

## Mission-focused, Results-driven

Continued from page 3

### Affiliate Partner 2013 Highlights

#### Camp Stella Maris

For 88 years, Camp Stella Maris has provided a safe and caring environment for children of all ages to experience spiritual, physical and emotional growth. Situated on 33 acres along the Eastern shore of Conesus Lake, CSM provides programming year-round to a diverse group of clients. Under the continuing able leadership of Executive Director John Quinlivan, 2013 highlights included:

- Camp's largest program, **Summer Camp**, welcomed 2,850 campers between 5 and 16. Resident (Overnight) Camp, Day Camp, Overnight Experience, 4 Day Stay, Leader in Training (LIT), Counselor in Training (CIT), and Family Camp Weekend programs ran from June 23rd through August 24th.
- The **Campership Program**, which provides scholarships for Summer Camp to children and families in need provided over \$146,000 in assistance to 312 campers.
- During Camp's "offseason" programming continued to grow with the addition of the **School-Age Program** which provides after school care for Livonia students as well as vacation camps for all districts. CSM now conducts 11 programs from September to June and served almost 300 children and adults in 2013.
- Camp's teambuilding program, **Adventure Based Learning Experience**, hosted 58 groups with 2,249 participants.
- **Retreats and Facility** rentals served another 77 groups and 3,520 participants.

#### Providence Housing Development Corporation

Deacon John McDermott was appointed as Executive Director of Providence effective July 1, 2013, replacing Monica McCullough who had ably led the agency for seven and one half years. While continuing to manage safe affordable housing opportunities for 1500 individuals in 22 properties, the agency developed three new projects:

- 2013 saw the completion of construction at **The Holy Rosary** campus. The former Holy Rosary rectory, school, church and convent were converted into a vital community center and 35 beautiful, affordable housing apartments. The redevelopment also included 25 new single-family rental homes throughout the Edgerton neighborhood. The lease up finished earlier than projected and the ribbon-cutting was held in November. The project was recently named to receive The Landmark Society of Western New York's Barber Conable Award for preservation.
- The agency also made necessary renovations to the **Rivendell Court** properties. Thanks to a grant from Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB), roofs were replaced on all three buildings, windows were replaced, kitchen and bath improvements were made and new furnaces and hot water tanks were installed. Work was complete by June 2013.
- Construction on **Son House** continued throughout the year at 539 Joseph Avenue and the doors to Son House Apartments opened on December 1st. Son House Apartments provides 21 one-bedroom apartments of permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals through a partnership between Providence Housing and Catholic Family Center.

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## What do 250,000 New York residents have in common?

All of their lives were  
beneficially touched by  
CCDR in 2013.  
With the general need  
growing, we anticipate  
more and even greater  
accomplishments in 2014.



# THE GOOD NEWS

SUMMER 2014

## 2013 AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

A QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER



## Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester is the major vehicle through which the Diocese responds to Jesus' call to love our neighbor. Now over 100 years old, the Catholic Charities Corporation has developed programs which touch the lives of 250,000 people throughout the Diocese annually. Catholic Charities employs 1,000 individuals, utilizes the generous service of 3,000 volunteers, and has an annual budget of \$64 million.

Recognizing that local leadership best knows local needs and that in New York State county governments play a significant role in the delivery of services, Catholic Charities has developed a unique decentralized system of governance, delegating to regional agencies and specialty agencies the responsibility for carrying out the activities of the corporation in a particular geographic area or service area. The activities of the Catholic Charities organization are complemented by two affiliated corporations, Camp Stella Maris and Providence Housing Development Corporation.

This issue of the Diocesan Catholic Charities newsletter presents highlights of 2013 activities of the regional agencies, specialty agencies and affiliated agencies.

Under the supportive leadership of The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano, Bishop of Rochester, all of these activities are coordinated by the Diocesan office of Catholic Charities, under the leadership of Diocesan Director Jack Balinsky. Associate Director Tony Barbaro, Human Resources

Director Barb Poling and the Diocesan IT department led by Tom Veeder oversee centralized finance, human resources and IT services which provide cost effective back office services allowing regional leadership to focus on service delivery.

