Catholic Charities welcomed volunteers for the annual CityServe Day which is a citywide day of service. At the Marian House, volunteers served the daily meal to families and individuals in need, while others participated in a painting and landscaping project. Family Connections welcomed families for games, food, and fun at a free Family Fall Festival at the Helen Hunt Campus. Each year over 90,000 volunteer hours are given to Catholic Charities by volunteers throughout the community. Thank you for your service!
This past October was as cold as any that I remember. Winter has arrived and it was early. While snow and the cold may be good for school children and skiers, it is ruthless for our homeless brothers and sisters. Catholic Charities Marian House opens at 8 a.m. as a warming shelter anytime the temperature is below freezing. This past month, as the rest of the city was slowing down to let the storms pass, our staff and volunteers were braving the elements to ensure there was a warm place to sit, and a warm meal to eat.

One day during a snowstorm, I thanked a volunteer for making it out on the icy roads and she replied, “We are called to be the hands and feet of Christ regardless of the weather.” I imagine those reading this column have heard the “hands and feet of Christ” reference before in relation to works of charity. The hands and feet of our guests are the first place that the brutal cold attacks.

If we are, as Paul writes in his letter to the Corinthians, all individually part of God’s body, then being there on those cold mornings is so much more than serving. It is solidarity. Using our warmed hands and feet, in turn, to warm the hands and feet of the least of our brothers and sisters. Fighting the freezing cold with God’s love and loving our neighbor as we love ourselves. As an agency, Catholic Charities is working hard to address the big systems and root causes of poverty and homelessness.

The most impactful image of hands and feet on the freezing mornings at the Marian House were not of those who were coming in out of the cold. It was the numbed toes of those who walked from a tent or shelter. Or the man wearing duct tape shoes that may have been a serviceable replacement early in October, but were dangerously unsuitable for snow and slush. The image of hands was dominated by the freezing fingers that reached for a warm bowl of soup. The man who carried his tray to me between his elbows and asked if I could take it for him upon which he revealed his right hand, finger nails torn and missing; finger tips cracked and cut. Discolored and motionless, curled inward like the body of a dead spider. “I can’t use it,” he said, solemnly.

The hands and the feet of our guests are the first place that the brutal cold attacks.

The most direct source comes, perhaps, from 1 Corinthians 12:27, "Now you are God’s body, and individually parts of it."

My first thought at hearing her response was of the workers who had come on that wintry day to serve the daily meal. People who were blessed with a warm home and a hot meal coming to Marian House to care for those who did not. The “hands and feet of Christ” doing His work among our poor. But as I watched the cold mornings of the week unfold at the Marian House, I came to a deeper understanding of the meaning and power behind that response.

The most impactful image of hands and feet on the freezing mornings at the Marian House were not of those who are serving or cooking; it was of those who were coming in out of the cold. It was the numbed toes of those who walked from a tent or shelter. Or the man wearing duct tape shoes that may have been a serviceable replacement early in October, but were dangerously unsuitable for snow and slush.

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If we are, as Paul writes in his letter to the Corinthians, all individually part of God’s body, then being there on those cold mornings is so much more than serving. It is solidarity. Using our warmed hands and feet, in turn, to warm the hands and feet of the least of our brothers and sisters. Fights the freezing cold with God’s love and loving our neighbor as we love ourselves. As an agency, Catholic Charities is working hard to address the big systems and root causes of poverty and homelessness.

That is important and strategic work and the best way to start moving the needle in this battle. However, winter’s arrival reminds us that, until we are successful or someone else steps in to do it, we are here to save lives by providing shelter, feeding the hungry, and clothing the naked. Your support helps keep the doors open, particularly on these snow days. Thank you for the ways in which you stand in solidarity with us and with our poor and vulnerable, serving as the hands and feet of Christ.
IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions

If you are over age 70 1/2 and required to take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA account, you can lessen your taxable income while supporting the work of your favorite charities! Please consider making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to Catholic Charities today.

Support through Transferring Stock

Sustain the work you believe in through a gift of stock to Catholic Charities of Central Colorado. Making a charitable donation of stock allows you to avoid capital gains and still receive a tax deduction based on the value of your gift. Your gift can be designated to a program of your choice or remain unrestricted to be used where needed most. Donations made to Catholic Charities’ Marian House programs may also qualify for the Enterprise Zone State Tax Credit (please call for special instructions).

