Mission Statement

In response to Jesus Christ’s call to affirm the value and dignity of each human life, to build solidarity within the community, and to advocate for justice for the poor and vulnerable, Catholic Charities of Central Colorado humbly engages in the ministry of charity for those in both economic and spiritual poverty so that all – staff, volunteers, and clients – may fully achieve their God-given potential.

Note: Catholic Charities of Central Colorado officially changed its name from Catholic Charities of Colorado Springs on July 1, 2011 although the name change was legally filed with the Colorado Secretary of State on November 4, 2010.
Dear Friends,

The mission and ministry of Catholic Charities of Central Colorado are made possible through the generosity and enthusiastic, unwavering support of our patrons. On behalf of the Board of Directors, our outstanding staff, and our wonderful volunteers, please accept my heartfelt appreciation for all that you do to sustain and grow the extensive programs and services Catholic Charities provides to the community.

My appreciation and that of our board also extends to both our outstanding staff members and all of our volunteers whose hard work and dedication are invaluable to the continuing success of the organization.

Thank you for your continuing support. May God bless you all.

Sincerely,

Betsy Sobral
Chairperson

Bishop Michael J. Sheridan

Betsy Sobral
Chairperson

Tim Rickert
Treasurer

Liz Anderson
Vice Chairperson

Katie Stuart
Secretary

Janie Blind
Roy Clennan
Steve P. Condon
Bob Doerfler - Bishop Rep
Msgr. Donald Dunn
Russell Flora
Timothy Fuller
Bart Givens
Jo Ann Harrison

Leroy K. Hoeting
Brenda Lammers
William Lucas
James MacDougald
Kirk Morton
Tom Naughton
Fr. Brad Noonan
Deborah Walker

Betsy Sobral
Chairman of the Board
"Gather, transform and serve! When done in the name of Jesus Christ this is the spirit of Catholic Charities and all who work in the cause, because it is the faithful following of the one who did 'not come to be served but to serve' (Mk. 10:45). By working for a society which fosters the dignity of every human person, not only are you serving the poor, but you are renewing the founding vision of this nation under God!

And may God reward you abundantly."

-Pope John Paul II

Dear Friends,

Catholic Charities of Central Colorado is one of the most critical ministries in our diocese. Through its service to our most poor and vulnerable brothers and sisters, Catholic Charities brings Christ’s love and compassion to those who need it the most. The Diocese of Colorado Springs donates funds and in-kind services to Catholic Charities so that more than 95% of your donations go directly to programs here in our community.

The Marian House Soup Kitchen serves an average of 600 hot meals each day, 365 days each year. The Haven Center at the Marian House provides clothing, supplies, and case management services to hundreds of individuals. By cooperating with other local agencies, the Haven Center can provide comprehensive assistance helping to break the cycle of poverty.

Catholic Charities’ Life Connections Program provides crisis pregnancy counseling, foster care, and adoption services to those who value the dignity of all human life. Its Family Immigration Services Department provides accredited counseling and assistance to refugees and immigrants who need help on the path towards citizenship.

Thank you for your generous support for Catholic Charities. With every blessing I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Michael J. Sheridan
Bishop of Colorado Springs
Dear Friends of Catholic Charities,

We are pleased to provide you with our latest Annual Report, summarizing Catholic Charities of Central Colorado’s activities during the 2010/2011 fiscal year. The tremendous community support – from volunteers, donors and community business and non-profit partners – is truly a blessing to us. We are encouraged to see how every corner of the Pikes Peak region (and beyond) has come together to serve those most in need through Catholic Charities.

Our Lord told us: “Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours. Blessed are you who are now hungry, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who are now weeping, for you will laugh” (Luke 6:20-21). Do we really believe these words of Christ? If we do, then we cannot deny that God has special affection for those who struggle to meet their basic needs. His deep affection for those in poverty extends to those who work hard to serve the poor.

St. Vincent de Paul put it this way: “Since Christ willed to be born poor, he chose for himself disciples who were poor. He made himself the servant of the poor and shared their poverty. He went so far as to say that he would consider every deed which either helps or harms the poor as done for or against himself. Since God surely loves the poor, he also loves those who love the poor. For when one person holds another dear, he also includes in that affection anyone who loves or serves the one he loves. That is why we hope that God will love us for the sake of the poor.”

