

# HELPING HANDS

Quarterly Newsletter of Catholic Charities of Central Colorado

Volume 53

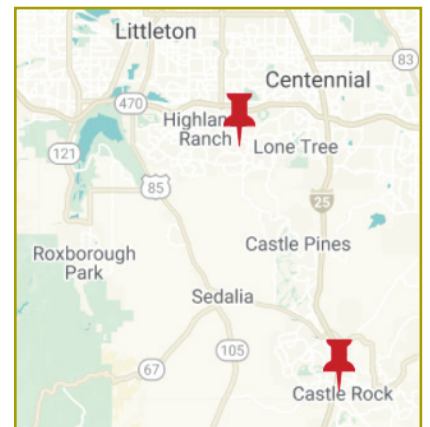
Issue 2

## THE CASTLE ROCK OFFICE EXPANDS SERVICES

### DOUGLAS COUNTY FAMILY CENTER HOUSING SUPPORT



**The Family Center of Douglas County**, a partnership of Catholic Charities of Central Colorado and Manna Resource Center, is officially open. There are two locations - Castle Rock and Highlands Ranch - to serve residents of Douglas County. Case Managers provide wrap-around services including emergency assistance, resource navigation, life coaching, and more to support each family's unique situation. In addition, a representative from Douglas County Human Services will be on-site to help families access food stamps, Medicaid, and mental health services. Initially, each agency's staff will man the resource center, but as services and clients grow, dedicated staff will be hired for the family centers. For appointments, go to [www.familycenterdougco.org/services](http://www.familycenterdougco.org/services) and click on "schedule an appointment." For more information, email [FamilyCenter@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:FamilyCenter@CCharitiesCC.org) or [FamilyCenter@MannaResourceCenter.org](mailto:FamilyCenter@MannaResourceCenter.org).



**Housing instability** is a major issue for those we serve and has become a crisis during COVID-19. With a donated townhouse (featured in the February 2021 *Helping Hands*) to provide transition to stability for families in our programs, using limited motel vouchers as appropriate, and now a generous amount of **emergency rent assistance** from the county, Catholic Charities Castle Rock will continue to help individuals and families find stable housing as they work toward achieving greater stability. Douglas County has received \$8 million for rental assistance through the CARES Act supplemental funding approved by Congress in late 2020, which has been directed to five local agencies, including Catholic Charities. These resources are invaluable to helping families thrive.



## From the CEO: Andy Barton



"In some ways suffering ceases to be suffering at the moment it finds a meaning, such as the meaning of a sacrifice."

Viktor Frankl, Holocaust survivor

In these days between the darkness of the pandemic and the promise of a return to some normalcy, let us remember the better parts of the solidarity that helped to bring us through. Even in the moments when our fear and frustration drew us inward - isolated by mandate - our love for neighbor remained. Even as our places of worship were shut or reduced, our faith persevered. These days have brought us together even as they kept us physically apart. As we move forward from the hard times of this past year, let us not forget the love and care for each other that was our shelter when our world appeared so bleak.

Perhaps our present times feel something like the years following Jesus's resurrection, described so beautifully in the Pauline Epistles. For early Christians, it was a period of uncertainty and hope following the devastation of the crucifixion. In those days of the early church, the apostles spoke not about returning to times like those before Christ's death, but of a new world based on the teachings of a Savior who brought the word of God and challenged the status quo. To see this new world, Paul writes in his letter to the Romans: "Not only that, but we even boast of our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance, proven character, and proven character, hope, and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out

into our hearts through the holy Spirit that has been given to us." The great Jewish psychiatrist and Holocaust survivor Viktor Frankl reiterated this notion in his autobiographical *Man's Search for Meaning* writing, "In some ways suffering ceases to be suffering at the moment it finds a meaning, such as the meaning of a sacrifice." Both Saint Paul and Frankl, men who fundamentally understood hardship, challenge us not to merely make it through difficult times but to become better as a result of them.

In the year to come, many of us will return to our daily activities, rituals, and traditions that were interrupted by COVID-19. These acts will be just cause for celebration; yet, let us not forget that many were suffering long before the arrival of COVID-19. The vulnerability of our poor has been exposed disproportionately by this pandemic. For them, "returning to the normal" of a pre-pandemic life will be far more difficult and offers no great promise. For them, there will still be the constant worry of achieving the most basic human needs like housing and food. For them we must look to renewal, rather than return. Let the solidarity in our response to crisis be the foundation of our new daily lives of outreach and love for our poor and vulnerable.

