

Client's story about fighting the cold warms the heart of anonymous donor

Livingston County CC's annual Eat for Heat event continues to generate both heat and light

While living in sunny Arizona, the David Bilyk family's need for home heat was minimal, easily satisfied by a small space heater.

But the family's forced move to western New York to handle some family matters in December 2011 left them very cold.

It had been decades since the Bilyks had lived in a cold climate, so it wasn't until David received his first heating-oil bill that he remembered how expensive basic comfort could be in northeastern winters.

When the family's discomfort started out-



Nearly 200 generous donors attended the January 26 event.



The local band Innisfree kept things lively with traditional Irish music.

weighing their embarrassment over their financial pinch, David turned to Catholic Charities of Livingston County for some help with their heating bill – and the agency's Help*Works program provided just the spark they needed.

"They (the Livingston County Catholic Charities staff) are beautiful people," David gratefully announced from the pulpit of St. Matthew's Church in Livonia during the Mass kicking off the agency's annual Eat for Heat dinner in late January. "They never allowed us to feel as if we were begging."

If the story ended there, it would be happy enough — a couple more people made a little more comfortable. It's what we do every day, throughout the diocese. But there's more.

In the congregation that evening, a compassionate individual was listening, quietly but intently. That person was sufficiently moved by David's story to go home, write a check for \$1000, and drop it in the mail the next day, hoping to bolster the Livingston Emergency Assistance Fund (LEAF) that helps David's family and other Livingston County residents pay their heating bills.

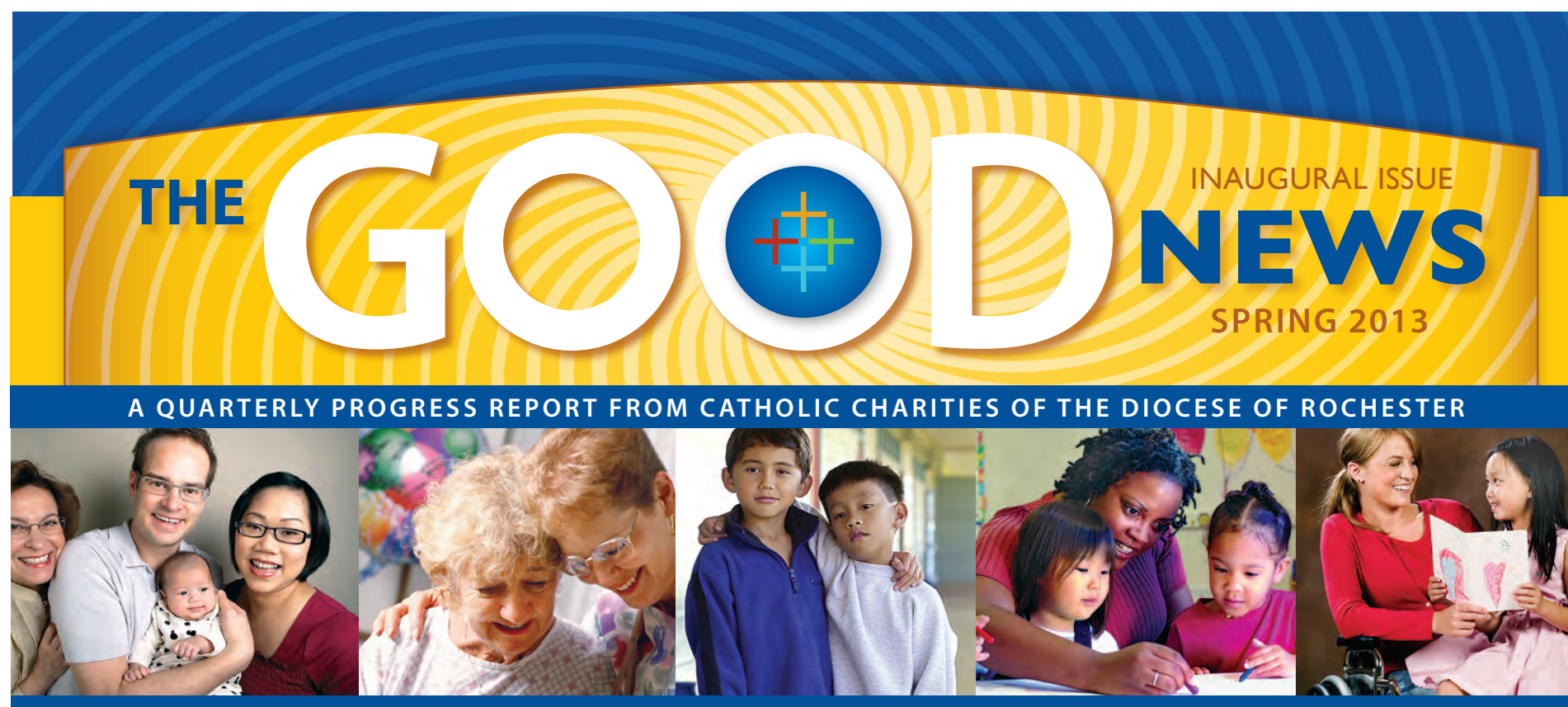
The anonymous donation, coupled with the generous contributions of nearly 200 other diners, enabled the event to generate nearly \$7,000 for the fund.

