Catholic Charities
Diocese of Paterson
Annual Report
2011
Dear Friends in Christ:

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ pastoral letter *Economic Justice for All* calls us as Christians “to respond to the needs of all our brothers and sisters, but those with the greatest needs require the greatest response.” Never were these words truer than in the Diocese of Paterson in 2011.

In the wake of the devastation left by Hurricane Irene last August, Catholic Charities staff mobilized to secure supplies and volunteer resources for temporary shelters in Paterson. Evacuated families had a safe place to sleep, as well as receive new clothing to replace what had been lost or left behind. They were also provided food, medical care, counseling, and emergency repair support to help them return to their homes. In addition, Catholic Charities provided emergency assistance and case management services to other communities impacted by Hurricane Irene in Passaic County and communities in Morris and Sussex counties.

Less than two months later, when the late October snowstorm hit, Catholic Charities had systems in place to continue its emergency-response support for those in need. During these two crises alone, the organization served more than 2,000 families within the Diocese of Paterson. As this annual report shows, this is just a sampling of how our Catholic Charities agencies reach out to people in need in our communities in a myriad of ways—often at times when there is simply nowhere else to turn.

We are grateful to all who support Catholic Charities with their time, talent, and treasure and we ask for your prayers and your continued generosity. May God bless our Catholic Charities staff, volunteers, clients, and all who help the “poorest of the poor.”

Faithfully yours in Christ,

+Arthur J. Serratelli

Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, STD, SSL, DD
Bishop of Paterson
A Message from the President of Catholic Charities

“What good is it if someone says he has faith, but does not have works? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them ‘Go in peace, keep warm and eat well,’ but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also, faith of itself, if it does not have good works, is lifeless.” James 2: 15-17

These most powerful and pointed words from the second letter of James in three sentences answer the question “Why Catholic Charities?”. My Catholic faith tells me that faith and good works are necessary for salvation. Good works are expected of believers. Our faith demands of us that we recognize we are all brothers and sisters; we are all neighbors; and so, we are responsible for each other. Our faith and tradition and Catholic social teaching also tell us we should preferentially care for those most in need among us. Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Paterson, across the United States and around the world is one very important and potent way that we combine good works with faith to be neighbor to the most vulnerable.

The Bishops of New Jersey in expressing their concern for the poor among us here in New Jersey issued a “Statement on Poverty in NJ” in January of 2012. Sadly there are over 800,000 persons in New Jersey today living in poverty. There are children who go to bed hungry, parents who are jobless or in low paying jobs, families who are homeless, persons sick and with no health insurance, and elderly persons struggling in unsafe housing, often with insufficient food and lack of health and other services.

Happily in their Statement the Bishops call for an ‘Agenda for Action’. We will hear more about this Statement and the Agenda for Action throughout 2012. We in Catholic Charities, our parishes, other faith communities, government, and the private sector will be challenged much like the New Testament writer James challenges us in my opening paragraph, through good works of service, advocacy and convening, to identify and implement pragmatic recommendations to ease poverty among us.

As we grapple with this challenge, it would be helpful to know what is in place and happening now. So, please read this 2011 Annual Report for Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Paterson. Like us, be thankful for all the good going on here and in Catholic Charities agencies everywhere. Embolden yourself and prepare yourself to step up to Bishop Serratelli’s and the other New Jersey Bishops’ challenge to improve the lot of the poor, this year, now!

Many thanks for all your interest, your support and your prayers. Please feel free to call me at anytime to see any of the good work we do first hand. Be guided in the days ahead by Galatians 2:10 “All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.”

Peace.

Joseph F. Duffy, President
Catholic Charities Diocese of Paterson
This year, CFCS pushed the limits of industry as all program areas continued to serve more with less while preparing for our July 2012 Council on Accreditation survey visit. The leadership team conducted a SWOT analysis and provided input for our 2012 – 2015 strategic plan. Looking at commonalities across programs, a new organizational structure was implemented with the creation of an Executive Leadership team. Fr. Michael Burke, Fr. Tom McGrath and Ms. Linda Ward stepped up as Assistant Executive Directors to provide support and leadership to programs respectively that served children, provided psychological services or supported the elderly. A common goal of quality improvement has guided staff through multiple new initiatives this year.