# We rise together to serve our most vulnerable.

Help us help each other.





"It seemed like there was no hope."



## SAVED FROM EVICTION

Losing work. Reduction of work hours. Eviction notices. Pain and suffering. Businesses closed. Sickness. Loneliness. Nowhere to turn. These terms have become too much a part of our vocabulary during COVID-19, but it is the reality of too many of our neighbors.

Diane's mom died just as COVID-19 was spreading through Colorado, leaving her to care for her veteran father who suffers from mental illness. Caring for others has been Diane's life. She had always worked hard to provide for her family through full time employment and side jobs cleaning homes, missing so many of those special moments due to work. But the hard work paid off, and she purchased a home for her family in 2009.

As the virus spread, people began to isolate. Diane's clients canceled cleaning appointments, then her full-time employer had to let her go as businesses shut down. Diane spent her savings paying her mortgage and necessary bills

as long as she could, but eventually the money ran out. By December 2020, she was behind on her mortgage and the potential of losing her home was very real.

After calling several agencies without success, Diane felt defeated. She was losing hope. Diane contacted Catholic Charities where she spoke with Heather, a housing case manager. Diane said, "*Heather responded with such understanding and compassion, and treated me with dignity. At that moment, as I ended the first call with Heather, I knew it was going to be OK, because there were still good people out there.*"

Heather worked with Diane and her mortgage company, and Catholic Charities provided the funds necessary to get Diane back on track and save her home. She said, "Catholic Charities will always have a special place in my heart." Being one to always "pay it forward," Diane hopes to give back and help others once she is steadily employed again.

# The 20th Annual St. Patrick's Day Gala

## A Virtual Success!

# STPATSGALA



Thank You  
St. Patrick's Day  
Committee

Becca Barsetti  
Ed & Nancy Bracken  
Vicki Dimond  
Christy Fackelman  
Cathy Gendron  
Bernadette Jaurequi  
Wanda Kimbrell  
Judy McCarty  
Pat Siebes  
Linda Van Matre



While we hoped to be in person for our 20th Annual St. Patrick's Day Gala, it was just not possible with COVID-19 restrictions and the need to keep all our supporters safe. If you watched the event March 17, you saw that Dianne Derby joined us as the host of the event. We are so grateful for her participation. She opened by welcoming everyone, from her home to yours.

Since the gala was fully virtual, the auction was more important than ever in helping us meet our revenue goals. Thanks to the Gala Committee for securing auction items, and to all the generous businesses and individuals for their support through donated auction items. AND, thanks to the auction winners for their lively bidding! Over \$175,000 has been raised to date, with donations still coming in. Our goal is \$210,000 and there is still time to make your 100% tax-deductible donation and watch the event here:

[CCharitiesCC.org/stpatsgala](https://CCharitiesCC.org/stpatsgala)

### Thank You Sponsors

Presenting Sponsor



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WWW.DIOCS.ORG



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Hostess: Dianne Derby  
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The Gazette

## Rapid Re-Housing Housing for Families and Individuals

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) is an intervention designed to help those who are homeless or on the verge of homelessness. Our community is very familiar with this process, as it has been used to help homeless **families** find housing for many years. Catholic Charities recently began using RRH to help **individuals** find housing as well.

The objective is to help people obtain housing quickly, increase self-sufficiency, and remain housed. The premise is that by connecting a person with a home, they are in a better position to address other challenges that may have led to their homelessness, such as obtaining employment or addressing substance abuse issues.

Our clients work with a housing case manager and an employment case manager to address employment and housing at the same time. They also receive emergency services and food support through our client services



team, our Marian House Kitchen, and Marketplace food pantry. Families with children can access supports such as clothing, baby items, showers, and laundry through Family Connections at the Helen Hunt Campus.

The biggest obstacle to a successful RRH is finding a landlord who will take the RRH voucher. In the strong Colorado Springs housing/rental market, rents exceed the value of the voucher. The good news is there are currently several affordable housing complexes and communities in development, so over the next few years, more affordable housing units will become available, making it easier for families and individuals to quickly move into stable housing.



## Ways to Support Catholic Charities

### Catholic Charities Works!

#### Livestream on Facebook @CatholicCharitiesofCentralColorado

Catholic Charities has launched a Facebook Live program. Each show features a program or service in a talk show format, hosted by Brea Reimer-Baum, development manager at Catholic Charities. She interviews staff who present a deeper look into services offered by Catholic Charities. The program is produced by our Marketing and Communications staff

in collaboration with Mike Schell, founder of Convergent Design, who videos the program in his soundproof recording studio. Thanks, Mike!

