

HELPING HANDS

Quarterly Newsletter of Catholic Charities of Central Colorado

Volume 54

Issue 1


OUT OF RETIREMENT RETURNING ONE LAST TIME



The **Annual St. Patrick's Day Gala** is Catholic Charities premier fundraising event. It is a time to celebrate the successes of our clients and the agency, come together with old friends, and support the work of Catholic Charities.

Having been virtual these past two years, we are particularly excited for the 21st gathering - **back in person at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort**. As always, we will be waiting to welcome you with a complimentary glass of Champagne, ready to guide you to the Silent Auction where you will find a plethora of goodies on which to bid. Then at 7 p.m., join us in the main ballroom for dinner, a video presentation, and our

Live Auction featuring dinners, trips, and one-of-a-kind items. Devin Montagne has agreed to come out of retirement to paint a portrait - one last time - during our event. We can't tell you what the painting will be, but it will not disappoint! Dianne Derby will be our host for the evening, and Kevin Patterson will show mastery conducting the Live Auction.

Murphy Constructors will once again host  for all who want to dance the night away after the main event! Get your tickets now by visiting www.CCharitiesCC.org/StPatsGala. It's going to be the event of the season!

***Join Us for the 21st Annual St. Pat's Gala!
March 12, 2022 - Back in Person !!***

From the CEO: Andy Barton

Client Profile



***"We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers, unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ, before our God and Father."
(1 Thessalonians 1:2-3)***

Thank You...

In seven years of writing these introductions, I have never led with that sentiment. It should be the opening of every installment. Unless you are my mom (who reads my column for obvious reasons), the fact that you might be reading these words right now means that you have supported Catholic Charities and the people we serve in some meaningful way. You have made our mailing list because you volunteered, donated, or prayed for this ministry. Most of you reading have probably done all three.

We are coming out of the year-end philanthropy rush. Like most not-for-profits that rely on charitable giving, we receive over half of our annual funding in November and December. We were humbled once again in 2021 by the outpouring of support. Amid the uncertainty, frustration, and hardships of this past year, charitable giving never wavered. Your gifts will allow us to continue serving our poor and vulnerable in the months and year to come. Every gift of every amount makes a profound impact.

The end of year is also a time when we see an outpouring of love from so many of you who work to bring the joy of the holidays to those who are struggling. I stopped by the Marian House Kitchen on Thanksgiving Day just before the meal was served and was greeted by the always smiling volunteers eagerly waiting to welcome the day's guests. As I joined Father Chance Billmeyer in putting out placemats decorated by the elementary school students at St. Paul, I reflected on the many ways you, dear reader, work to make love of neighbor a reality every day of the year.

So many of our neighbors desperately need our love. Recently, while at a gas station in the bitter cold predawn of a day between Christmas and New Year's Day, I watched as a man wrapped in layers of coats and sleeping bags walked in the middle of the street toward oncoming traffic. Drivers honked their horns and veered around him. He plodded forward. By the time I was done, he had disappeared into the shadows of a railroad track. It was a reminder of the impossible pain of homelessness.

When I started in this job, I honestly believed we could end homelessness. It was a naïve opinion based on an oversimplified conception of the issues and a fundamental lack of understanding. While I still believe we must do everything to make sure our neighbors have a place to live, food to eat, and basic comforts, I have learned that homelessness is exceedingly easier to prevent than it is to end. I have learned that sometimes, eye contact and a smile is the greatest gift you can give. I have learned there is great payoff from perseverance and grit. I have learned to appreciate the hope that is born from people who want to help.

If you are reading this (thanks for reading, mom), you are one of the many who give hope. My mom has volunteered at the Marian House and makes a charitable gift every month. She is an amazing participant in the care of our community, just like you.

You are Catholic Charities. And for the thousands of people this ministry will help in the coming year, you are a blessing.

Thank you.

"I am making the changes to get the life I have dreamed of."