They say the world can be a cold place. But generous people can go a long way towards warming it up.



Our hard-working Livingston County staff made it all happen.

Go to Catholic Charities at www.dor.org to read the Catholic Charities Annual Report



FROM THE BOARD CHAIR AND THE DIOCESAN DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

We are proud to present *The Good News* – a new Diocesan Catholic Charities quarterly newsletter.

Through this and ensuing issues, we will keep you apprised about the invaluable work of our Diocesan Catholic Charities family of agencies who enhance the lives of more than a quarter-million people in our 12-county diocese each year.

Our family is organized in a unique and wonderful way. Recognizing our breadth and diversity, Bishop Emeritus Matthew Clark, a strong and consistent supporter of our work, in cooperation with our predecessors, established our decentralized structure in 1985.

By delegating authority and responsibility to regional agencies and their boards of committed volunteers, we allow local leaders to understand and respond to local needs. The needs of Rochester city residents differ from the needs of their counterparts in rural communities, suburban communities, and smaller cities like Elmira, Geneva, Ithaca, and Hornell. CCDD is structured to accommodate and support those differences.

While each agency provides services needed in its community, all operate according to a common mission: helping improve the quality of life of the poor and vulnerable throughout the diocese through direct service, advocacy, and, working in conjunction with our local parishes, to build a just and compassionate society based on the dignity of all persons.

The next issue of *The Good News* will focus on specific highlights of 2012 programs and services – and there were many. Subsequent issues will showcase the work of individual agencies as well as conveying important collective developments within the organization.

We thank the enormous numbers of committed donors, dedicated volunteers, and hard-working staff who make this wonderful work possible.

Sincerely,
Linda Stundtner, *Chairperson,*
Diocesan Board of Catholic Charities
Jack Balinsky, *Diocesan Director*

Smooth Leadership Transition at Catholic Charities Community Services

Paul Pickering retires, Lori Van Auken signs on as new ED

When Paul Pickering joined Catholic Charities Community Services, the agency consisted of one residential facility serving 10 consumers with a total budget of under \$200,000.



Lori Van Auken

As he retires at the end of March, Paul can look back on the successful development of a \$10 million agency with four different services and 12 facilities, serving more than 1000 consumers with developmental disabilities, HIV/AIDS, and traumatic brain injury.

Along the way, Paul received the Vincenza DeFazio Award, presented by the New York State Council of Catholic Charities Directors, along with the immense gratitude of thousands of consumers, their families and friends, and hundreds of inspired employees. He also served on numerous state and local committees and subcommittees charged with enhancing the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and other challenges.

"For 30 years, Paul has also been at the center of the Diocesan Catholic Charities organization,"

said Jack Balinsky, CCDD Diocesan Director. "We will miss him, but we are delighted to welcome Lori Van Auken as executive director. Lori brings an excellent reputation and a broad range of valuable skills to the leadership of Catholic Charities Community Services."

Lori Van Auken comes to us most recently from The Children's Institute in Rochester, where she served as deputy director.

Prior to that, she spent nearly a decade with the Rochester Area Community Foundation, where she oversaw grantmaking, advocated for child care subsidies, and influenced policy decisions about early-childhood development and education.

