

# HELPING HANDS

Quarterly Newsletter of Catholic Charities of Central Colorado

Volume 54

Issue 2

A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL...



**Daniel & Leslie Paulonis and Bob & Mary Ellen White, decked out in their festive green and shamrocks, toast at the St. Patrick's Day Gala.**

The **21st Annual St. Patrick's Day Gala** was a big success. After two years of conducting a virtual gala, it was great to be back in person with our friends.

Guests shopped the silent auction, enjoyed dinner, listened to CEO Andy Barton, bid in the Live and Paddle Auctions, and watched the premier of Lighthouse - the newest video from Catholic Charities. **To see the video, visit our website at [CCharitiesCC.org/stories-of-hope](https://CCharitiesCC.org/stories-of-hope).**

A highlight of the evening was the "Last Bid" paddle raise which rewarded the "winner" with a rare bottle of Old Rip Van Winkle bourbon. Many guests tried to be the last bidder,

but John Marzolf snuck in to get his paddle up just in time. And with his generous nature, he gifted Bishop Golka with this rare find!

Thank you to everyone who attended, planned, volunteered, donated, and sponsored the event. With more than 310 people in attendance, 24 sponsors, and numerous donors, over \$280,000 was raised to support the programs of Catholic Charities.

**To learn more about the work of Catholic Charities visit us at [CCharitiesCC.org](https://CCharitiesCC.org).**

**Thank You For Your Support!**



## From the CEO: Andy Barton

***"Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?"***

***He answered, "The one who treated him with mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."***

***Luke 10:36-37"***

A group called Complicit Clergy has been circulating a video on YouTube recently. In it, they accuse the Catholic Church and Catholic Charities of facilitating the mass migration of individuals and families from Central America and Mexico into the United States. The video captures some of the components that make the border crisis in this country so disturbing, not the least of which is the horrific manipulation of children. The report goes on to imply that Catholic Charities contributes to the problem by providing shelter and other basic services for the immigrants in U.S. cities. Because the Complicit Clergy video generalizes their use of Catholic Charities, there have been a number of questions about Catholic Charities of Central Colorado and the Diocese of Colorado Springs involvement.

Every Catholic Charities agency in the U.S. is a stand-alone corporation operating under the diocese and Bishop in which they are located. Catholic Charities USA is the national membership entity that provides resources and support to the individual agencies throughout the United States. On the border, it is Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley, Laredo, San Antonio and San Diego that are doing most of the sheltering work with asylum seekers. Our local Catholic Charities does not provide any funding to other agencies, those working at the border, or otherwise. While we do provide services for immigrants, that work is concentrated on assisting those who have a legal pathway to navigate the documentation and citizenship processes.

It is critical to us that all philanthropic investments in Catholic Charities stay in the Diocese of Colorado Springs. Those gifts that are designated to a specific program like the Marian House Kitchen or to a specific service area like Douglas County are even more explicitly applied. This guarantee is a central tenet of good stewardship, and we take it seriously.

We also take seriously the accusations being made in the Complicit

Clergy video. While Catholic Charities of Central Colorado does not have any direct involvement with the work being done at the border, I will attempt to clarify some of the misunderstanding that seems to be at the root of this criticism of the Church. The facilities being run by Catholic Charities agencies on the border are providing shelter, food, and other basic supports to asylum seekers once they have been allowed into the U.S. by our government. The asylum process is complicated, misunderstood, and backlogged, but it is important to understand that under international law, those seeking asylum are granted safe haven until they are allowed a hearing to determine the merits of their claim.

Those arriving at shelters operated by Catholic Charities are not doing so clandestinely, they are being referred via the United States Department of Human Services. Once in the country, asylum seekers are required to appear for their case hearings and routinely check in with Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE), but are not required to stay in a specific place. Most migrants move on from border communities to more stable living conditions elsewhere in the U.S. within a couple of days of arriving. If Catholic Charities ceased to operate these shelters, it would not change anything about the number of individuals and families coming into the United States, but it would likely result in more cold and hungry people sleeping in parks and on the streets of U.S. border communities as they continue their journey.