While every corner of our lives can be filled with amazing charity, impacting all we meet, Catholic Charities is proud to provide opportunities for the community to deepen their love of the poor. We serve all people, regardless of faith, and are inspired by God’s love to help those who face difficult moments in their lives.

The following pages are filled with the wonderful work of those who support the mission of Catholic Charities. To all of those who have given of their gifts (time, ability and monetary and in-kind donations) I want to say, “thank you.” Thank you for helping to love those God holds so dear. I remain

Yours in Christ’s Charity,

Mark C. Rohlena, Esq.
President & CEO

Catholic Charities has a full vision of caring for those who seek our help. Self-sufficiency doesn’t offer a uniform definition, but our goal is to bring every person who comes through our doors as far along the continuum as possible.

For some, this may require a small bit of assistance to stay in their home during a rough patch. For others, we must build trust in our soup kitchen over many months just to reach the point of discussing other services we offer. We work with the full spectrum of clients – from the senior on a fixed income to the person who is homeless and facing untreated mental illness challenges and a lifetime of brokenness. We have always, and will always, work with the toughest situations, often those who don’t qualify for other kinds of assistance or programs. These, especially, deserve our help, even if the solutions are more difficult to craft. No person should be without a place to get help.

Even now, we are further refining our programs to dig deeper into the root causes of poverty. Catholic Charities is committed to walking with our clients to remove barriers in their lives to make permanent change. Our goal is to take current elements of our self-sufficiency programs to the next level: Holistic health care, family strengthening initiatives, parenting skills education, nutrition and cooking education, financial literacy, job readiness (including on-site training and real job opportunities), innovative housing solutions and referrals, and expanded community partnerships are part of this vision.
Family “Adoptions”

“The partnership between Catholic Charities and Peak Producers has been the most rewarding experience that we could have hoped for. It has been an excellent opportunity to walk in a very personal way with two families from destitution to transformation, and these families are now on the road to self-sufficiency. They could not have gotten there this fast without this partnership.

Catholic Charities provided these families with unparalleled resources and counsel, and our partnership provided financial backing along with personal gifts and connections to jumpstart these families into a new level of independence. We were able to see directly how our dollars were spent.

Peak Producers is looking forward to another year of adoptions and hope that many other organizations and corporations decide to partner with Catholic Charities for future adoptions.”

2011 Peak Producer President, Cherise Selley

Brother/Owner Selley Group Real Estate, LLC

In FY 2010/11, Catholic Charities began developing a special donor program which allowed donors to “walk” with our clients in a meaningful way. Peak Producers, a group of top realtors in our community, was our first endeavor with this program which will become a template for other organizations to become involved with families in Catholic Charities programs.

Peak Producers chose to “adopt” two families for a year-long adoption. They not only contributed cash and in-kind goods which satisfied immediate basic needs, but offered personal and business connections which were critical in moving the families to a higher level of stability. As a result, these families were “fast-tracked” to a higher level of self-sufficiency to an extent that Catholic Charities would not have been able to do alone.

Once the year-long adoptions conclude, these families will continue to receive case management and other services through our programs.

CEO Mark Rohlena reads a story to the children of the Peak Producers’ Adopted Families at a Christmas Party.

Thank you to all of our partners, donors, volunteers, and sponsors for your support. Together, we make a difference in the lives of families and individuals in our community. A list of donors is available upon request (excludes anonymous donors).
Family Immigration Services

Family Immigration Services (FIS) continues to expand programs to the “Stranger Among Us” through English as a Second Language classes and professional counseling and guidance to navigate the process of becoming a legal resident, our qualified staff helps those in need.

English as a Second Language Classes
- 156 students participated in ESL classes
- 100 children received literacy-based childcare
- 6,116 hours of instruction were received
- 30 volunteers teaching students
- 2,804 hours spent teaching students
- 18 countries represented

Naturalization & Immigration Services
- 210 consultations performed
- 54 new cases opened
- 16 people became US Citizens
- 26 refugees received green cards
- 15 family based petitions approved
- 31 countries represented

“Thank you Catholic Charities for helping me make the most important decision in my life. My baby will now grow up in a loving two parent home, as well as knowing me.”
A Birth Mom Life Connections Client

Life Connections

Life Connections assists women and families in all areas of pregnancy and adoption through counseling, support and educational instruction. Qualified and compassionate counselors guide individuals and families through the sometimes difficult and stressful process of deciding to relinquish a child or expand a family. Programs offered are Pregnancy Support Services, Relinquishment Counseling, Adoption Support Services, Counseling Services, Post-Abortion Support, and Life Skills programs.