**Join us at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month on our Facebook channel: @CatholicCharitiesofCentralColorado**



Will your employer

# MATCH

Your Gift?

## Double Your Donation!

### Employer-Matched Gifts Make Your Gift Go Further!

Many companies offer matching gift programs and will match donations made by employees.

**Do you know if your company offers this great program?** Use our search tool at:

[CCharitiesCC.org/Donate/Employer-Matched-Gifts](https://CCharitiesCC.org/Donate/Employer-Matched-Gifts)

to see if your company matches gifts, or ask your employer if a matching gift program is offered. You may be able to double or triple your generosity! **Our EIN is 84-0586169.**

We accept a variety of gifts (including vehicles). We offer a Legacy Giving program, tax-advantaged giving programs, and so much more! Visit [CCharitiesCC.org/Donate](https://CCharitiesCC.org/Donate) for more information or contact the Development Team at [Development@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:Development@CCharitiesCC.org) or (719) 866-6539.

## Together, We Rise!



Sponsor a Day

**WHAT A DIFFERENCE  
A DAY MAKES!**

- 1/5 All are deserving of love, and we must meet the needs of love.
- 1/7 In honor of St. Peter Catholic Church Volunteers
- 1/12 In memory of Anthony J. Hrtica and Margaret M. Hrtica
- 1/13 Sponsored by The Kleppe Family Be the Light
- 1/24 In loving memory of Matthew Schell our son and our joy
- 1/27 In Honor of Our Bishop and Faithful Priests Serving Our Diocese
- 2/6 In Memory of Jim DeMoor
- 2/7 In Memory of Jimmy Britton, Patriot, Loving Father & Friend
- 2/10 Sponsored by The Martin Smith Family
- 2/14 In memory of our sweetheart Betty Elliott
- 2/18 I wait for the Lord in his word I put my hope. Psalm 130:5
- 2/24 Notre Dame Our Mother Pray for Us
- 2/25 In Memory of Helen & George Marvin
- 3/4 In Memory of Mary Carter O'Connor We miss you!
- 3/17 In Memory of Mom & Dad, Kerry & Pat
- 3/18 In Memory of William Burns Matthew 11:28-30
- 3/19 In God's loving grace we share in his blessings by serving you today.
- 3/23 Sponsored by Friends of the Marian House
- 3/24 In honor of all the volunteers who serve in the kitchen!
- 3/25 Sponsored by Story Coffee Company
- 3/27 In Memory of Johanna Muller
- 3/29 In Memory of Loretta Valdez
- 3/30 In Memory of Ilona Schuebel
- 3/31 In Memory of Mary Jane Calderon

*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 [DHeisler@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:DHeisler@CCharitiesCC.org)**

**Donate Online @ [CCharitiesCC.Org/Donate](https://CCharitiesCC.org/Donate)**





# NEWS



### DONATE YOUR VEHICLE

Vehicle donations can be life changing. If public transportation is not widely available, a family has no way to get to work, the doctor's office, or even the grocery store without a car. Transportation can be one of the biggest challenges for families trying to move forward.

Call 720-215-4521 or visit [CCharitiesCC.org/DonateYourVehicle](http://CCharitiesCC.org/DonateYourVehicle)



### ESL CLASS REGISTRATION

ESL will hold a variety of weekly, virtual classes at five different learning levels. Some scholarships are available.

To learn more or to register, visit [CCharitiesCC.org/esl-citizenship](http://CCharitiesCC.org/esl-citizenship)

or

Call Michelle at 719-866-6516



### JOB SKILLS HELP CONTINUES!

Our Hanifen Employment Center is open, and staff are working with clients by appointment, online, via email and by phone to offer skills assistance and job search. Jobs continue to be filled even through COVID-19.

Call 719-866-6445  
or email [Jobs@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:Jobs@CCharitiesCC.org)

[CCharitiesCC.org/HEC](http://CCharitiesCC.org/HEC)

### FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

The Marian House Marketplace needs your help to ensure the best selection of food items for families in need. Please consider making a food or monetary donation, or donate through Amazon Smile. Simply go to [Smile.Amazon.com](http://Smile.Amazon.com), log in, search for Catholic Charities of Central Colorado, and start shopping on the wishlist! Your support is greatly appreciated. Questions about the Marketplace?

email [Pantry@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:Pantry@CCharitiesCC.org)  
or Call 719.866.6288



### FAMILY CONNECTIONS AT HELEN HUNT CAMPUS

Family Connections will have a Parking-Lot Clothes Giveaway May 14 and 28 from 10 a.m. - noon. These dates will be weather dependent.