Catholic Charities, whether in Colorado Springs, Castle Rock, San Diego, or McAllen, Texas, responds to the gospel call to care for the least of our neighbors when we encounter them. Our work is here in the communities we serve throughout the Diocese of Colorado Springs, and that is where we apply all of our resources. We pray for an end to the suffering of so many who are stuck in the crisis on the border and for the leaders in Central America, Mexico, and the United States to bring an end to the conditions that create these problems.

# WE RISE.

Due to the pandemic, the Morris family fell on hard times. With the support of people like you, they have risen above the challenges and are now in a safe home with a stable future.

Help us, help each other. Visit [CCharitiesCC.Org](http://CCharitiesCC.Org) to find out how you can change lives.



Catholic Charities  
of Central Colorado

**GIVE HOPE. RISE.**



## Client Success

**"If I didn't have Catholic Charities, I don't know where we would be. I am so grateful."**



Photo by Josh Willink from Pexels

## OUT OF THE STORM TO STABILITY

Isabel was struggling. Pregnant with her second child and in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic, her relationship ended with her children's father. Due to complications from her pregnancy, she lost both her jobs. Now, a single mom of two children with no child support or help from the children's father, she began working part-time, cleaning office buildings, to try to keep her family stable.

Their father's unexpected departure and her job losses left her with an apartment rental commitment she could no longer afford. Isabel had no transportation, limiting her options for improving income, and she fell behind on her rent and utility bills. Overwhelmed, she found limited assistance with several area agencies, but it was not enough. Then she found Catholic Charities.

Through the Colorado Emergency Rental Assistance program – a government program implemented during COVID to keep people from losing their homes - Catholic Charities (CC) assisted Isabel with rent and utilities to keep the family safe and housed. Her case manager helped her register for SNAP benefits to access food, diapers, and formula, and referred her to the Douglas County

Cares Program for assistance in finding an apartment that works in her new budget.

With transportation still an issue, Isabel received a car through Catholic Charities' vehicle donation program, expanding her options for better employment, and giving her the ability to shop for groceries, get to doctors' appointments, and do other tasks she could not easily do before.

With immediate concerns resolved, Isabel continues to work to improve her family's circumstances. She has secured a second job, giving her family a secondary source of income.

She continues to work with her CC case manager, build toward stability, and gain confidence in her ability to be self-sufficient. She wants to be a good example for her girls, showing them they can overcome adversity with hard work and dedication.

Isabel said, "If I didn't have Catholic Charities, I don't know where we would be. I am so grateful." Having a car and an affordable, safe place to live allows her to focus on finding a good-paying job, saving money, being a good mom, and making plans for the future

*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.*



## PROGRAMS & EVENTS

### ESL and Citizenship Classes Registration Opportunities for Fall 2022

#### Atlas Prep High School

August 30: 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

September 1: 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

January 10, 2023: 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

#### Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church

2nd Week of August - TBD

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

#### Hanifen Employment Center

August 22, 24: 11:30 - 1:30 p.m.

January 9 -11, 2023: 11:30 am - 1:30 p.m.

Fall Classes begin  
September 12, 2022

#### For more information:

- Send an email to [esl-citizenship@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:esl-citizenship@CCharitiesCC.org)
- Visit our website in August to register online: [CCharitiesCC.org](http://CCharitiesCC.org).

