

VITA

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance at the Marian House

NEED TAX HELP?

VITA Central (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) is now available at the Penrose Library on Wednesday - Friday from Feb. 1 - April 15 for free tax preparation for households earning \$60,000 or less. This is the same team and service that has prepared taxes at the Marian House for many years.

To schedule an appointment, simply go to <https://vitacentralcs.as.me/schedule.php> or call 719.208.7775 and leave a message.



FEELING LOW? ANXIOUS?

You are not alone.

Our Counseling Services provide a safe place to work through whatever it is that you are facing. We help you grow into the person you are meant to be.

To schedule an appointment, call 719.866.6535 or email CounselingInfo@CCharitiesCC.org



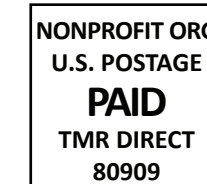
CASTLE ROCK PARTNERS WITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO HELP CHILDREN AT CHRISTMAS

The second grade class at Buffalo Ridge Elementary (76 students) partnered with Catholic Charities Castle Rock office to "Pay it Forward" and provide a happy Christmas for three families that were part of the Christmas Giving Tree program.

Overall, Castle Rock helped 152 families, including 416 children, in Douglas, Elbert, and Park counties this holiday season.



Catholic Charities of Central Colorado
228 North Cascade Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903



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.

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

Values: Trust, Love, Service, Grit, Boldness, Solidarity

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Marian House Client Services:	Help@CCharitiesCC.org
Marketplace Food Pantry:	Pantry@CCharitiesCC.org
Sponsor a Day:	SponsorADay@CCharitiesCC.org
Volunteer:	Volunteer@CCharitiesCC.org

Careers Want a career helping people at a trusted nonprofit in Colorado Springs? Check us out!
CCharitiesCC.org/Employment

"TOUCH THE NEED" TOURS

First Friday of the Month
Family Connections: 9 a.m.
917 E. Moreno Avenue

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

Register at:

CCharitiesCC.org/Tours

FOLLOW OUR BLOG!

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

CCharitiesCC.org/Blog

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
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HELPING HANDS

Quarterly Newsletter of Catholic Charities of Central Colorado

Volume 55

Issue 1

We're Changing our Party - Just a Little!



Friday, March 17, 2023

Cheyenne Mountain Resort

6 - 9 pm

Tickets at:

CCharitiesCC.org/ShamrockShindig

The St. Patrick's Day Gala is now the *Shamrock Shindig!* And, this year we will **celebrate on St. Patrick's Day - Friday, March 17, 2023!**

There will be live & paddle auctions, time to socialize with your friends, and enjoy adult beverages! The Pub atmosphere will allow guests to serve themselves a variety of Irish food including a *Build-Your-Own Reuben* station with mustard, cabbage, and rolls; a *Mashed Potato Bar* to create your own *Shepherd's Pie*, or serve as *Bangers & Mash*. There will be a *Pretzel & Cheese station* along with a *Ploughman's /Crudité Platter!*

The Shindig will be held at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort on the main floor in the Centennial Ballroom. Make your reservations now as we anticipate this event will sell out!

Questions? Call us at 719.866.6539

Presenting Sponsor



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Thank You, Sponsors!

Join Us for the Annual St. Patrick's Day Event:
The Shamrock Shindig, Friday, March 17, 2023



CAN YOU HELP WITH BABY ITEMS?

Wipes and diapers of all sizes are needed, but particularly sizes 4 - 6. Donations can be dropped off at:

14 W. Bijou St. M-Sat, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
More Info? Call 719-578-1222

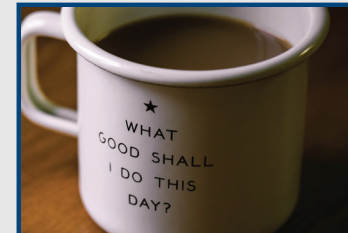
Donate Your Car or Truck. Change a Life!