HENRI CHANGES THE TRAJECTORY OF HIS LIFE

Henri has seen more than anyone should in his relatively short 36 years. Born three months premature to a mother addicted to crack cocaine and codeine, he was one of nine children - 5 of which were given up to the state. His mother, father, grandmother, and several siblings have all spent time in prison mainly due to drug-related issues. By the time he was 20 years old, he had lost his older brother and mother to drug overdose.

Given his rough beginning, it is no surprise that Henri fell into drugs, spent time in prison, and roamed the county looking for something to give his life meaning. He tried his hand at being an apprentice under a chef and enjoyed it, but before he was able to get established, his grandmother became ill and had no one to care for her. Henri was on probation for a marijuana possession charge but was able to get permission to leave the state to help her. Because he stayed longer than had been approved, an arrest warrant was issued, and he spent two years in prison.

He returned to Colorado, got clean, and was admitted to a halfway-house. He was behind in his rent and needed

help to stay housed. That is when he found Catholic Charities Marian House. He began working with several case managers who provided rental assistance to maintain housing, employment guidance and help with job search, and moral support. Henri received help updating his resume and was given a list of employers who the staff knew were "felon-friendly" - many of whom had attended a job fair especially for those previously incarcerated in October 2021.

This support opened new doors for Henri, who is now gainfully employed, putting funds into a savings account, has purchased a car, and secured an apartment. He even has a dog. He says, "It has not been easy, but I finally feel like I am making the changes to get the life I have dreamed of. I even got a better, higher-paying job. Life is good."

Catholic Charities Hanifen Employment Center is currently seeking a volunteer teacher for a new class: Navigating Employment Using the Internet, which is 90 minutes and will be offered monthly. If you are interested, please apply here via email: volunteer@CCharitiesCC.org.

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.

Providing Help. Creating Hope.



I CARE.

I CARE FOR MY DAUGHTER, MY NEIGHBORS, AND MYSELF.

Catholic Charities of Central Colorado

Ivvy cares about her family and has worked to overcome the odds. With support from people like you, she has a stable income, a home, and daycare for her daughter. Her family is thriving.

Help us, help each other. Visit CCharitiesCC.Org to find out how you can change lives.

GIVE HOPE. RISE.

Marian House Marketplace Hits the Spot

Distributes Safeway Cards/Food For Holidays And Beyond



During Thanksgiving and Christmas, Safeway Stores asked their customers to support local nonprofits through their Turkey and Santa Bucks program. Here in Colorado Springs, two stores supported nutrition services at the Marian House. They provided 886, \$50 Safeway gift cards to struggling families and individuals who rely on the Marian House for food support. That is over \$44,000 in grocery items that go directly into the homes of struggling families in our community.

"We're proud to partner with Catholic Charities to address hunger issues in our community," said Kris Staaf, Sr. Director of Public Affairs for Safeway's Denver Division." We hope these

gift cards will give our neighbors the dignity of choice to fill their holiday tables with their family's traditions. Some people may want a spaghetti dinner instead of turkey, and the cards allow choice."

Ms. Staaf also said the cards are good for hygiene needs, baby products, and more. The only things that cannot be purchased with the card are tobacco and alcohol.

With the county experiencing over 6% inflation (Dec. 10, 2021, U.S. Labor Department statistics), these \$50 grocery cards combined with monthly shopping at the Marian House Marketplace is making a significant impact on food stability for the people served by Catholic Charities.

Since opening the pantry in Feb. 2021, over 150,590 pounds of food has been distributed to families who not only choose the foods their family likes to eat, but prepares the meals in their own homes. Each family receives about 10 days of food at each monthly visit.

To donate food to the Marian House Marketplace, drop donations at the Marian House - 14 West Bijou Street - at the west dock between 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., or visit smile.amazon.com and select Catholic Charities as your charity. Then choose from the list of needed items.

