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 2012/2013 fiscal year.

Within twelve months, our community was hit by two major fires, and then significant flooding soon after. Neighbor lifted up neighbor and we saw incredible moments of support in the midst of tragedy and loss.

Once again, Catholic Charities found itself in the privileged place of responding to those in need through feeding, material needs assistance, spiritual and emotional care, and so much more. At the same time, we continued our tremendous service in our daily programs, through which thousands of people in our ten county footprint were helped with food, emergency needs, case management, counseling and adoption support, immigration and language assistance, and myriad referrals.

Please take the time to read about how God’s blessings poured forth from all of the dedicated staff and volunteers that make the work of Catholic Charities possible. The following pages are filled with snapshots of the love that helped to lift people out of despair into hope. We were able to provide important moments of dignity to those who feel the pain that comes with material and spiritual poverty.

We also expanded the reach of Catholic Charities by opening our first regional office in Castle Rock. This outpost in the northern part of our coverage area will be an important center of service to those most in need. Catholic Charities is excited to see this new effort grow and evolve.

What tremendous blessings we see all around us in the work we are humbled to be part of. There is no greater honor than to be Christ’s eyes, hands and feet to those who come to us each day. As the needs of the community change and grow, we thank God each day for the mission he has placed before us.

Thank you to all of you who make the work of Catholic Charities possible. I remain

Yours in Christ’s love,

Mark C. Readyman

Disaster Strikes Again!

In less than 12 months, our community was struck by disaster again with the Black Forest Fires (BFF) and the Cheyenne Mountain/Manitou Springs floods. Once again, Catholic Charities (CC) was on the front lines in the recovery effort. Not only did we join other human service agencies at the El Paso County Disaster Assistance Center, once it closed CC began offering services at various locations in Black Forest.

CC offered gift cards, food, clothing, counseling and emotional support to those affected. A complete and customized list of school supplies was purchased and distributed to 161 children in District 20, from elementary school to high school age, whose families lost everything. In partnership with Our Lady of the Pines Catholic Church, two Out of the Ash events were held where people who were affected by the BFF could attend and receive emotional and spiritual care. Additionally, the Marian House Soup Kitchen provided 2,000 meals to support the fire and police efforts during the fire.

Then came the flooding in Cheyenne Mountain and Manitou Springs as a result of the Waldo Canyon burn scar. Catholic Charities staff worked on site at the Business of Art Center in Manitou Springs, which was opened for agencies to provide services to those affected by the floods. The same services offered to BFF were offered to flood victims. Case management is still being offered to help disaster victims recover.

The most remarkable fact is during this time, CC was seeing record levels of service delivery in both the Marian House Soup Kitchen and Client Services programs. We are very proud of staff and volunteers who were able to juggle daily needs with the demands of the disasters.
Dear Friends,

Catholic Charities of Central Colorado plays a crucial role in the Diocese of Colorado Springs. Catholic Charities brings the love and the hope of Jesus Christ to our most poor and vulnerable brothers and sisters. The Diocese of Colorado Springs donates funds and in-kind services to Catholic Charities so that more than 95% of your donations can go directly to programs in our community.

Last year, the Marian House Soup Kitchen served a record number of people. More than 214,500 meals were provided to individuals who were homeless, living on fixed incomes, and other members of our working poor. The Family Immigration Services program also served a record number of clients, assisting them with a myriad of immigration filings.

Catholic Charities’ Life Connections Program partnered with the Diocesan Respect Life Office to expand its Project Rachel ministry serving those who have been scarred by the pain of abortion. Catholic Charities also played a key part in disaster recovery efforts after the Black Forest fire and the subsequent floods. As we move into 2014, Catholic Charities will continue to reach out to the northern portions of our Diocese, seeking to increase services to even more of those in need. Once again, I would like to thank you, the donors, for making this work possible.

The past year was another year of significant challenges with the fires in Black Forest destroying over 450 homes, the floods in Manitou and surrounding areas, the economy continuing to be a struggle for many in El Paso County, and for the families who are still very much in need of support as they continue to rebuild their lives after the losses they suffered from the Waldo Canyon fires in 2012! However, that did not slow down the staff and volunteers who stepped up in even bigger and better ways than ever before by being able to help those in need. During these extraordinary events, staff underwent and passed with extremely high marks, a Council of Accreditation review; helped an unprecedented number of individuals through our programs, most notably immigration and emergency services; served a record high 214,572 meals in the Marian House Soup Kitchen; and opened a new office located in Castle Rock to provide services to the northern area of our diocese. These outstanding groups of individuals as well as our donors, who continue to share their time and talent as well as their pocketbooks, prove that the mission of Catholic Charities of building solidarity among our most poor and vulnerable brothers and sisters. The hope of Jesus Christ is a crucial role in the Diocese of Central Colorado.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors for Catholic Charities of Central Colorado, the many individuals who engage in prayer for the ministry if we come together to pray. I would also like to thank Marcy Tuthill, a floral mural painted by Elisa, a client of Marian House Life Support Services; and a mural painted by St. Mary High School National Art Honor Society students.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Michael J. Sheridan
Bishop of Colorado Springs

On behalf of the Board of Directors for Catholic Charities of Central Colorado, I would like to thank the extremely hard working staff and volunteers for another year of service to our clients and to our Lord. And, I would like to thank you, the donors, for making this work possible.

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**Financials & Program Highlights**

- **Catholic Charities’ Castle Rock** office continues to expand services in the northern part of our diocese. Services offered are community outreach, food baskets (in partnership with St. Vincent de Paul), English as a Second Language classes, and other services as needed.

- **Life Connections** organized a state-wide Project Rachel Training which was attended by almost 160 people resulting in more groups ready to help women and men recovering from the effects of an abortion.

- **Life Connections** expanded its counseling services beyond pregnancy counseling to include families and individuals. The program, called Pathways, combined with pregnancy related counseling, provided 1,673 hours of counseling and education services.

- **Family Immigration Services** served 713 immigrants utilizing 58 volunteers with 3,095 service hours. Sixty-five green card and citizenship applications were filed, along with providing 356 consultations and 697 follow-on or walk-in appointments.

- 161 adults participated in 8,315 hours of English as a Second Language instruction taught by 27 volunteer teachers. Additionally, 96 children received 3,402 hours of literacy-based childcare.

- **Marian House Soup Kitchen** served more meals than ever before: 214,572 meals.

- **Marian House Community Outreach Services** delivered 659 food boxes, 86 gas vouchers, and 227 furniture items to 889 adults and 953 children.

- **Marian House Client Services** provided 38,046 services including clothing, mail, and phone access.

- **Marian House Life Support Services** provided 10,862 children and 3,688 adults with clothing, baby food & formula, diapers & wipes, school supplies, books, and gifts/toys.

- **Parish Social Ministries**, which facilitates the CCHD grant program in our area, awarded grants to Fostering Hope to sponsor a team for a foster family, and to Bike Clinic Too, which delivered 140 quality bicycles to homeless and poor people as well as repairing 304 bicycles.

**Poverty calls us to sow hope…. Poverty is the flesh of the poor Jesus, in that child who is hungry, in the one who is sick, in those unjust social structures.” Pope Francis**

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**Catholic Charities of Central Colorado**

228 North Cascade Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80903 - (719) 636-2345 & 2746 Fifth Street, Castle Rock, CO 80104 (720) 215-4521

www.ccharitiescc.org