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

CCharitiesCC.org/DonateYourVehicle



VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Volunteers are needed in many programs!

Visit us at:
CCharitiesCC.org/
Volunteer or call
719-866-6286



From the CEO: Andy Barton

**“Only, we were to be mindful of the poor, which is the very thing I was eager to do.”
Galatians 2:10”**

Elementary School into 24 units of stable housing for homeless parents and children. Our community has excellent family housing providers (most notably Partner’s in Housing who will be our partner at Hunt), but we do not have enough of the housing inventory. No child should grow up homeless. No community should stand by and allow it to happen.

The legacy of the Franciscan Sisters is alive in even more direct ways through our work to expand access to physical and behavioral health care. **In July of this year, we will combine with Franciscan Community Counseling to help maintain and expand availability for behavioral health services in Central Colorado.** By joining with the highly regarded counseling service, founded by those same Sisters of St. Francis, we will be able to serve more of our poor and vulnerable with behavioral health services that are needed now more than ever in our community.

Early next year we hope to complete a renovation at the Marian House that will allow Centura’s Family S.E.T. Clinic to relocate onto the campus. This expansion of the services already being provided by Penrose-St. Francis on-site will bring a one-of-a-kind model of care to our poor and vulnerable. Health care that integrates physical care with behavioral health and dental services has demonstrated exceptional outcomes for people. This partnership between Catholic Charities and the hospital system that the Franciscan Sisters founded in 1887 will add support for the social determinants of health (housing, nutrition, transportation, financial stability) for those in need.

None of this will be easy. Developing housing is hard, complicated, work. Mergers are complex and unnerving. Major renovations bring change to daily routines and workspaces. As Catholic Charities tackles these big initiatives, while continuing to provide the same services across Central Colorado, the pressure has started to build. For our staff and for the staff at Franciscan Community Counseling and S.E.T, these changes come with uncertainty, stress, and a degree of risk. Yet, as history demonstrates, doing the best work for our neighbors in need almost always requires uncertainty, hard work, and risk. We go forth with the example that visionaries like the Sisters of St. Francis set for us. **I invite you to walk with, pray for, and invest in this hard work of helping those in poverty achieve their God-given potential.**

In 2023, Catholic Charities is aligning with the Sisters of St. Francis both in spirit and in practice as we address the issues our community is facing. People experiencing poverty are struggling to access health care. Mental health, especially for those on the margins, is at a crisis level. There are children growing up without homes, living in cars, motels, tents, and shelters. We need solutions.

To address family homelessness, **Catholic Charities will begin converting the historic Helen Hunt**

Andy

CLIENT SPOTLIGHT



Through a series of tragic circumstances, Stephanie and her husband became the caretakers of not only their eight children, but two of their grandchildren, her brother’s child, her sister, and her mother. They were making ends meet for their family of fifteen until an injury changed everything.

Stephanie’s husband was working at a roofing company when he was injured falling off a roof. While serving as everyone’s caretaker, it was difficult for Stephanie to find employment and ways to bring stability to their situation. With only disability income, the family was in crisis.

She was referred by her children’s school to the Marian House Kitchen to help feed her family. Being able to receive a free, hot meal every day had a profound impact on her. She was incredibly grateful for the help and wanted to show her appreciation, so she began volunteering a few hours a week. She felt her volunteer work was a way she could give back to the community that helped her family, and a way to support others who were experiencing difficult challenges.

“Without Catholic Charities, we wouldn’t have had anything. My children would not have had anything to eat, and the kids would not have had formula. We were on life support.”

While volunteering, she learned about The Marketplace food pantry. The Marketplace gave Stephanie the ability to feed her family at home. Through Marian House services, she not only received material help but, in her words, “spiritual help” that allowed her family to survive while they tried to move toward stability.

Her husband’s accident made Stephanie realize they could no longer be a one-income household. She visited the Hanifen Employment Center where she received a variety of services. She is attending cosmetology school and hoping to build a career that will help support her family.

“Catholic Charities gave us stability while we healed and figured out our next steps.”