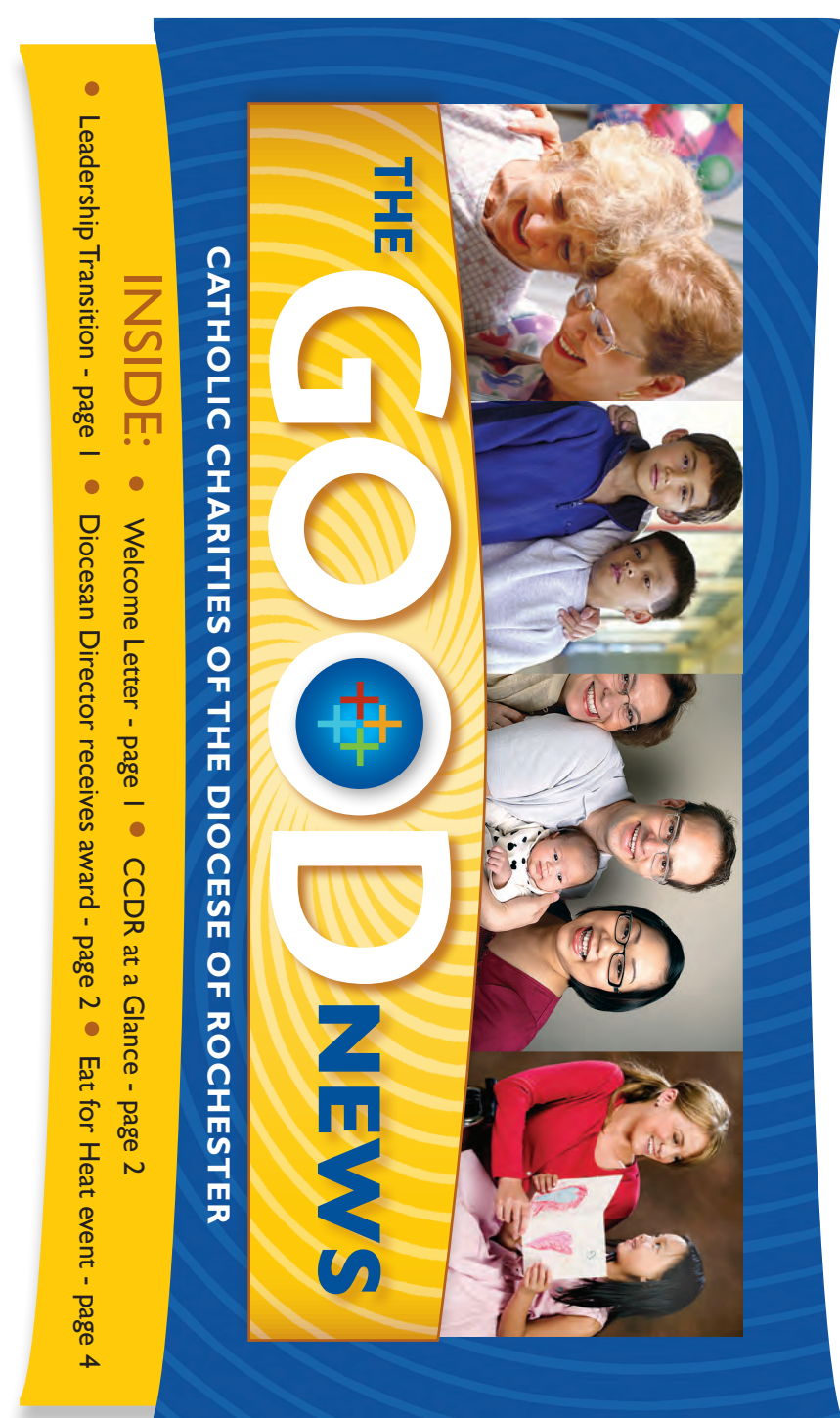
Lori received a bachelor's degree from SUNY Geneseo and a master's in public administration from SUNY Brockport, where she



Paul Pickering

graduated summa cum laude. She serves on the advisory boards of the Early Childhood Development Initiative, The Center for Teen Empowerment and The Hunter Institute of SUNY Brockport. She is a recipient of the Rochester Business Journal's prestigious "Forty Under 40" award.

Lori began her work March 18.



THE GOOD NEWS
CATHOLIC CHARITIES DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER
1150 Buffalo Rd. • Rochester, NY 14626

CCDR Director receives prestigious state award



Jack Balinsky

CCDR's Diocesan Director, Jack Balinsky, is the lone recipient of the 2013 Bishop Francis J. Mugavero Award, presented annually by the New York State Council of Catholic Charities Directors.

The award, first presented to Bishop Mugavero in 1989, is "an attempt to recognize an individual who has made a significant and sustained contribution to the work of charity and social justice on a state-wide level," according to the Council.