For more information on IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions and donations of stock, including instructions before the transfer is made, please contact Sarah Tremmel at (719) 866-6440 or STremmel@CCharitiesCC.org.

Donations for State Income Tax Credits

In addition to the IRS charitable deduction, your donations may qualify for two Colorado State Income Tax Credits.

Marian House programs (25% El Paso County Enterprise Zone):

Donations by check of $250 or more supporting Marian House Programs qualify for this 25% state income tax credit. Checks must be payable to El Paso County Enterprise Zone, noting Marian House on the check memo line. If this is your first donation through EPC Enterprise Zone, please also note the last 4 digits of the primary tax payer’s SSN.

Child Care Contribution (50% Colorado state income tax credit):

Check and credit card donations are accepted, no minimum amount required. Checks must be payable to Catholic Charities, noting “Child Care Contribution” in the memo line. You may also donate online at CCharitiesCC.org/Donate and choose the supporting agency.

Please mail all checks to Catholic Charities, 228 N. Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903. If you have questions, please contact Betsy Finley at (719) 866-6422 or efinley@CCharitiesCC.org.

Calculating the RMD (ex. $15,000)

Make a QDC to Catholic Charities (ex. $10,000)

Your taxable income is lessened by your QDC amount:

Example taxable income now only $5,000

What a Difference a DAY makes!

10/1 In Thanks to Saints Joseph & Judie for Their Intercession Again
10/3 Celebrating our Mission of Healing & Hope
10/5 Today’s Meal is Sponsored by St. Patrick’s Food Pantry
10/9 Today’s Meal is in Memory of Christopher Thomas Barta
10/10 Today’s Meal is in Honor of our Police & Firefighters
10/17 Today’s Meal is Sponsored by Ford Motor Credit
10/24 Today’s Meal is sponsored by Maj. Gen. Ray O’Mara USAF; Ret & Carol O’Mara
10/26 In Loving Memory of WM & Ernestine Kellerhaus 62 Years of Love & Faith
10/27 Today’s Meal is Sponsored by Exigo Corporation
11/2 Grandma Mary Lacaway Turns 92 Today!
11/2 Whatever You Do for Least of These Brothers & Sisters of Mine
11/4 Today’s Meal is in Honor of Maria & Maria Eldrondo’s Wedding Anniversary
11/10 Today’s Meal is in Honor of our Seminarians
11/22 Today’s Meal is Sponsored by Maj. Gen. Ray O’Mara USAF; Ret & Carol O’Mara
11/25 Giving Thanks for all of God’s Blessings
11/30 Today’s Meal is Sponsored by Story Coffee Company

For just $1,500, you can provide more than 600 meals to families and individuals who are hungry.
**News**

**Donate Your Vehicle**

Catholic Charities’ Castle Rock and Family Connections programs are in need of vehicles in good working condition. Your donation will help move families and individuals toward stability and financial security.

Call 720.215.4521
https://www.ccharitiescc.org/donate/donate-material-goods/

**Combined Federal Campaign & Colorado Combined Campaign**

CFC and CCC are both government employee giving programs. CFC and CCC are both government programs.

To learn more, visit https://CFCGiving.opm.gov/welcome or Colorado.gov/ColoradoCombinedCampaign.

**FREE PARENTING CLASSES**

Family Services at the Helen Hunt Campus has expanded its parenting and early childhood development classes to include Parental Nurturing, Love and Logic and more. Classes are free and open to the public.

Call 719-309-2968
www.CCharitiesCC.org/family-services/

**VACCINATION CLINICS**

Care and resources are provided to clients every day through partnerships with Penrose-St. Francis Health Services, SET Clinic/Peak Vista, AspenPointe and CHP/Medicaid at the Marian House. Throughout the winter months, we will be providing flu shots, Hepatitis A vaccines and other health care services at a trusted site.

For More Info: 719-475-7314
https://www.coloradogives.org/CatholicCharitiesofCentralColorado/overview

**JOBS SKILLS CLASS OFFERINGS EXPANDED!**

The Hanifen Employment Center offers a number of classes at no cost to clients and guests. Four classes are offered most months, each with an emphasis on critical skills needed for success in the workplace.

Classes Include:
- Soft Skills, Budgeting, Computer Skills, Interviewing and more!