### Castle Rock Upcoming Events Supporting the Community

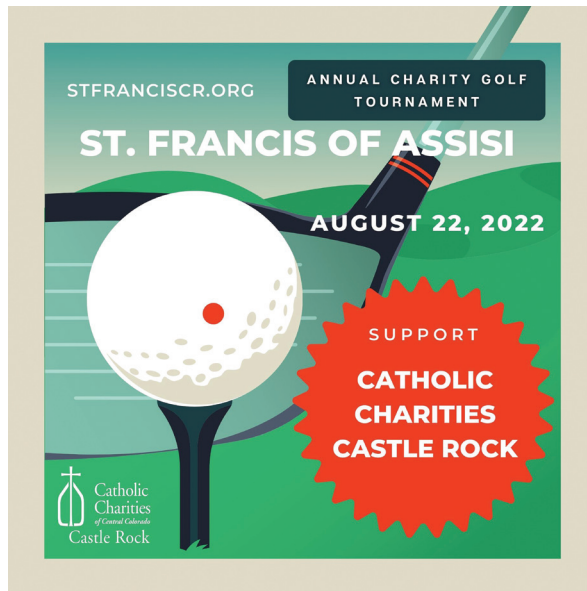
#### Winter Coat Drive

The Castle Rock Office will begin collecting winter coats for their annual coat drive in September. Gently used or new winter coats can be "gifted" to a family in need.

#### Golf Tournament

August 22 will be St. Francis of Assisi's 6th annual Golf Outing benefitting Catholic Charities, the Knights of Columbus, and the parish.

**For Information  
on these events, call  
720-215-4521**



### The Marketplace Donation Needs

The Marketplace helps families stay healthy and fed. We expect to see the number of families needing our support to increase during the summer when children are not receiving a free or reduced lunch at school.

Summer is challenging for households struggling with food insecurity. Even with school districts providing children with "pick up" sack lunches, those meals are available only for the child. To help meet the growing need, please consider donating family-sized food items to the pantry. The list below details some high demand items.

- Condiments (Mayo, Ketchup, Mustard)
- Spices (Salt, Pepper, etc.)
- Eggo Frozen Waffles
- Meat (Beef, Chicken, Pork)
- Canned & Fresh Vegetables
- Canned & Fresh Fruit
- Snack Items
- Ramen Noodles
- Flour & Sugar in 5 pound bags
- Butter & Margarine
- Vegetable Oil, Olive Oil
- Prepared Meals - Microwavable/Canned
- Hygiene Items (Soap, Body Wash, Shampoo, Conditioner)
- Toilet Paper & Paper Towels

A more extensive list can be found on our website at [CCharitiesCC.org/donate](http://CCharitiesCC.org/donate). Items can be delivered to The Marian House located at 14 W. Bijou Street, to the west side of the building. Donations can also be purchased through Amazon at <https://buff.ly/3r4wlcY>.



# Ways to Support Catholic Charities

## Building Tomorrow Together

Our community will be stronger because of you!

The vision of Catholic Charities is to transform lives through relationships that build individual resiliency and thriving communities. Your legacy allows thousands more to build resiliency, to strengthen community, to find hope. Your generosity is our future.



Philanthropy planning is a good step to take, no matter who you are giving to or in what amount. Life can change in a moment - make sure you, your loved ones, and your favorite charities are remembered. For more information, visit [CCharitiesCC.org/leave-a-legacy](http://CCharitiesCC.org/leave-a-legacy). We know these decisions are not easy and are often best made through conversation, prayer, and reflection.

If we can help in your planning, please contact our Chief Advancement Officer at [Development@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:Development@CCharitiesCC.org) or **719-866-6440**

### WAYS TO GIVE

#### STATE INCOME TAX CREDITS

- **Enterprise Zone 25%**  
Donations to Marian House & Family Connections of \$250+
- **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

### THANK YOU GRANTORS!

CHP Emergency Solutions Grant  
El Paso County American Rescue Plan Act  
Metro Denver FEMA and ARPAP  
Phase 39 and ARPA - El Paso County