Highlights from 2011 include:

- Friendship Corner I received Accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children.
- The Multilingual Center expressed its creative side both with the Garden of Hope and with the Latin Rhythms Dance recital. The Garden of Hope received special recognition from the City Green Project.
- Long-time staff members, Carolyn Gerri, Sister Maria Whilifer and Philomena De Sopo began new experiences in ministry and retirement.

Listed here you will find a program-specific report of services rendered in 2011. If you would like additional information about the work of CFCS, please contact me at 973-279-7100, extension 38.

Catholic Family and Community Services (CFCS)
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2011 Service Impact:
Our Mission compels us to serve the poor and vulnerable. Our programs respond to the needs in these populations across the lifespan, from birth to the end of life.

In 2011 Adoption and Counseling Program assisted 661 individuals. These services included home and family assessments, information searches, birthparent counseling, and 12 adoptions, international and domestic. In 2012, the Adoption Program will celebrate 65 years of service. Families who struggle following the birth of a special-needs child depend upon the expertise of our Special Child Health Services Program. Providing 24/7 care to a child with medical and physical needs is overwhelming, and all SCHS staff made certain that the 4,216 families served in 2011 had the resources, information and support to provide for a special-needs child. Every child has an advocate that works diligently to help parents enable their child to have the best quality of life possible. The Early Intervention Team provided 2,471 assessments and participated in 1,863 Individual Service Plans for children birth to three years.

Education success begins with early childhood and we are very proud of the impact of the Friendship Corner I and II Pre-Schools. Both located in struggling neighborhoods, these schools are a source of hope for the 346 Paterson families served. Friendship Corner I and II provided 681 children with 151,863 days of service. In addition, 58 children participated in the after-school program and 161 in the summer program. Supporting the family and providing quality early education are the key priorities so that each low-income child will have long-term educational success. Thanks to a generous Morris County
donor, Friendship Corner II began a food backpack program in the fall, providing 120 families with food for the weekend each month. As resources allow, this project will be expanded.

Through Special Programs, outreach and caring interventions are provided by the staff of Youth Services and Family Counseling Programs; a critical human link to society for Paterson’s poorest of the poor. In 2011, 297 at-risk individuals received Family Counseling services in a manner that fostered their dignity and self-respect, and 37 received Youth Services.

Boys ages 6-16, who need intensive Behavioral Health Services and have limited family or other support, thrive thanks to the caring staff of Mount St. Joseph Children’s Center. In 2011, 59 boys either attended the MSJ day school or resided at the center. During their time at MSJ, they gain skills, respect for self and others, and a “family’s love”. The MSJ staff model respect, compassion, love and faith in a better future for these boys who are often forgotten and are like the “orphans” of our day. The boys receive a well-rounded quality education that includes a career day, art, music and enrichment programs such as trips to museums and other locations.

Latino young adults with developmental disabilities who attend the Multilingual Center learn job skills as well as experience other enrichment education like dance, music and art. The respite support and advocacy services provided to the 1,500 families served through the Club de Padres in 2011 strengthened the family and helped to build community with events like the Garden of Hope located at 26 De Grasse Street and Latin Rhythms student concert and folk dance recital. Overall, the MLC provided almost 13,000 hours of service to children, adults, and seniors in 2011.

CFCS programs help those who are facing many challenges associated with poverty including limited education, language and literacy barriers, shrinking work opportunities, and increasing costs of basic needs like food, housing, health care and transportation. For some, the future appears hopeless. Emergency Services assistance was there to help 655 families during a crisis such as fire, flood, food insecurity or foreclosure. Our food pantry assisted 5,760 households in 2011 and distributed over 259,200 pounds of food, feeding over 20,000 people. Legal Services advocated for 760 adults; 273 additional people were provided with consultation services always mindful of keeping families intact.

We know families are challenged not only in urban areas but also in the rural parts of our Diocese where in 2011, Partnership for Social Services Family Center located in Sussex County assisted 1,160 individuals with direct services (1,021 therapy sessions), and provided food security to 1,301 households, an additional 2,113 adults and 1,298 children.