The award cites Balinsky's outstanding leadership over two decades in the Diocese of Rochester, his 40 years of dedication and service to Catholic Charities in New York State, his six years as a staff member to the NYS Catholic Conference, and his authorship of numerous publications, including a history of CCDR and a six-volume history of the New York State Catholic Conference.

This is not the first such award to adorn Balinsky's wall. In 2010, he received the Centennial Medal from Catholic Charities USA; in 2011, he received the J. Alan Davitt Award for Exemplary Service from the NYS Catholic Conference; and in September 2012, he was presented the Bishop Clark Award by the Diocesan Board of Rochester Catholic Charities.

In his acceptance speech, Balinsky said he was "humbled by the award and grateful for the honor and especially for the staff and volunteers of Catholic Charities who daily serve the needs of many."

The Mugavero Award was presented at the Annual Convening of the Council of Catholic Charities Directors in Albany on March 19.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER AT A GLANCE

Due to our service diversity and regional focus, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester (CCDR) sometimes suffers a bit of an identity crisis.

Often, our organization is mistaken for other Catholic social-service organizations. Occasionally, by virtue of their diverse names, some of our dozen entities are not recognized as members of our aggregate \$65-million family with a common mission and centralized financial, human resources and information-technology infrastructure.

Therefore, as a public service, we'd like to provide the following brief snapshot of each of CCDR's agencies, hoping to make it easy for consumers, volunteers and donors alike to find the CCDR agencies most meaningful and valuable to them.

CCDR consists of:

- seven **regional agencies** providing a wide array of mostly home-grown services throughout our 12-county area
- two **specialty agencies**, providing specialized services in multiple counties
- two **affiliate agencies**
- and the **Diocesan office**



Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes (CCFL)

www.catholiccharitiesfl.org
94 Exchange St.
Geneva, NY 14456
315-789-2686

Robert McFadden, *Board Chair*
Ellen Wayne, *Executive Director*

Serving the counties of Cayuga, Ontario, Yates and Seneca from offices in Geneva, Canandaigua and Auburn, CCFL provides emergency assistance, operates HEAP and SSI-assistance programs in Cayuga County, offers TANF Case Management, parenting programs, child and foster care programs (supervised visitation), a community lunch program in Geneva, and social-justice programs and advocacy throughout the region.

REGIONAL AGENCIES

Catholic Family Center

www.cfcrochester.org
87 North Clinton Ave.
Rochester, NY 14604
585-546-7220

Maryanne Townsend, *Board Chair*
Mark Wickham, *President and CEO*
Marlene Bessette, *COO*
John Pennell, *CFO*

Catholic Family Center (CFC), our largest regional agency, offers more than 60 human-services programs, serving consumers throughout Rochester and Monroe County. The agency provides programs in the core areas of families, housing services, behavioral health and social policy and research. Among its many comprehensive programs are Restart Substance Abuse Services and the STAR program for senior citizens, along with wide-ranging services in mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment, housing for the homeless, resettlement services for refugees, employment assistance for individuals, and more. In 2012, CFC served more than 33,000 people, most of whom live on an aggregate household income of less than \$15,000.



Catholic Charities of Livingston County (CCLC)

www.aboutcclc.org
34 East State St.
Mount Morris, NY 14510
585-658-4466

Deborah Farberman, *Board Chair*
Jack Balinsky, *Interim Executive Director*
Tabitha Brewster, *Agency Administrator*

CCLC provides much-needed assistance in the form of a food pantry; SSI/SSD disability advocacy services; "Community of Caring" counseling services for young mothers and mothers to be; emergency housing for homeless families; "Faith in Action" in-home services for the elderly and disabled; a host of "Help*Works" Community Resources for those who are suddenly facing poverty; a youth mentoring service; employment counseling services for individuals facing difficulties finding a job; and justice and peace advocacy.

Catholic Charities of Steuben County (CCSC)

www.catholiccharitiessteuben.org
Administrative Office
23 Liberty St.
Bath, NY 14810
607-776-8085, x216
Mike Gabrielli, *Board Chair*
Laura M. Opelt, *CEO*
Melody Johnson, *COO*

CCSC provides wide-ranging anti-poverty and substance abuse services, as well as Kinship Family and Youth Services. Anti-poverty programs include short-term financial assistance, food pantries, prescription assistance, Nutrition Outreach and Education, and Bridges out of Poverty. Substance abuse services help our community choose healthy, safe and drug-free alternatives, with programs such as the Steuben Council on Addictions, Bath Hope for Youth and a Community Residence and Supportive Living Program in Steuben. Kinship Family and Youth Services helps strengthen families and bring hope to children. Programs include Healthy Families Steuben, Supportive Home Parent Enrichment (Steuben, Allegany, and Yates Counties), Bath Community Child Day Care Center (Central Steuben), and Therapeutic Foster Care (Allegany, Chemung, Livingston, Schuyler, Steuben, and Yates counties).