### Sponsor a Day

**WHAT A DIFFERENCE  
A DAY MAKES!**

#### Thank You to our 1st Quarter Sponsors

- 01/05 To Love is to will the good of the other. - St. Thomas Aquinas
- 01/06 Sponsored by Tom & Carole Vorpahl
- 01/12 Happy 75th Anniversary, Tony & Margaret Hrtica
- 01/13 Sponsored by The Kleppe Family Be the Light
- 01/20 In Honor of all the Volunteers who Serve in the Soup Kitchen
- 01/24 In loving memory of Matthew Schell, our son and our joy.
- 02/03 All things pass - February 3, 1941
- 02/12 In Honor of the Kemp and Sindelar Families, from Bobby & Lisa Britton
- 02/17 Nothing is impossible. Pray to St. Jude. Thank you, St. Jude!
- 02/23 In honor of Nicole, Garrett & Grant Smith
- 02/24 Today is in honor of our Seminarians
- 03/16 Today is in memory of Mom, Dad, Kerry, & Pat
- 03/17 In memory of Mary Carter O'Connor. We miss you.
- 03/24 You are loved more than you could ever know.

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](mailto:SponsorADay@CCharitiesCC.org)

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





# NEWS



## GROWING GREAT KIDS AT FAMILY CONNECTIONS

**Growing Great Kids** is a one on one family program that includes curriculum and a personalized plan to encourage family strengthening and growth. Offered through the Family Connections Parent and Early Childhood Education team, this opportunity is an exciting way to help families build strong and lasting relationships.

**Contact**

[KDobyns@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:KDobyns@CCharitiesCC.org)



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### ESL Teachers

Our ESL programs need volunteer classroom teachers and bilingual (Spanish) computer teachers for Tues. and Thurs. evening classes for school year 2022/23. Classes are offered in-person and online and curriculum is provided.

### Hanifen Employment Center

The HEC is looking for a volunteer to teach a new class: Navigating Employment Using The Internet. This class is scheduled monthly for 90 minutes.

### Performance & Innovation

A Data Support volunteer is needed to compile data from the agency's reporting platform, interpret data, and perform basic MS Excel calculation.

### Family Connections

A Site Coordinator volunteer is needed to welcome families and assist with basic needs such as shopping in the Children's Closet, data entry, directing voice mail appropriately for 4 hours, two days per week.

**Call 719-866-6286 or Email [Volunteer@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:Volunteer@CCharitiesCC.org)**



## BASIC MEDICAL CARE & VACCINATIONS

Care and resources are provided every day through partnerships with Penrose-St. Francis Faith Community Nurses and the SET Clinic.

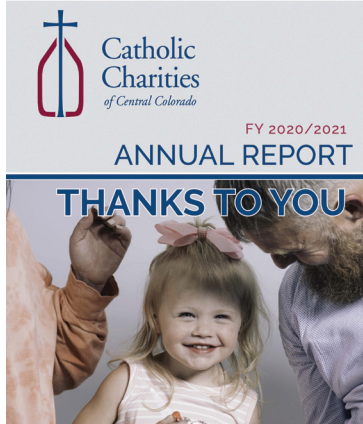
**SET Clinic is open daily**

**10:30 am - 1:00 pm**

**Faith Community Nurse**

**Tues, Wed, and Thurs**

**10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**



**VIEW OUR ANNUAL REPORT**  
[CCharitiesCC.org/AnnualReport](http://CCharitiesCC.org/AnnualReport)

## ESL CLASSES BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER

Both in-person and online classes will be available for Basic English through Level 5 beginning in September. Computer Classes and Citizenship Classes are also available.

**For More Information:**

**Call 719.866.6516**

**Or email:**

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

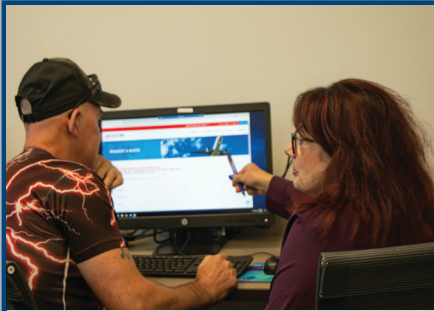


### MARIAN HOUSE HANNIFEN CENTER FOR SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Client Services Case Managers continue to work with individuals and families in need of housing or help with keeping their existing homes. From July 2021 through March 2022, Catholic Charities assisted 826 households with rent, and successfully placed 50 individuals into stable housing. Additionally, 93% of those helped maintained their housing.