Both Sussex and Passaic County Aging Services found innovative ways to assist the rapidly growing need among seniors. Sussex County seniors were served in 2011 through programs like Meals on Wheels (20,000 meals were delivered); 45 families were supported by services provided by the Sussex Adult Day Center. An additional 348 clients received a meal at one of the senior lunch nutrition sites in Sussex. Aging Services includes
adult day care, recreation activities, transportation and case management. Passaic County Senior Outreach assisted 505 low-income seniors. Transportation services were provided to 144 seniors, 52 seniors attended the social day center, 868 seniors received case management services and 165 seniors in Paterson participated in daily activities program.

Catholic Family & Community Services has served the community since 1938 when Associated Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Paterson was founded. We are committed to continuing the tradition of helping our brothers and sisters in need. We look forward to 2012 with optimism and hope.

The Department for Persons with Disabilities (DPD)

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The Department for Persons with Disabilities (DPD) believes that all life is sacred and every person is a special gift from God. The DPD serves individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in an environment where each person can live a full and happy life; work productively; enjoy a healthy self-esteem; experience acceptance; and live in a place where all people are valued and loved.

All of DPD services are accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA), a national and international accrediting body. COA evaluates all of DPD’s services according to national "best practice” standards in non-profit management for all social service organizations and those specializing in the field of developmental disabilities and are the highest standards in the field. The DPD has been fully accredited by COA since 1986.

The DPD cares for 74 adults in our residential programs which include nine group homes and two supervised apartment programs. These homes operate seven days a week, 24 hours a day with round the clock staffing. The DPD also operates a vocational day program where 51 adults with developmental disabilities attend 5 days a week for work activities. Participants are paid for the work they do, which includes packaging, mailings, ceramics, crafts, and going out on work crews to perform cleaning at local businesses. This state-of-the-art facility provides a very positive atmosphere of comfort and welcome for clients, staff and volunteers.

Mindy Julian painting for the annual Christmas ceramics sale.
Our dedicated staff and volunteers work to make the agency’s mission a reality. DPD has over 160 staff and over 80 active volunteers. We rely heavily on government funding to support our services and funding has remained flat over the last several years. Fundraising is an important aspect of providing a quality service and DPD raises over $400,000 annually to maintain its current level of care. DPD’s administrative budget runs at 7.6%, well below the 12-17% average for an organization our size. DPD is able to manage its programs effectively and efficiently through its reputation of utilizing and maximizing technology and adhering to strong administrative and financial policies and practices.

DPD cares for residents with a multitude of varying diagnoses and functioning levels. Many have been experiencing a dramatic loss of functioning, serious illnesses and worsening of life-long disabling conditions as they grow older. In order to manage these complex medical changes, we have a registered nurse and agency behaviorist on staff. We provide direct one-to-one assistance that is needed for personal care and we make modifications to our homes when needed to make them more accessible, so that the people we serve can “age in place”. In addition, we provide pastoral support for former residents who, because of serious medical conditions, have moved into nursing homes or hospitals. Helping our residents cope with serious illnesses and even death has become a significant part of our ministry. Currently there are over 9,000 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the state of NJ who are waiting for services like ours.

The DPD empowers each person to become active, contributing, and valued members of their community, and to participate fully in life with dignity and respect. We offer a resident support group, art therapy program, community service groups, cooking classes, a Boy Scout Group and a multitude of recreational activities. Many of our residents are also involved in the Knights of Columbus, Columbiettes and Special Olympics.

**Residential Services:**

**Alexander House** is a large ranch style home in Oak Ridge. DPD provided 2,952 days of care to 3 men and 5 women with developmental and physical disabilities and autism.

**Barnet House** is a large two story home in Pompton Lakes. DPD provided 2,788 days of care to 3 men and 5 women with multiple developmental and physical disabilities.

**Calabrese House** is a ranch style home in Parsippany. DPD provided 1,798 days of care to 1 man and 4 women with developmental and physical disabilities.

**Columbus House** is a large ranch style home in Oak Ridge. DPD provided 1,888 days of care to 6 men with significant developmental disabilities, physical disabilities and autism.