Catholic Charities of Chemung/Schuyler Counties (CCC/SC)

www.cs-cc.org
Chemung County Office
215 East Church St.
Elmira, NY 14901
607-734-9784

R. Marie Finnerty, *Board Chair*
Tony Barbaro, *Interim Executive Director*
Chuck Nocera, *Associate Executive Director*

Schuyler County Office
607 North Franklin St.
Watkins Glen, NY 14891
607-535-2050

Debra McDonald, *Director*,
Schuyler County

The mission of CCC/SC is to help build communities that care for all people by reducing poverty, promoting healthy individual and family life, collaborating with faith communities and advocating for justice and peace. The agency works to ensure that people have adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical services, and the ability to achieve a decent standard of living. CCC/SC offers programs that specialize in residential services, community support services, and public policy advocacy and parish services. Among the services CCC/SC provides every day are food to approximately 100 households, emergency shelter to more than 20 individuals, after-school care to 175 children, and permanent and transitional housing to more than 200 individuals.



Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga Counties (CCTT)

www.catholiccharitiestt.org
Tompkins County Office
324 West Buffalo St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
607-272-5062
Tioga County Office
P.O. Box 69
139 Roki Blvd.
Nichols, NY 13812
607-414-1023

JoEllen Rose, *Board Chair*
Renee Spear, *Executive Director*
Laurie Ellis, *Tioga Coordinator*

In Tompkins County, CCTT operates the Samaritan Center, offering free clothing, linens, and personal-care items; providing financial assistance; assisting with Food Stamp enrollment and enrollment in the NYS Child Health Plus/Family Health Plus programs; and supplying referrals to other local agencies. It also provides immigrant support; nutrition, education, and outreach; and family empowerment services. In Tioga County, CCTT operates the Tioga Outreach Center, offering residents short-term financial assistance for immediate crises, and long-term support and guidance by providing advocacy, referrals to entitlement programs, and one-to-one support; and the YES Mentoring Program, which helps children succeed by offering mentoring in school work, life skills, and employment.

Catholic Charities of Wayne County (CCWC)

www.ccwayne.org
1141 East Union St.
Newark, NY 14513
315-331-4918

Carmen Pagano, *Board Chair*
Tim Sullivan, *Executive Director*

CCWC provides a variety of clinical services: counseling; case management for troubled adolescents; childhood counseling and intervention for at-risk children in grades pre-K through 6; and College Bound, a program to help young people achieve their academic goals. It also operates a food pantry and Food Sense, a discounted source of quality food; offers free clothing through its Community Clothing Center in Wolcott; owns and manages La Casa, which offers transitional housing to migrant workers; and offers financial assistance, principally for those facing eviction due to delinquent rent.



Photo by Mike Crupl/Catholic Courier

SPECIALTY AGENCIES

Catholic Charities Community Services (CCCS)

www.cccsrochester.org
1945 East Ridge Rd., #24
Rochester, NY 14622
585-339-9800
Ed Starowicz, *Board Chair*
Lori VanAuken, *Executive Director*



As one of two specialty agencies, Catholic Charities Community Services (CCCS) is committed to enhancing and strengthening the independence, inclusion, and individuality of persons with disabilities and traumatic brain injuries, of adults seeking alternatives to nursing home care, and of those who are living with chronic illnesses including HIV/AIDS. The agency integrates service delivery, advocacy, and education to foster individual and community empowerment. In 2012, CCCS provided care, comfort, or housing to approximately 850 individuals throughout the diocese.