Employment Case Managers also assisted 53 individuals with improving their employment.

**For More Information:**  
Call 719.866.6445



### GET HELP WITH JOB SKILLS

The **Hanifan Employment Center** will begin offering computer classes the first and third Tuesday of each month from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. These classes will focus on applying for jobs online, building and uploading a resume, and navigating online job posting sites and search tools.

**Improve your employment  
today!**  
Call 719-866-6445,  
Email [Jobs@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:Jobs@CCharitiesCC.org),  
or visit

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



### FOOD INSECURE? SHOP AT THE MARKETPLACE!

The **Marketplace** allows families to shop - at no cost - for a variety of healthy food to cook at home. Clients must have transportation and refrigeration. Hours of operation are:

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

Email [Pantry@CCharitiesCC.org](mailto:Pantry@CCharitiesCC.org)  
or Call 719-866-6288  
To make an appointment



### 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**

### 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](http://CCharitiesCC.org/DonateYourVehicle)



### SAFE AND SECURE

A free infant/child safety class on emotional health, positive discipline, car seat safety, and safe sleep/SIDS prevention is available. Parents completing this one-hour class can order a new car seat or Pack 'n Play™ at no cost. For more information, email

[KDobyns@CCharitiescc.org](mailto:KDobyns@CCharitiescc.org)



**Catholic Charities**  
of Central Colorado

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

NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
TMR DIRECT  
80909

**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

**HELPING HANDS** is published in Feb., May, Sept., & Dec.

No article in this publication may be reprinted in whole or in part without permission of the editor. ©2022 Catholic Charities of Central Colorado. *Postmaster: send address changes to Catholic Charities, 228 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903.*

**PUBLISHER**

Catholic Charities of Central Colorado, Inc.  
President & CEO - Andy Barton

**EDITORIAL STAFF**

Editor, Writer, Layout, Photography - Rochelle Schlortt  
Writer, Layout, Photography - Erica Crosen  
Circulation - Betsy Finley



Family Resource Center Association  
Connecting Resources, Impacting Lives



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



## Connect With Us

<b>Castle Rock Office:</b>	<a href="mailto:CROffice@CCharitiesCC.org">CROffice@CCharitiesCC.org</a>
<b>Catholic Charities Counseling:</b>	<a href="mailto:CounselingInfo@CCharitiesCC.org">CounselingInfo@CCharitiesCC.org</a>
<b>Donations:</b>	<a href="mailto:Development@CCharitiesCC.org">Development@CCharitiesCC.org</a>
<b>ESL &amp; Citizenship:</b>	<a href="mailto:ESL-Citizenship@CCharitiesCC.org">ESL-Citizenship@CCharitiesCC.org</a>
<b>Family Connections:</b>	<a href="mailto:FamilySupport@CCharitiesCC.org">FamilySupport@CCharitiesCC.org</a>
<b>Family Immigration Services:</b>	<a href="mailto:Immigration@CCharitiesCC.org">Immigration@CCharitiesCC.org</a>
<b>Hanifen Employment Center:</b>	<a href="mailto:Jobs@CCharitiesCC.org">Jobs@CCharitiesCC.org</a>
<b>Marian House Client Services:</b>	<a href="mailto:Help@CCharitiesCC.org">Help@CCharitiesCC.org</a>
<b>Marketplace Food Pantry:</b>	<a href="mailto:Pantry@CCharitiesCC.org">Pantry@CCharitiesCC.org</a>
<b>Sponsor a Day:</b>	<a href="mailto:SponsorADay@CCharitiesCC.org">SponsorADay@CCharitiesCC.org</a>
<b>Volunteer:</b>	<a href="mailto:Volunteer@CCharitiesCC.org">Volunteer@CCharitiesCC.org</a>

**Careers**

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

[CCharitiesCC.org/Employment](http://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](http://CCharitiesCC.org/Tours)

FOLLOW OUR BLOG!  **Blog**

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

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