CALL 719-866-6445
CCharitiesCC.org/HEC/

**CURRENT VOLUNTEER NEEDS**

Volunteers are always needed for Marian House Soup Kitchen shifts:
- Mon. - Sat. - 7 a.m. - 10 a.m prep
- Mon. - Sat. 10 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

&
- Mon. - Sat. 7 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

We also need volunteers for a number of other programs and projects!

Call 719-866-6559 or email Volunteeroffice@CCharitiesCC.org
To Get Involved
CCharitiesCC.org/Volunteer

**COLD-WEATHER GEAR NEEDED!**

As the weather gets colder, our clients are in need of chemical hand warmers, gloves, coats, scarves, boots, hats & more. Donations can be dropped off at 14 W. Bijou St. from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

For more information or to help, go to www.CCharitiesCC.org/donate

**Catholic Charities of Central Colorado**

Providing Help. Creating Hope.

**LAS POSADAS**

December 13, 2019
6 PM - 9 PM

You are invited to the annual Las Posadas Christmas pilgrimage to honor the journey of the holy family and of immigrant families throughout the world. We will begin this traditional Hispanic celebration at the Marian House Hanifen Employment Center, next to the soup kitchen (14 W. Bijou St.). After the procession, we will end at the Marian House Soup Kitchen and enjoy great food, dancing and celebration.

For more information & to register, go to http://bit.ly/LasPosadasEvent

**CAREERS**

Want a career helping people at a trusted non-profit in Colorado Springs? Check us out!

CCharitiesCC.org/Employment

**EMPTY STOCKING FUND**

The Empty Stocking Fund has Holiday activities scheduled throughout December where you can enjoy the community holiday events AND support charity. From parades to tree lighting, to enjoying the lights at Seven Falls, there is something for everyone. To support the 20 participating Health and Human Service charities in our community, attend one of the events, or make a donation. For more information, go to EmptyStockingFundCO.org

**FOLLOW OUR BLOG!**

The Catholic Charities Blog is a collection of work and ideas from our Catholic Charities team.

CCharitiesCC.org/Blog

**DONATE ONLINE**

Donate Online @ CCharitiesCC.Org/Donate
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.

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At Catholic Charities, we respect everyone who comes to us for help. Many are working toward a fresh start in life. So while their stories are true, client names and images may have changed to protect their privacy.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY MAKING A GIFT

SPECIAL STATE INCOME TAX CREDITS
Enterprise Zone 25%
Check donations to Marian House of $250 or more
Child Care Contribution 50%
Donations to Child Care Contribution or Life Connections

GIFT SOCIETIES
• Caritas Society ($10,000/year)
• 1968 Founders Society ($1,968+/year)

OTHER WAYS
• IRA Distributions, Stocks/Securities
• Sponsor-A-Day at Marian House
• Tribute Gifts – In Honor or Memory
• Planned Giving or Estate Planning
• Employer Matching Gifts

MONETARY DONATIONS & TAX CREDITS:
719-866-6422 or 719-866-6440

MATERIAL DONATIONS
Food: Spoons, snack bars, ground beef, hot chocolate, spices, canned vegetables, nondairy (powdered) coffee creamer
Infants & Children: Size 1-5 diapers; baby food, NEW children’s underwear (sizes 3T-8), new small toys for Birthday Buddies
Home & Transportation: Dishes, pots & pans, working vehicles, grocery store, bus pass and gas gift cards
Clothing & Essentials: NEW XL+ sweatshirts & hoodies, Men’s/women’s underwear, gloves, beanie caps, blankets, toiletries, chemical handwarmers, socks.

Drop donations at the Marian House Dock
Monday - Saturday, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

MATERIAL GOODS: 719-866-6550
VEHICLES: 720-215-4521

THANK YOU GRANTORS!
4th Judicial District VALE
El Paso County FEMA Phase 36
Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities
T Rowe Price Foundation
US Bank Foundation
USAA Foundation
Walmart Community Grants

Colorado Springs Office
228 North Cascade Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
T: 719-636-2345 F: 719-636-1216

Castle Rock Office
410 S. Wilcox Street, Suite 102
Castle Rock, CO 80104
T: 720-215-4521

The Marian House
14 West Bijou Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
T: 719-475-7314 F: 719-633-0289

Helen Hunt Campus
917 E. Moreno Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
T: 719-578-1222