**Finnegan House** is a large two story home in Oak Ridge. DPD provided 2,831 days of care to 4 men and 4 women with developmental disabilities and mental health issues.

**Fitzpatrick House** is a ranch style home in Pompton Lakes. DPD provided 1,807 days of care to 5 men with developmental disabilities and autism.

**Murray House** is a split level style home in Clifton. It is the longest existing group home in the state of New Jersey. DPD provided 2,091 days of care to 3 men and 3 women.

**Wallace House** is a large ranch style home in Sparta. It is home to 3 women and 3 men with disabilities. DPD provided 2,058 days of care to 3 men and 3 women.

**Wehrlen House** is a bi-level home in West Milford and is named in honor of the founder of DPD, Msgr. John Wehrlen. DPD provided 1,901 days of care to 6 women with developmental disabilities.

**Basile Apartments** a supervised apartment program located in two condominium units in Wayne. DPD provided 2,074 days of care to 6 men with developmental disabilities and autism.
Vocational Services:

**Gruenert Center**, an Adult Training Center for 51 men and women with developmental disabilities provides opportunities for work at the Center and in the community. DPD provided 9,563 days of work for 51 individuals.

Volunteer Program:

The Volunteer Program at the DPD, “People Need Friends”, continues to thrive with new recruits and trains and supervises over 82 volunteers from around the Diocese. This year they accounted for 2017 hours in service to the residents.

Family Support Services:

DPD provided 110 hours of family support working with families to plan for and access services needed for their children with developmental disabilities.

The Director of Pastoral Care provided 230 hours of visitation and advocacy for former residents who are in nursing homes or hospitals.

Kelleher Apartments is a supervised apartment program located in three condominium units in Butler. DPD provided 2,699 days of care to 3 men and 6 women with developmental disabilities and autism.

The spirit of Father Francis English, Pastor of St. Boniface Parish until his death in 1974, lives on at the Father English Multi-Purpose Community Center. Father English dreamed of a complex of buildings that would be a center for youth and families living in Paterson. For 37 years, the dream continues to be lived out each and every day by the people of the community who use one or more of the Center’s programs as a resource, and for those who are on the staff of the agency. As an Agency committed to serving the marginalized in our society, the Father English Community Center continues to provide quality, compassionate care, always striving to “make a difference” in the lives of the people we serve.

**A Child’s World/El Mundo Del Nino:** Continuing in a tradition of excellence that first began in 1974, our early childhood learning center provides developmentally appropriate educational experiences to 105 boys and girls in the city of Paterson. Certified teachers implement a high quality curriculum that focuses on the social/emotional, physical, cognitive, and language/literacy development of all learners while differentiating instruction to meet the individual needs of students. Our program has been accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the stamp of excellence in early childhood education.

**A World of Colors/El Mundo De Colores:** For 20 years A World of Colors Preschool has strived to make a difference in the lives of the children and families we serve. For the last 12 years the preschool has worked in collaboration with the Paterson School District, Department of Early Childhood Education and the Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development, to provide full-time, full-year educational, social service referral, before and after school care, and summer care to multi-ethnic 3-4 year old children and their families who must reside in Paterson. The program has grown to include best practices in curriculum instruction as outlined in the New Jersey Early Childhood Education
Program Expectations: Standards of Quality. During 2011 the program completed the NAEYC Education Accreditation Process. The program serves approximately 150 children and families annually.

**After Care & Summer Camp Child Care Program:** Since 1974, the After Care/Summer Camp Program has offered a quality After Care and Summer Camp Program for School-age children of working or in-school parents. The "latch key" child in need of childcare has been, and continues to be, a priority of the community center. The first and the primary objective of the program is to provide care in a safe environment by a professional, caring staff. Eligibility for services in the program is based on a target population including those families who meet the eligibility requirements from the Division of Family Development child care and the working poor who live or work in the City of Paterson who have documented need for child care services. Services include meals and snacks, academic tutoring, enrichment, and family counseling. The program served over 140 children ages 5-13 in 2011.