The Diocesan Office also houses the Diocesan Life Issues coordinator. Suzanne Stack assumed this position in June 2014, following the retirement of Jann Armantrout who provided outstanding leadership in Life Issues advocacy over 14 years. Highlights of 2013 Life Issues activities included playing a major role in advocacy in the State 2013 legislative session to prevent passage of abortion expansion legislation and work with Monroe County pregnancy care centers and other organizations to establish a common 800 call-in center.

Also within the framework of the Diocesan Office, Marv Mich from Catholic Family Center serves as Diocesan Director of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, and Kathy Dubel from Catholic Charities of Chemung/Schuyler Counties, serves as Diocesan Director of Catholic Relief Services.

Finally the Diocesan Office provides staff support to the Diocesan Public Policy Committee which, under the able leadership of Father Brian Cool for the last seventeen years, coordinates the Diocesan Public Policy Committee activities, particularly in relationship to State government.

**The work of Catholic Charities is significantly enhanced by individual contributors. Please consider supporting Catholic Charities by making a donation through the enclosed envelope.**

## Mission-focused, results-driven

### Specialty Agency 2013 Highlights

#### Catholic Charities Community Services

Founding Executive Director Paul Pickering retired after 30 years of service. The clients, staff and board of directors welcomed Lori VanAuken, who took the helm in March.

#### Key events in 2013 included:

- Having outgrown its home on East Ridge Road, on July 1st, the agency moved to a new location at Water Tower Park on Jay Street. This new location increased accessibility for clients and allowed for more room to grow. In October, office space in Penn Yan was increased in order to accommodate the anticipated growth of rural outreach.
- Catholic Charities Community Services worked diligently during the year to keep pace with the rapidly changing policies and regulations of our funding sources. The Medicaid Redesign effort, which reclass-

sified HIV/AIDS and included it in a group of chronic illnesses, expanded the agency's client base to include those with other persistent health challenges. Additionally, the introduction of a new managed care system for people with developmental disabilities required creativity and innovation, and the staff and leadership team proved to be adept at rolling with the changes.

As the year progressed, Catholic Charities Community Services began upgrading its technology, and secured funding for employment training, capital improvements and additional services to support the clients' goals of independence and inclusion in the communities.

The agency served nearly 1,800 individuals – almost twice as many as the previous year – with outreach efforts, case management and supportive services like housing subsidies and life skills training.

#### Food Bank of the Southern Tier

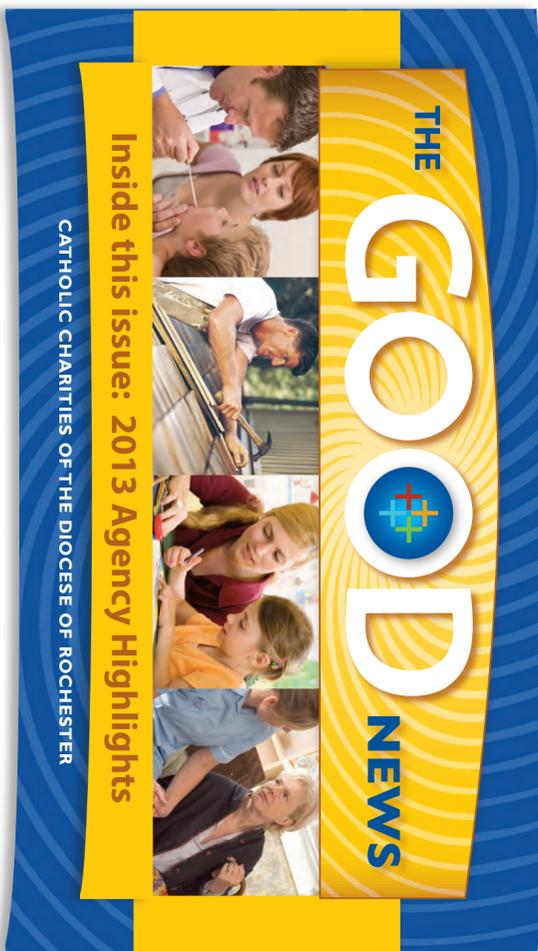
Under the effective leadership of CEO Natasha Thompson, the agency celebrated achievement of its \$5.75 million capital campaign goal in November. Comfortable in its new facility on Upper Oakwood Avenue, the agency continued to expand its services.