- 334 unduplicated clients were served in Life Connections. Some of the services delivered were:
  - 14,568 Foster Care hours
  - 653 hours of Adoption Support Services
  - 540 hours of Pregnancy Support Services
  - 1,759 hours of Total Direct Client Services

Through Client Satisfaction Surveys, we learned that almost 100% of our clients feel the training and education they received in our areas of support helped them prepare for and understand the implications of the decisions they were making.

“I was a music teacher in Baghdad, Iraq with my wife and two kids. We were forced to leave because of violence. When we arrived to America I was like a blind man, I didn’t know anything. Catholic Charities helped us apply for the green card because I couldn’t do it by myself. Catholic Charities gave us hope.”
Tarik Alsindy
Family Immigration Client

“I was a music teacher in Baghdad, Iraq with my wife and two kids. We were forced to leave because of violence. When we arrived to America I was like a blind man, I didn’t know anything. Catholic Charities helped us apply for the green card because I couldn’t do it by myself. Catholic Charities gave us hope.”
Tarik Alsindy
Family Immigration Client

“Thank you Catholic Charities for helping me make the most important decision in my life. My baby will now grow up in a loving two parent home, as well as knowing me.”
A Birth Mom Life Connections Client

Cristina Pavasars, FIS Counselor and Tarik Alsindy proudly display his Green Card.
Marian House
Soup Kitchen

The Marian House Soup Kitchen provides help for anyone in need. Guests are served a hot, nutritious meal 365 days a year and are offered information on other services available at the Marian House. Over the past year, the soup kitchen has:

- Served 208,288 meals
- 9,212 meals to children
- Worked with over 16,000 volunteers
- 45 volunteers help prepare, serve, and clean-up after the meal every day
- 83,191 volunteer hours valued at $1.7 million
- Used 171 tons of food in daily meal preparation or in food boxes delivered to needy families by Marian House Community Outreach Services

With only a small annual food budget of approximately $45,000, the soup kitchen relies on food donations from the community. Over 95% of all the food used in the soup kitchen is donated.

Marian House
Client Services

In FY 2010/11, Marian House Client Services expanded services to include Financial Literacy and Parenting with Love & Logic classes to help clients move to higher levels of self-sufficiency. Most clients who choose to be in the agency’s Case Management program take the Financial Literacy class as part of the programs requirements.

For the fourth year, VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) was offered to our clients, free of charge, to anyone earning $50,000 or less in family income.

In the Client Services program:

- 3,053 unduplicated clients served
- 30,866 duplicated clients served
- 76 individuals have received case management services
- 26,358 clothing items distributed
- 256 birth certificates and IDs obtained
- 17,133 hygiene items distributed
- 69 individuals have gone through the Financial Literacy program, which was launched in 2010
- Over 200 individuals and families were served through the VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program

“When I finally made the decision to get help at age 44, the Marian House staff knew me and tried to help. Once I stopped drinking, I realized what I was doing and they helped me become the person I wanted to be. Now, I can be a father and a brother again. That’s because of Marian House. If not for Catholic Charities and Marian House, I’d be forever lost.”

Darryl
Marian House Client
Marian House
Community Outreach Services

Marian House Community Outreach Services delivers help with food, clothing, furniture, small appliances and case management to the surrounding community to people who have difficulty accessing our facility for services. The program assists several rural food pantries in Fountain, Southgate, Yoder, Ellicott, Hanover, Leadville as well as one in Colorado Springs. Over the past year, Community Outreach Services has:

- Delivered 29,200 pounds of food
- Delivered 967 furniture items
- Assisted 82 families with food certificates
- Donated 10 vehicles to families in need
- Served 1,080 unduplicated adults & children
- Delivered 29,200 pounds of food
- Delivered 967 furniture items
- Assisted 82 families with food certificates
- Donated 10 vehicles to families in need
- Served 1,080 unduplicated adults & children

In April 2011, the Walmart Foundation awarded Catholic Charities USA with a grant to address rural hunger. Catholic Charities of Central Colorado received $60,000 to purchase a new Community Outreach Services truck to accommodate more deliveries of food and other items to these rural areas.