Castle Rock Office Continues to Thrive

Expands Rental Assistance and Offers DHS Support On Site

After many months of helping people stay in their homes through the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (government-funded COVID relief assistance), the program is changing criteria, being extended through February 2022, and being renamed to the "Pathways to Employment Assistance Program." Participants with household income of less than 50% of the Area Median Income will be referred to Arapahoe/Douglas Works! (A/D Works!) - the workforce center for Douglas County - before they are eligible for rent and utility assistance.

If funding beyond February is approved by Douglas County, clients will likely be required to have engagement with A/D Works! or possibly the local community college to access funds. This will allow Catholic Charities to work with these clients more intensively,

creating Care Plans for many of the families applying for rental assistance. It will also give families an opportunity to engage and work on other measures that can ultimately increase their stability.

The Family Day Center of Douglas County (FCDC) located at Catholic Charities continues to expand, helping families with case management and wrap-around services reach stability as quickly as possible. A Family Support Coach with Douglas County Human Services will soon be joining the FCDC. The collaborative position will provide an opportunity for families seeking services from both agencies to receive more synergistic support from both organizations in one location. The position is fully funded by DHS as part of its child maltreatment prevention efforts.

Providing Help. Creating Hope.



WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DAY MAKES!

Thank You to our 4th Quarter Sponsors

- 10/03 In Loving Memory of Tio Manuel Paz Muñoz
- 10/05 "All Things Pass," in memory of Aunt Mary Corbett on her birthday
- 10/09 In Memory of Christopher Thomas Barta
- 10/10 In Honor of our Police & Firefighters
- 10/14 In Memory of Helen & George Marvin
- 10/2 Sponsored by St. Joseph Catholic Church
- 10/29 In Memory of George "Shorty" Roth Busy Hands/ Happy Hands
- 11/06 Sponsored by St. Patrick's Food Pantry Ministry
- 11/11 Thank you, vets! Enjoy your meal
- 11/14 In honor of Maria & Mario Elizondo's wedding anniversary
- 11/17 In Memory of George "Shorty" Roth Busy Hands/ Happy Hands
- 11/22 In memory of Terry Hoff, loving dad and grandpa
- 11/2 Sponsored by BOK Financial
- 11/24 In Thanksgiving to Saint Jude for his intercession
- 11/25 Thankful for All God's Blessings
- 11/27 Sponsored by Story Coffee Company
- 11/29 In Honor of All the Volunteers Who Serve in the Soup Kitchen
- 11/30 Sponsored by UnitedHealthcare Medicare Solutions
- 12/2 In honor of our seminarians
- 12/3 In loving memory of those we have loved and lost
- 12/4 Sponsored by St. Patrick's Food Pantry Ministry
- 12/11 Sponsored by Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church
- 12/1 Sponsored by Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church
- 12/15 Sponsored by Maj. Gen. Ray O'Mara USAF Ret. and Carole O'Mara
- 12/17 Thank you Addie, Zac, Bryce, Cole, Maddie, and Ruby!
- 12/21 Sponsored by Monarch Mountain
- 12/23 In memory of Dolores A. Barrowman
- 12/24 In loving memory of Richard P. Pechotta. Love always, Linda
- 12/25 Christ our Savior is born this day! Merry Christmas!
- 12/26 In memory of Margaret Gebhart Leiferman - Elkton, SD. Dec 21-1921-Aug 20, 2001
- 12/27 "Much to be thankful for"
- 12/2 In memory of Cliff & Phyllis Kirst and Carlos & Toni Aguirre
- 12/30 Best wishes for a healthy and happy new year!



So Many Ways
to Support the
Work You
Know and
Love!

Cumulative Enterprise Zone (EZ) Donations

Offering more flexibility with this 25% state income tax credit program, donors can participate in our in-house Enterprise Zone cumulative donation program by making donations totaling \$250+ by year-end (minimum of \$25 per gift). You must "opt in" to this rolling donation program by checking the appropriate box in the online donation form or by contacting the Advancement Team. Read more about the EZ State Tax Credit at CCharitiesCC.org/EnterpriseZoneTaxCredit.