#### Highlights for 2013 included:

- The Food Bank distributed 9,719,816 pounds of food with a value of \$16,134,895 with over 1.2 million requests for food during the year.
- Throughout the school year, 2,075 children at risk of hunger in 33 school districts were provided with a weekly pack of food to take home over weekends and holiday breaks through the **BackPack Program**.
- Three **Mobile Food Pantry** trucks distributed 3.4 million pounds of food, including 856,794 pounds of produce, at 655 distributions.
- 1,336 youth from 34 area groups participated in **Hunger Education Activities**, and 37 trained community educators presented to 152 youth.
- Food Bank volunteers contributed 44,981 hours of support and repacked 1,861,764 pounds of food and grocery items for distribution to those in need.

Continued on page 2



THE GOOD NEWS  
CATHOLIC CHARITIES DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER  
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# Mission-focused, results-driven

Energized by the magnitude of the need, Catholic Charities agencies served tens of thousands of individuals and families who might otherwise remain hungry, untreated, or ignored.

Continued from page 1

## Regional Agency 2013 Highlights

### Catholic Charities of Chemung/Schuyler Counties

#### Chemung County

Effective June 1, 2013, Chuck Nocera was appointed Executive Director of this agency, following a two year stint as Associate Executive Director.

#### Key accomplishments included:

- The **Emergency Food** program served 5,606 parents and children with the assistance of caring volunteers who donated over 4,000 hours of their time.
- Emergency Shelter**, meals and support were provided to 316 individuals and children on their journey toward permanent housing.
- The **Prescription Assistance** program provided their service to 143 individuals.
- Housing and Residential Support** services were provided to 425 individuals and families.
- The **First-Time Homebuyers** program celebrated its twentieth anniversary having enabled 421 families to purchase homes during this time period.
- The **Justice and Peace** office continued collaboration with poverty to advocate for a variety of public policy to assist the parishes.

#### Schuyler County

- Eighty victims of domestic violence received advocacy and support to develop healthier lives.
- Through **RSVP of Schuyler and Yates Counties** 234 seniors gave over 23,800 hours of volunteer time to local charities and groups.
- Schuyler Outreach Food Pantry** assisted 361 households with emergency food during an average month.



### Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes

Under the continuing able leadership of Executive Director Dr. Ellen Wayne, Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes provided services to 4000 households.

- Of those served:
- 80% reported at least one source of earned income.
  - Households headed by a single female parent made up the greatest percentage of households served, closely followed by households with both parents present.
  - Approximately 85% of households served had total household income at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty level.

#### Key service statistics were:

- 11,014 meals were served at the **Geneva Community Lunch** program.
- Emergency Services** delivered included
  - 2575 households received HEAP

- 237 households received direct utility emergency assistance
- 132 households received emergency housing assistance
- The **Case Management** program served 159 households.
- Through the **Justice and Peace** program Catholic Charities continued its long-standing partnerships with parishes and various community groups to address local, Diocesan and statewide issues.



### Catholic Charities of Livingston County

Tabitha Brewster, who had been serving as Agency Administrator since October 2011 was appointed Executive Director on July 1, 2014, replacing Diocesan Director Jack Balinsky who had also been serving as Interim Executive Director.

The agency continued to respond to increasing needs in collaboration with Catholic parishes, county government, local college, other not-for-profit agencies and community leaders.