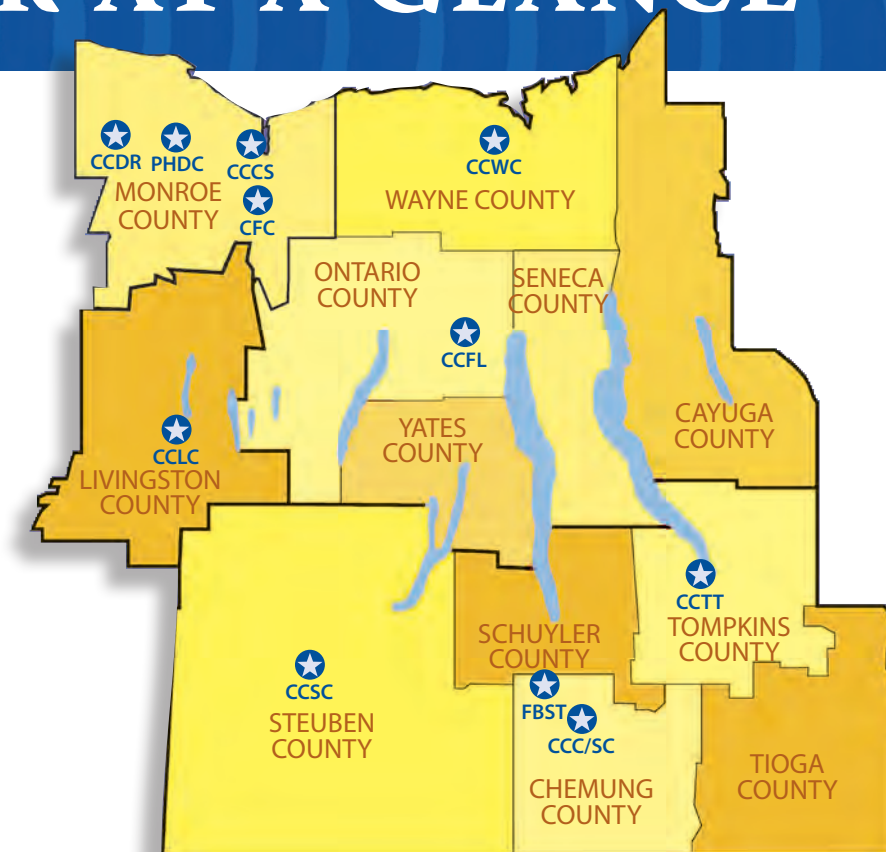
Food Bank of the Southern Tier (FBST)

www.foodbankst.org
388 Upper Oakwood Ave.
Elmira, NY 14903
607-796-6061

Krista Niles-Updyke, *Board Chair*
Natasha Thompson, *CEO*
Tim Currie, *COO*



Headquartered in Elmira, the Food Bank of the Southern Tier distributes food and other grocery products to people in need through a network of more than 165 member agencies including food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and other hunger-relief organizations in Broome, Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, Tompkins and Tioga counties. FBST also administers several direct-service food distribution programs, including the Back Pack Program and Mobile Food Pantry. Established in 1981, the Food Bank is a member of Feeding America, the nation's food bank network.



Camp Stella Maris (CSM)

www.campstellamaris.org
4395 East Lake Rd.
Livonia, NY 14487
585-346-2243

Catherine Gueli, *Board Chair*
John Quinlivan, *Executive Director*

Founded in 1926, Camp Stella Maris provides outstanding summer camp, retreat and team-building programs for people of all faiths. The Camp's mission is to provide a fun, Christ-centered, safe, caring environment and experience, fostering continued spiritual, physical and emotional growth for a diverse group of campers of all ages. Traditional summer-camp programs run from late June through mid-August and offer something for everyone. Camp is open year-round and provides facilities for retreats, adventure-based team building, and weekend camps.



DIOCESAN OFFICE

Catholic Charities Diocese of Rochester (CCDR)

www.dor.org
1150 Buffalo Rd.
Rochester, NY 14624
585-328-3210

Linda Stundtner, *Diocesan Board Chair*
Jack Balinsky, *Diocesan Director*
Tony Barbaro, *Associate Diocesan Director*
Lee Randall, *Director of Financial Services*
Barbara B. Poling, *Senior Human Resources Director*
Jann Armantrout, *Life Issues Coordinator*
Kathy Dubel, *Diocesan CRS Director*
Marvin Mich, *Diocesan CCHD Director*
Corporate Members:
Most Rev. Robert Cunningham
Rev. Joseph Hart
Rev. Daniel Condon
Jack Balinsky
Linda Stundtner

The Diocesan Office oversees the finance, technology, and human-resource infrastructures of CCDR entities, coordinating their efforts for maximum efficiency and assisting in developing strategic initiatives throughout the organization.