Mission-focused, Results-driven

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.

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 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 Marie 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 Belinsky. Associate Director Tony Barbara, Human Resources Director Barb Poling and the Diocesan IT department led by Tom Veedar oversee central functions, 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 Jean Ammann 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, Mary Mih from Catholic Family Center serves as Diocesan Director of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, and Kathy Dubul from Catholic Charities of Che- mung/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.

Focus on 2013 Activities

San Castle Apartments

In 2013, San Castle Apartments began the process to upgrade its technology, and the staff and leadership were fully engaged in the effort to become cutting-edge. The staff of San Castle was fully integrated into the technology upgrade.

For 2014, San Castle is looking toward continued technology improvements and support for the staff. As the year progressed, Catholic Charities Community Services began adapting to technology, and secured funding for employment training, capital improvements and additional services to support the clients’ goals of independence and inclusion in the community.

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.

Highlights for 2013 included:

• The Food Bank distributed 9,791,616 pounds of food with a value of $61,348,955 with over 1.2 million meals for food during the year.

• Throughout the school year, 2,375 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.

• The Mobile Food Pantry trucks distributed 34 million pounds of food, including 565,794 pounds at events, and 655 deliveries.

• 1,316 youth from 34 area groups participated in Hunger Education Activities, and 37 trained community educators prepared 152 youth.

• The Food Bank volunteers contributed a total of 8,671 hours of food and garage items for distribution to those in need.

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Mission-focused, Results-driven

Specialty Agency 2013 Highlights

Catholic Charities Community Services

Founding Executive Director Paul Pickering retired after nearly 30 years of service. The clients, staff and board of directors welcomed Joni York, who took the helm.

Key events in 2013 included:

• Having undergone its move to the East Ridge Road, on July 1st, the agency moved to its 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 Pen-Yen 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 revitalized 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.

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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 Oak Avenue, the agency continued to expand its services.

A Quarterly Progress Report from Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester

2013 AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

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

Catholic Charities of Livingston County

Tablet Bretoner who had been serving as Agency Ad- minister since October 2011 was appointed Executive Director on Jan 1, 2014, replacing Documentary Director Jack Balbule who had also been serving as Interim Executive Director.

Catholic Charities of Steuben County

CFC also experienced a leadership transition in 2013, as CEO Phil Wolden departed in September and Chief Operating Officer Marilee Beesleis 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 Balbule.

Catholic Charities of Schuyler, Chemung and Yates Counties

The establishment of a Parochial and local college, other non-profit agencies and community leaders in the area that served 2,400 hungry people last year.

Catholic Charities of Wayne County

Children's Youth and Family's Unaccompanied Refugee Minor (URM) program graduated eight refugees from high school with six received to college and oneheading to the Air Force.

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

• The Help/Works Emergency Services program helped nearly 3,000 individuals with budgeting, rent, security deposits, utilities payments, food, clothing, back-to-school needs and more.

• Through the Teenage Services Act program (TASP), counseling Medical eligible women 31 and under with pregnancy and parenting by utilizing resources through-out the county. 15 clients received case management services, 11 got help to birth healthy babies, 3 individuals obtained GED Certification Diplomas, and 2 graduated from high school.

• The Employment Program assists with engaging cli- ents in employment related activities as well as the development of work site throughout the county. In 2013, one employment counselor 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-site, 120 families are served monthly by the Food Pantry/Cliffside Cottage.

Under the continued strong leadership of Executive Di- rector, Dr. Dennis Sullivan, Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes provided services to 4000 households.

• Of those served:
  o 237 households received direct utility emergency as-sistance
  o 132 households received emergency housing assis-tance
  o The Case Management program served 119 house-holds.
  o Through the Justice and Peace program Catholic Charities continued to forge long-standing partnerships with parishes and various community groups to address local, Diocesan and statewide issues.

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Regional Agency 2013 Highlights

Chemung County

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

Key accomplishments included:

• The Emergency Food Program fed over 5,600 parents and children with the assistance of caring volunteers who donated over 4,000 hours of their time.

• Emergency Shelter, meals and support were pro-vided 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 47 families purchase homes during this time period.