#### Highlights of the services provided to 8910 clients in 2013 included:

- The **Help\*Works Emergency Services** program helped nearly 3000 individuals with budgeting, rent, security deposits, utility payments, food, clothing, back-to-school needs and more.
- Through the **Teenage Services Act** program (TASA), assisting Medicaid eligible women 21 and under with pregnancy and parenting by utilizing resources throughout the county, 35 clients received case management services, 11 gave birth to healthy babies, 3 individuals obtained a General Education Diploma, and 2 graduated from high school.
- The **Employment Program** assists with engaging clients in employment related activities as well as the development of work site throughout the county. In 2013, one employment counsellor was able to assist over 110 clients successfully secure a job.
- The **Hope Youth Mentoring** program which matches trained and caring adult volunteers with "at-risk" youth between 6-14 yrs old, served 45 children in 2013.
- On average, 120 families are served monthly by the Food Pantry/Clothing Closet.
- Through the **Community of Caring and Mentor Moms** programs, counseling and supportive services were provided to 105 women who were parenting or soon-to-be parenting in the community as well as those in the Livingston County jail.
- The establishment of a **Parish Social Ministry Committee** enabled the agency to strengthen its relationship with parishes.



### Catholic Family Center

CFC also experienced a leadership transition in 2013, as CEO Mark Wickham departed in September, and Chief Operating Officer Marlene Bessette was appointed by the Board to assume the position of CEO as of January 1, 2014, following a three month stint as Interim CEO by Diocesan Director Jack Balinsky.

Catholic Family Center provided direct services to 33,878 people in 2013, with two-thirds of those having annual family incomes at or below \$15,000. Thirty percent live in one of the top five most impoverished zip codes, which have an average poverty rate of 46%.

The theme of caring for the vulnerable and the poor reverberates through each service department in a wide variety of ways.

#### A few key examples included:

- Aging and Adult's **Expanded In-Home Services to the Elderly Program (EISEP)** added administration of the in-home agency services provided to clients. This allows EISEP care managers to seamlessly tailor services to the individual needs of each frail elder that they serve – elongating the time they can live independently in their own homes.
- Children Youth and Family's **Unaccompanied Refugee Minor (URM)** program graduated eight seniors from high school with six accepted to college and one heading to the Air Force.



- Children Youth and Family's **Adoption Services** placed eight older special needs children, two domestic infants and two international children with permanent families and completed Hague recertification – a requirement for international adoptions.
- Healthy Sisters Soup and Bean Works** received a grant from the Women's Foundation of the Genesee Valley that allows them to offer a workshop series on financial literacy and job readiness to their clients as they prepare to enter the workforce.
- Housing Services** moved 52% of the over 1,700 women and children from emergency shelter into permanent housing – the highest rate in 5 years.
- The **Mental Health Clinic** began walk-in hours in April. This procedural improvement has eliminated the long waitlists of the past and allowed the agency to more

quickly serve those struggling with mental health issues. This enhanced client service was also a key factor enabling a substantial decrease in the clinic's deficit.

- Refugee, Immigration and Language Services** applied for and received additional funding from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to create specialized services for two vulnerable populations-young adult refugees (18-26 years) who arrive alone, and refugees with mental health issues.
- Restart Outpatient** expanded its outreach and engagement efforts, and realized significant increase in both the **Clinic and Day Rehab** programs. Over 90% of **Restart Outpatient** clients reported improved family relationships and no further arrests as a result of involvement in treatment.
- Four drug-free babies were born to women in residence in a **Restart Residential** program. Five pregnant women received services in 2013.
- The newly renamed **Advocacy and Parish Social Ministry Office** created the **Rochester ACTS** inter-faith advocacy partnership.

### Catholic Charities of Wayne County

Deacon Peter Dohr was hired as Executive Director effective October 1, 2013. He replaced Deacon Tim Sullivan, who decided to return to family roots in Oklahoma, following 5-1/2 years of outstanding service to the agency.

Nearing its tenth anniversary, Catholic Charities of Wayne County continued to expand its broad array of services.



