flaget Center. Contact Lynn McDaniel at <u>Imcdaniel@archlou.org</u> or 502-636-0296 ext. 1267 for more information.



How You Can Provide Help & Create Hope

Donation Wish List

Catholic Charities of Louisville relies on material donations to meet the needs of our clients. Contact Shelley Dewig at 502-637-9786 or <u>sdewig@archlou.org</u> for more information.

Migration Refugee Services

Alarm clocks Cookware & dishes Hygiene items Lamps New pillows Full & twin sheet sets Waste baskets





Mother-Infant Care Baby wipes & diapers

Bottles & bottle brushes Baby wash & lotion Infant & toddler books New baby clothing Hygiene items: nail clippers, nasal aspirators, thermometers, etc.

Sister Visitor Center

Body wash & deodorant Feminine products Razors Shampoo Toilet paper Toothbrush & toothpaste



<u>Common Earth Gardens</u> Gift cards for garden and hardware store



Grub hoes Milk crates Pickup truck Shovels Wheelbarrows

Bakhita Empowerment Initiative Art supplies for clients Gift cards for Walmart or Kroger Gift cards for fast food restaurants Hygiene items for toiletry kits Re-usable, Cloth Grocery/Shopping Bags



Host A Donation Drive

Can't make the commute to volunteer in our offices? You can do it from home, at your school, your church, or anywhere by hosting a drive for one or more of our programs. We are always in in need of items for those that we serve.

For more information contact Shelley Dewig at 502-637-9786 or sdewig@archlou.org



THANK YOU!

Private Foundation Grant Awards from Jan-May 2018

- Community Foundation of Louisville: \$17,847
- Heisman's Trophy Foundation: \$10,000
- Heart's Path Foundation: \$25,000
- Kentucky Bar Foundation: \$8,000
- UPS Foundation: \$15,000



UPS HR Director Tony Georges, UPS District Manager Joe Boyle, UPS Revenue Recovery Supervisor Larry Rosa, Catholic Charities Programs Director Darko Mihaylovich, UPS HR Division Manager Scott Gregory, UPS HR Workforce Planning Manager Bill Geiger

Free & Easy Ways to Support Catholic Charities when Shopping

Add **Catholic Charities of Louisville** as your Community Partner on your Kroger Plus Card.



When shopping on Amazon, add **Catholic Charities of Louisville** as your charitable organization and use the Amazon Smile URL.





PHONE: 502-637-9786 ONLINE: cclou.org/donate MAIL: 2911 S. 4th Street, 40208



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> ARCHDIOCESE OFLOUISVILLE Catholic Charities of Louisville, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit organization and a ministry of the Archdiocese of Louisville that provide services to people in need, advocate for justice in social structures, and call the entire church and other people of good will to do the same.

You're Invited to 'Connect' with Catholic Charities.

Catholic Charities of Louisville's new Connect Series is an opportunity to learn more about our services while enjoying a light meal catered by Common Table, our culinary training program.

Welcome: Learn about our commitment to "welcoming the stranger" through programming that serves migrants and refugees.

Empower: Features programs that empower clients through social enterprise initiatives — revenue-generating business ventures that advance a positive social mission.

Strengthen: Highlight programming aimed at strengthening the poorest and most vulnerable among us.

Upcoming dates: September 5, October 4, and November 6 Location: 2222 West Market Street, Louisville, KY 40212 Please RSVP to Pam Pusty at 502-637-9786

Upcoming Events

- Catholic Charities Connect Series: Welcome Wednesday, September 5, 2018
- Catholic Charities Connect Series: Empower Thursday, October 4, 2018
- Regional Labor Trafficking Conference Wednesday & Thursday, October 24 & 25, 2018
- Cocktail event to honor Bakhita Empowerment Initiative, a program to combat human trafficking Thursday, October 25, 2018
- Catholic Charities Connect Series: Strengthen Tuesday, November 6, 2018

Visit <u>cclou.org/news-and-events/</u> for more!



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