• The Justice and Peace office continued collaboration with parishes to advocate for a variety of public policy to assist the parishes.

Schuyler County

Under the continuing able leadership of Executive Di- rector, John DeBaker, Catholic Charities of Chemung/Schuyler Counties served tens of thousands of individuals and families who might otherwise remain hungry, untreated, or ignored.

“Of those served:

• 237 households received direct utility emergency as-sistance

• 132 households received emergency housing assis-tance

• The Case Management program served 119 house-holds.

• Through the Justice and Peace program Catholic Charities continued to forge long-standing partnerships with parishes and various community groups to address local, Diocesan and statewide issues.

Catholic Charities of Chemung/Schuyler Counties

The greatest percentage of households served, closely followed by households with children.

Under the continuing able leadership of Executive Di- rector, Diocesan Director Jack Balbule who had also been serving as Interim Executive Director.

The establishment of a Parochial and local college, other non-profit agencies and community leaders in the area that served 2,400 hungry people last year.

Catholic Charities of Wayne County

Children’s Youth and Family’s Adoption Services placed eight older sibling special needs children, two domestic infants and two international children with permanent families and completed Hague re-adoption – 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 wom-en 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 waitlist of the past and allowed the agency to more quickly serve those struggling with mental health issues. This expanded client care was also a key factor in en-abling a substantial decrease in the clinic’s deficits.

Refugees, Immigration and Language Services applied for and received additional funding from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Relief to create specialized services for two vulnerable populations-young asylum refugees (19-24 yrs) who arrive alone, and refugees with mental health issues.

Reoutput Outpatient expanded its outreach and en-gagement efforts, and realized significant increase in both the Clinic and Day-Rep program.  One, the Montgomery Outreach Client Improvement noted improved family relationships and no further arrests as a result of involvement in treatment.

Four drug-free homes were born to women in residence in a Rochester Residential Program. The eight 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 the Finger Lakes

Under the effective leadership of Executive Director Re-nee Stover, the agency continued to respond in 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. But basic costs were given to 1,410 persons to enable them to get to work or medical ap-pointments. There were 6,199 visits to the clothing closet with 4,613 items of clothing distributed.

Key achievements included:

• Through the College Bound program in 2013, there were 143 students in the program in grades 7-12, with 100% success rate in all 43 graduating seniors securing acceptance to colleges.

• The La Casa program served and housed 61 families and 24 single women and their families in 2013 as well as its Sudos location.

• The Welcome Community Clothing Closet 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 135 children and their families in 2013 at grades pre-K through 5.

• The PINS (People in Need of Supervision) in cooperation with Wayne County the agency provided comprehensive case management services to 114 clients throughout calendar 2013.

• 296 County residents served in the General Counseling program, including children, single adults and married couples experiencing all types of styles and chal- lenges.

• Working in 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 continued strong leadership of Execu-tive Director, Bob Teuben, Catholic Charities of Steuben County touched the lives of 14,935 individuals in 2013. fifty-three key achievements included:

• In 2013, Healthy Families Steuben served 251 fami-lies with 32 families graduating from the program. In September 2013 Healthy Families Steuben Town was presented the Distinguished Award in Human Services presented by the Steuben Healthy Families Steering Committee 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 line of 605 children were touched through the Sup-portive Home and Parent Enrichment (SHEAP) program.

• The Bath Community Child Day Care program served 87 families with 143 children ages 6 months to 15 years.

• Through Turning Point and Steuben Community Rural Ministry (which joined the agency in 2013) in 2013, 11,698 families were served in 2013 through housing assistance, utility assistance, transportation food pantry, nutrition outreach, prescription assistance, financial sta-bility guidance and income tax preparation.

• In cooperation with the Steuben County Catholic com-munity, 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 Bridge Out of Poverty program promoted training for 45 community members, and enabled 15 persons to graduate from the “Getting Ahead in a Just Gen-der” World program.

• The Steuben Bureau of Addictions served fewer than 1,000 drug free Communities in the amount of 135,000.

• In 2013, the Bath Area Hope for Youth program served 694 youth through Bath Youth Counseling Program, the John Southard Youth Recreation program, the DrinkerDriver program and the Evidence Based Youth program.