Marian House Life Support Services

Marian House Life Support Services (LSS) provides help for families with children and pregnant mothers. Clients not only receive essential items such as baby food, diapers & formula, but are able to pick up children’s and maternity clothing to help make ends meet. Case management is an integral part of the program. Assessing the clients needs and determining a plan to move them to a higher level of self-sufficiency can be difficult since the annual average income of LSS families is $7,800. Staff combine resources and expertise to do everything possible to move clients forward in life. In the past fiscal year LSS served 4,400 children and 1,548 adults. They also distributed:

- 7,099 jars of baby food and formula
- 48,449 items of children’s clothing
- 144,108 diapers
- 4,285 items of school supplies
  - 1,377 Birthday Buddy Gifts
  - 172 Layettes

Additionally, 306 families received $74,360 in Project COPE funds administered by LSS. Project COPE was established by Colorado Springs Utilities in March 1983 to assist needy customers of Colorado Springs Utilities pay their utility bills under emergency circumstances. Catholic Charities is just one of several agencies who disperses funds.

Alfreda
Marian House Client

“Catholic Charities helped me realize that I am not a throw-away. I am somebody. I can have a life. I am a person. I am a woman. I am a mother. I am now a medical assistant. Catholic Charities saved my life and my kids’ lives. They gave me help and hope.”

16 17
Parish Social Ministries

Parish Social Ministries (PSM) engages with the local Catholic parishes to support the work of charity and advocacy for vulnerable people both locally and internationally. PSM is the local steward of several national and international programs in our Diocese:

- Operation Rice Bowl
- Catholic Relief Services
- Catholic Campaign for Human Development

A percentage of funds raised through Operation Rice Bowl are then awarded in our diocese in the form of grants. This past year, 4 grants were awarded to:
- Pax Christi’s “Taste of the World To Feed The World” fundraiser
- Our Lady of the Woods Emergency Food & Firewood Center
- St. Gabriel the Archangel’s Adopt A Backpack Program
- St. Dominic’s Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen

During the Fall, PSM hosted a Social Ministry Gathering and conducted monthly outreach meetings with local parishes.

“A Taste of the World to Feed the World” fundraiser was a tremendous success with many local restaurants and parishioners participating the event. Approximately 140 people attended, and we hope to increase awareness to grow this event each year. Thank you Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Charities for awarding this grant.”

A Pax Christi Parishioner

Those attending the “Taste of the World” fundraiser offer samples of food from India, Mexico, and Haiti.

Financials

Operating Revenue: 7/1/2010 - 6/30/2011

$4,369,507

Management, Administration and Fundraising constitute 17.2% of total expenses, as computed using Federal Form 990 (Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax) revenue and expense figures.

For Fiscal Year 2010/2011, actual revenue came to within 1% of budgeted revenue.
Ways to Give

Financial Support
Contributions of any size are deeply appreciated. Send donations to Catholic Charities, 228 North Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO, 80903, or go on-line at www.ccharitiescc.org/donate

Matching Gifts
Does your company match employees’ donations to charitable organizations? Consider asking your employer if there is a matching program in place. You may be able to double the impact of your contribution with a match.

Monthly Giving
Each month, your credit card or bank account will be charged in the designated amount. Your commitment will help reduce poverty among families, children, and seniors throughout the 10 county area we serve.

Bequests
Name Catholic Charities as a beneficiary in your will. In doing so, you will be remembering Catholic Charities in the future. Please consider making Catholic Charities your charity of choice.

In-Kind Giving
Contributions of hard goods are greatly appreciated. Items such as canned food, meat, baby food, formula, diapers, adult clothing, etc., help support all of our programs.

Volunteer
Volunteers provide essential human resources for Catholic Charities and allow us to offer compassionate services to more people in need. Visit us at www.ccharitiescc.org/waystohelp or call 719.636.2345 for more information.

Several programs of Catholic Charities qualify for two special Colorado State Tax credits. To learn more about the El Paso County Enterprise Zone Credit and the Colorado Child Care Contribution Tax Credit, please call us at 719-866-6440.

For more information about Catholic Charities, our programs, donating, volunteering, or this publication, please contact us:

Rochelle Schlortt
Director of Communications
719-866-6443

Janet Hutchinson
Director of Development
719-866-6440

Fr. Michael O’Donnell
Chief Stewardship Officer
719-866-6441

Betsy Finley
Administration
719-866-6422

Catholic Charities of Central Colorado appreciates all of our generous donors and partners. We apologize for any omissions or errors that might have occurred in the development of this Annual Report. Thank you for your continued support, which allows us to serve those in our community who need help the most.