Recurring Donations

Recurring online gifts are a great way to ensure your continued support for all-year impact! Recurring gifts conveniently deduct automatically and ensure your continued support without the hassle. To set up a regularly recurring donation, please visit CCharitiesCC.org/Donate or contact the Advancement Team.

Other Giving Vehicles

Did you know that Catholic Charities can accept gifts of stock or IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions? Visit CCharitiesCC.org for more information or contact our team today to find out more!

Contact with our Advancement Team at 719.866.6539
or email: development@CCharitiesCC.org

Sponsor a Day

For just \$1,500, you can provide more than just a meal and essential services to families and individuals in need. You can provide hope. Call 719-866-6529 to Sponsor a Day at Marian House or email SponsorADay@CCharitiesCC.org

Donate Online @ CCharitiesCC.org/Donate



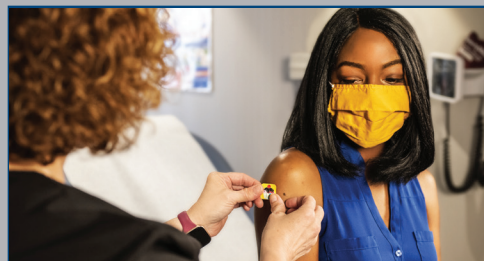
**Donate Your Car or Truck.
Change a Life!**



It may be old to you, but your car gives families a second chance!

**Call 720-215-4521 in Castle Rock:
719-866-6549 in Colorado Springs
or visit**

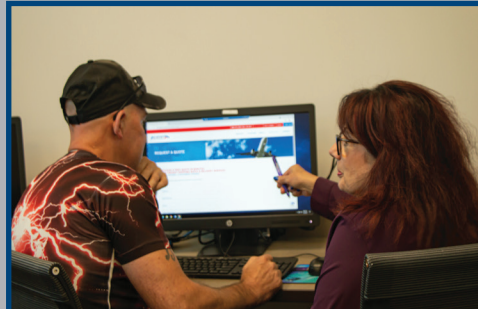
CCharitiesCC.org/DonateYourVehicle



**NEED A VACCINATIONS?
WE CAN HELP!**

The Governor's Vaccination Bus is scheduled to be at Marian House on:
**Wednesday, February 9 & March 2
10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

All COVID vaccines will be available, including the booster, child vaccine, and flu shots. For more information, go to <https://covid19.colorado.gov/vaccine>



GET HELP WITH JOB SKILLS

The **Hanifen Employment Center** is open and staff is working with clients by appointment, online, via email, and by phone to offer skills assistance and job search help. Look for our classes and Job Fairs!

**Improve you employment today!
Call 719-866-6445
or Email Jobs@CCharitiesCC.org**

CCharitiesCC.org/HEC

ST. PAT'S GALA SPONSORS



Presenting Sponsor

Associate Sponsors

The Diocese of Colorado Springs Penrose-St. Francis Health Services
Ent Credit Union UnitedHealthcare

Gold Sponsors

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The Faricy Boys V3Gate, LLC

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In-Kind Sponsor

Dianne Derby
Kevin Patterson
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The Gazette

Thank You Sponsors!



TAKE A "TOUCH THE NEED" TOUR

**First Friday of the Month
at Catholic Charities**

**Family Connections: 9 a.m.
917 E. Moreno Avenue**

**Marian House Campus 10 a.m.
14 W. Bijou Street
Register at:**

CCharitiesCC.org/Tours

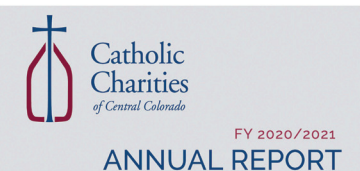
**FOOD INSECURE?
SHOP AT THE MARKETPLACE!**

The **Marketplace** allows families to shop - at no cost - for a variety of healthy food options to cook at home. Hours of operation are:

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday
1:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.**

It is easy to sign up. Simply contact us:

**Email Pantry@CCharitiesCC.org
or Call 719-866-6288**



VIEW OUR ANNUAL REPORT
CCharitiesCC.org/AnnualReport

**FOLLOW OUR
BLOG!**



The Catholic Charities Blog is a collection of work and ideas from our Catholic Charities team. Check It Out!