#### Key achievements included:

- Through the **College Bound** program in 2013, there were 162 students in the program in grades 7-12, with 100% success rate in all 43 graduating seniors securing acceptance to college.
- The **La Casa** program served and housed 61 farm workers and their families in 2013 at its Sodus location.
- The **Wolcott Community Clothing Center** staffed entirely by volunteers served over 3,000 people last year, with over 30,000 items of clothing distributed.
- Through the **Early Intervention** program, counseling services were provided to school children in Wayne County who exhibited severe problems in functioning, serving 125 children and their families in 2013 in grades pre-K through 5.
- In the **PINS (Persons in Need of Supervision)** in cooperation with Wayne County, the agency provided counseling and assistance to 317 family members over calendar 2013.
- 212 clients were served in the **General Counseling** program, including children, single adults and married



couples experiencing all types of struggles and challenges.

- Working as co-lead with Newark Rotary in the **Mobile Food Pantry** program, Catholic Charities coordinated receipt of food from Foodlink and distributed it to over 2,400 hungry people last year.

### Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga Counties

Under the effective leadership of Executive Director Renee Spear, the agency continued to respond to increased need in the wake of the economic recession.

#### Program highlights included:

- The number of participants in the **Samaritan Center** in 2013 was 2040, more than doubling the number of households served in 2008. Eighty-three households secured, stable housing. Bus passes were given to 1,410 persons to enable them to get to work or medical appointments. There were 14,319 visits to the clothing closet with 41,643 items of clothing distributed.



- In Family Empowerment Services, through the **Parent Partnership** program, 30 families with children at risk for out-of-home placement were assisted, and, through the **Community Connections** program, 54 families were assisted in navigating through the Child Protective Services system.
- At the agency's Ithaca location, the **Nutrition Outreach and Education** program 353 families had face-to-face screenings to determine eligibility for SNAP (food stamps) and 164 households were able to receive SNAP benefits through agency assistance.
- Through the **Immigrant Services** program, 220 individuals were provided job development and entrepreneurial support, and, 511 individuals received legal immigration and citizenship services.
- Through its **Justice and Peace Ministry** the agency advocated for promoting a living wage, child care for low income parents and comprehensive immigration reform,

among other issues.

- At the Tioga Outreach Center in Nichols, the **Nutrition Outreach Education** program enabled 154 households to receive SNAP benefits.
- Also at the Tioga Outreach Center, through the **Emergency Assistance** Program:
  - 1600 people received over 40,000 pounds of food
  - 1258 people were able to access free, new and gently used clothing
  - 67 households received financial support to enable them to remain in their own homes



### Catholic Charities of Steuben County

Under the continued long-standing leadership of Executive Director Laura Opelt, Catholic Charities of Steuben County touched the lives of 14,935 individuals in 2013.

#### Key service achievements included:

- In 2013, **Healthy Families Steuben** served 251 families with 32 families graduating from the program. In September, the Healthy Families Steuben Team received the Distinguished Award in Human Services presented by the Steuben Rural Health Network for commitment to making a positive impact on Steuben County families and for the influence of the program's best practices on rural human services delivery.
- Forty youth participated in the **Therapeutic Foster Care** program.
- The lives of 605 children were touched through the **Supportive Home and Parent Enrichment (SHAPE)** program.
- The **Bath Community Child Day Care** program served 87 families with 143 children ages 6 months to 12 years.
- Through **Turning Point** and **Steuben Community Rural Ministry** (which joined the agency in 2013), 11,698 families were served in 2013 through housing assistance, utility assistance, transportation, food pantry, nutrition outreach, prescription assistance, financial stability guidance and income tax preparation.
- In cooperation with the Steuben County Catholic community, the **Justice and Peace** program advocated for increased access to mental health services in Steuben County, cessation of human trafficking, and increases in funding for the **Maternity and Early Childhood and Healthy Families** programs.
- The **Bridges Out of Poverty** program promoted training for 65 community members, and enabled 15 persons to graduate from the "Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin' By World" program.
- The **Steuben Council on Addictions** secured a five year Drug Free Communities grant in the amount of \$125,000/year.
- In 2013, the **Bath Area Hope for Youth** program served 6594 youth through **Bath Hope Counseling**, the **John Southard Youth Recreation** program, the **Drinker/Driver** program and the **Evidence Based Youth** program.

Continued on page 4