Visit our website to find volunteer opportunities or to refer someone who is struggling.



In early December, Catholic Charities purchased the Helen Hunt Campus from the Legacy Institute. Now work begins to raise \$5.2 million to convert the historic two-story building into 21 - 24 multisized family apartments offering homeless families stable housing options. This project will significantly increase family housing in Colorado Springs.

Once converted to apartments, Catholic Charities working in our Family Connections program - located on the Hunt campus will have viable options for helping homeless families regain stability through housing.

Hunt Family Housing: Providing Stability for Families

“We have always been an agency that develops programs to fill the gaps in community needs. With the increase in families experiencing homelessness in our community along with other family-focused shelters closing, the opportunity to purchase the Helen Hunt Campus could not have come at a better time.”

*Andy Barton
Catholic Charities President & CEO*



Before: Classroom

After: Family Apartment

Learn More at: HuntFamilyHousing.org



Catholic Charities Sponsor a Day

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DAY MAKES!

SponsorADay@CCharitiesCC.org

- 10/05 – In Loving Memory of Sister Leann & Sister Kathleen
- 10/09 – Today is in memory of Christopher Thomas Barta
- 10/10 – Today is in honor of our Police & Firefighters
- 10/13 – Happy Birthday US Navy!
- 10/15 – Thank you Story Coffee Company!
- 10/17 – St. Luke’s Lutheran Church In Memory of Dr. Lewie Crawford
- 10/25 – In loving memory and celebration of V. Patten
- 10/27 – God Bless Us All
- 11/11 – Thank you, Vets!
- 11/14 – In honor of Mario & Maria Elizondo’s wedding anniversary
- 11/17 – In memory of George “Shorty” Roth Busy Hands - Happy Hands
- 11/19 – Hope is Never Lost!
- 11/21 – In memory of Terry Hoff, Loving Dad & Grandpa
- 11/22 – Garney Construction Our Passion is Water www.garney.com
- 11/24 – Thankful for all God’s Blessings
- 12/2 – Today is sponsored by BOK Financial
- 12/3 – Today’s meal is sponsored by St. Patrick’s Food Pantry Ministry

- 12/4 – In memory of those we have loved and lost
- 12/7 – Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved. Acts 16
- 12/8 – Nothing is impossible if you pray to St. Jude Thank you St. Jude
- 12/9 – Go in peace, be warm and be filled. James 2:16
- 12/10 – Today is sponsored by Story Coffee Company
- 12/12 – Sponsored by Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church
- 12/13 – Today is sponsored by BOK Financial
- 12/15 – Sponsored by Maj. Gen. Ray O’Mara USAF Ret. And Carole O’Mara
- 12/17 – Thank you Addie, Zac, Bryce, Cole, Maddie & Ruby!
- 12/19 – Today is sponsored by BOK Financial
- 12/20 – Today is sponsored by Monarch Mountain
- 12/21 – Today is sponsored by Paul & Betsy Carroll Merry Christmas!
- 12/23 – In Memory of Dolores Barrowman
- 12/24 – In Loving Memory of Richard Pechotta. Love always, Linda
- 12/25 – Merry Christmas and God Bless!
- 12/28 – In memory of Cliff & Phyllis Kirst & Carlos & Toni Aguirre

PREVENTING FAMILY HOMELESSNESS.

Life is hard when you don’t have a place to call home. That’s why Catholic Charities offers rental assistance, food, and other support services like early literacy education, employment, and financial support to help families out when they need it most. Help prevent homelessness. Visit CCharitiesCC.org.



Catholic Charities
of Central Colorado



Thank You Grantors! 4th Judicial District VALE (Victim Assistance Law Enforcement Fund); Colorado Springs Health Foundation; Colorado Community Health Alliance - Community Incentive Program; Inasmuch Foundation; Edmondson Foundation; El Pomar Foundation; Gates Family Foundation

Providing Help. Creating Hope.

Donate Online @ CCharitiesCC.org/Donate