CCharitiesCC.org/Blog



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There are many opportunities to volunteer at Catholic Charities. With over 70 programs and services, delivered from four facilities, in two Colorado cities, volunteers are always welcomed.

**Call 719-866-6281, or Email
Volunteer@CCharitiesCC.org
To Get Involved**

CCharitiesCC.org/Volunteer

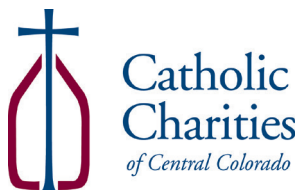


BABY FOOD NEEDED

Jars of baby food and cereal are needed for **Family Connections** families. Donations can be dropped off at:
14 W. Bijou St. M-Sat, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
More Info? Call 719-578-1222

Contact Us

Castle Rock Office:	croffice@CCharitiesCC.org
Catholic Charities Counseling:	counselinginfo@CCharitiesCC.org
Donations:	development@CCharitiesCC.org
ESL & Citizenship:	esl-citizenship@CCharitiesCC.org
Family Connections:	FamilyServices@CCharitiesCC.org
Family Immigration Services:	immigration@CCharitiesCC.org
Hanifen Employment Center:	jobs@CCharitiesCC.org
Marian House Client Services:	help@CCharitiesCC.org
Marketplace Food Pantry:	pantry@CCharitiesCC.org
Sponsor a Day:	sponsoraday@CCharitiesCC.org
Volunteer:	volunteer@CCharitiesCC.org



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Colorado Springs, CO 80903

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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.

HELPING HANDS is published in Feb., May, Sept., & Dec.
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Family Resource
Center Association
Connecting Resources, Impacting Lives



www.CCharitiesCC.org
info@CCharitiesCC.org



MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY MAKING A GIFT

STATE INCOME TAX CREDITS

Enterprise Zone 25%

Donations to Marian House and
Family Connections of \$250 or more

Child Care Contribution 50%

OTHER WAYS

- IRA Distributions, Stocks/Securities
- Sponsor a Day at Marian House
- Tribute Gifts – In Honor or Memory
- Planned or Legacy Giving
- Employer Matching Gifts
- Donor-Advised Funds

MONETARY DONATIONS & TAX CREDITS:
719-866-6539 or 719-866-6440

MATERIAL DONATIONS

Food: Bottles of water, snack bars, ground beef, hot chocolate, large bottles of spices, canned vegetables, powdered coffee creamer

Castle Rock: snacks, cereal, pasta sauce, crackers

Infants & Children: Sizes newborn, 4, 5, 6 diapers; baby food, formula, maternity & NEW baby clothes, new baby bottles, gently used kids shoes, and new toys ages 2 and under

Home & Transportation: working vehicles, grocery store gift cards, bus pass and gas gift cards

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

Drop Castle Rock donations M - F, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

MATERIAL GOODS: 719-866-6550
VEHICLES: 720-215-4521 Castle Rock
719.866.6549 Colorado Springs

THANK YOU GRANTORS!

Buell Foundation
CDHS - Family Support Services
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Inasmuch Foundation
Mabel Horrigan Foundation
4th Judicial District 2022 VALE

VISION STATEMENT

To transform lives through relationships
that build individual resiliency and
thriving communities

VALUES

Trust, Love, Service, Grit, Boldness, Solidarity

CCHARITIESCC.ORG/DONATE

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