Call 719-578-1222

### FOLLOW OUR BLOG!



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

[CCharitiesCC.org/Blog](http://CCharitiesCC.org/Blog)



### BASIC MEDICAL CARE & VACCINATIONS

Care and resources are provided to clients every day through partnerships with Penrose-St. Francis Faith Community Nurses and the SET Clinic. Throughout the winter months, walk-in flu shots (and hopefully COVID-19 shots) will be available at the Neighborhood Nurse Center in Client Services on

**Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:30-1:30.**

**Together We Rise. Together, We Help Each Other.  
Together, Hope Is Found.**

**CURRENT VOLUNTEER NEEDS**

Volunteers are always needed to help at the Marian House Kitchen to prepare and serve the hot, daily meal. Shifts are:

**Monday - Sunday, 7 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.,**

**7 a.m. - 10 a.m., and**

**10 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.**

**Call 719-866-6281, or email**

**[Volunteeroffice@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:Volunteeroffice@CCharitiesCC.org)**

**To Get Involved**

**[CCharitiesCC.org/Volunteer](https://CCharitiesCC.org/Volunteer)** 

**Careers**

Want a career helping people at a trusted nonprofit in Colorado Springs? Check us out!

**[CCharitiesCC.org/Employment](https://CCharitiesCC.org/Employment)** 

**BABY FOOD NEEDED**

We need baby food - jars and cereal - for our families at the Helen Hunt Campus. Donations can be dropped off at:

**14 W. Bijou St. M-Sat, 8 a.m. - noon**

**Call 719-578-1222**



April was Volunteer Appreciation Month, and we definitely appreciate our volunteers! These extraordinary people serve our community in so many ways, keeping our programs running seamlessly, all while bringing joy to our staff and those we serve.

Volunteers play a critical role in everything we do at Catholic Charities of Central Colorado. From preparing and serving meals at the Marian House Kitchen, to stocking the Marketplace pantry or the pantry at the Castle Rock office, to washing and sorting clothing for the Kids Klozet at Family Connections, to teaching early literacy, English as a Second Language, Childbirth, and Parenting classes,

volunteers give of their time, talent and treasure. Collectively, volunteers have contributed 28,843 hours of service, valued at almost \$900,000 since July 2020. Even with the ongoing pandemic, our volunteers are committed to making a difference in our community!

For our volunteers who took a break during COVID-19 for their safety and the safety of our staff and clients, we look forward to having you back soon!

**Thank you, volunteers, for your dedication to this community and the work of Catholic Charities. You make this work possible!**

**Together We Rise!**

**Contact Us**

**Castle Rock Office:**

**Donations:**

**ESL & Citizenship:**

**Family Connections:**

**Hanifen Employment Center:**

**Marian House Client Services:**

**Marian House Food Pantry:**

**Volunteer:**

**[croffice@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:croffice@CCharitiesCC.org)**

**[development@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:development@CCharitiesCC.org)**

**[esl-citizenship@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:esl-citizenship@CCharitiesCC.org)**

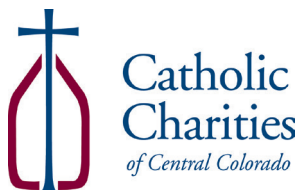
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**[pantry@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:pantry@CCharitiesCC.org)**

**[volunteeroffice@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:volunteeroffice@CCharitiesCC.org)**



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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](http://www.CCharitiesCC.org)  
[info@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto: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%

#### 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 or Legacy Giving
- Employer Matching Gifts
- Donor-Advised Funds

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

### MATERIAL DONATIONS

**Food:** Plastic Spoons, Heavy Styrofoam plates, bottles of water, snack bars, ground beef, hot chocolate, spices, canned vegetables, powdered coffee creamer

**Castle Rock:** jelly, chili, canned meals, snacks

**Infants & Children:** Sizes newborn & 4, 5, 6 diapers; baby food, formula, maternity & NEW baby clothes and new baby bottles.

**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

### THANK YOU GRANTORS!

Colorado Springs Health Foundation

Colorado Springs Utilities -  
Community Focus Fund

El Paso County - FEMA Phase 38

Pikes Peak Community Foundation -  
Emergency Relief Fund

Pikes Peak Continuum of Care -  
Emergency Solutions Grant

Pikes Peak United Way -  
Community Investment Fund

**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