**T.A.P.: After School and Summer Camp Child Care Program:** This quality after-school program was conceived as a safe, supervised environment where teens from 12-15 years old are trained to act as peer counselors with a goal toward becoming productive citizens. Participants are provided group counseling, behavior modification, peer mentoring, digital storytelling, recreational trips, gang awareness, sports activities, homework assistance and educational supervision. Over the course of the past year, 39 teenagers participated in this program.

**Child Care Food Program:** The Child Care Food Program funded by the State of New Jersey, Department of Agriculture, provides meal service “in-house” to all children enrolled in the agency’s preschool and school-aged child care programs. For fiscal year 2011, this on-site Child Nutrition Program provided approximately 170,000 meals including breakfast, lunch, dinner and afternoon snack to over 460 children ranging in age from 3-13 years old.

**Project Youth Haven Group Home and Emergency Shelter:** Project Youth Haven is a home for adolescent females, ages 13-17, with histories of abuse, neglect, homelessness, emotional/behavioral disorders, and severe family dysfunction. Shelter clients are in residence anywhere from a few days to a month, while group home clients may stay for up to a year or even longer. We provide housing, intensive therapy, behavior modification, life skills training, recreational activities, educational oversight, medical supervision, and above all, a family-like environment with caring adult professionals who assist the clients in overcoming their traumatic pasts. In 2011, Youth Haven served a total of 13 unduplicated group home residents, and 12 emergency residents.

**Passaic Teen Center Group Home and Emergency Shelter:** Passaic Teen Center opened its doors in 2000 to provide residential and therapeutic services to adolescent males, ages 13-17, who have experienced abuse, neglect, homelessness, emotional/behavioral disorders, and severe family dysfunction. Besides housing and board, the program provides a variety of treatment, including individual rapport counseling, individual and group therapy, case management, psychiatric services, educational assistance, recreation, all within a safe and nurturing environment that allows the boys to do the difficult work of rising above and beyond their challenging circumstances. In 2011, 12 long-term clients were served (up to a year or more) and 15 emergency shelter clients were served (up to 30 days in residence). In May 2011 Passaic Teen Center earned the distinction of having zero citations during its biannual Licensing Inspection, a great accomplishment for the program and a model for other programs in New Jersey.

**Outreach to At-Risk Youth:** Started in January 2008 as part of NJ State's strategy for deterring crime and gang activity in urban areas, this program is designed to give at-risk youth ages 11-18 an alternative to the negative influences that surround them. Consisting primarily of recreation activities (e.g. basketball, performing arts etc.), life-skills training, group counseling and gang prevention workshops, the program runs during hours that most agencies are closed: late night weeknights and Saturday morning/afternoons. In 2011 the program served 188 youth, with 119 of them being new members, surpassing its own expectations.

**Bob and Carol’s Food Pantry and Clothing Boutique:** Since it opened in 1988 when about 60 clients were being served monthly, the pantry has continually expanded in its mission to meet the needs in food, clothing and furniture assistance among the working poor families and individuals from this community. At present, the program is serving over 4,500 individuals a month or over 108,000 meals.

**Case Management Program:** Working in conjunction with our pantries, this program provides an avenue for clients seeking additional services, such as employ-
ment, referrals to detox programs, immigration assistance, and a host of other crisis-centered needs. A total of 590 adults have been served through this program in 2011.

**Work Assistance/Computer Training Program:** Our Work Assistance/Computer Training Program provides beginner and advanced computer training courses for persons seeking to improve their skills/employment opportunities. This year, 360 students were in our computer training courses. A transportation service continues to provide bus tickets to assist clients in traveling to interview and jobs.

**English as a Second Language:** English classes are taught in three 10-week sessions each academic year (September through June), with basic, intermediate and advance classes offered in both the morning and evening. In 2011, the program served over 800 adults from Paterson and surrounding areas from 10 different countries. The program helps them overcome the challenges and fears they face in everyday living, working and interacting in another language and culture.

**Neighborhood Connections:** Started in 2010, the program helped those looking for employment find appropriate assistance that will give them hope and help them move toward employment and self-sufficiency. There have been over 5,700 visits to the database website. The program was discontinued effective July 1, 2011, when grant funds ran out. The website is still available.

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The Hispanic Information Center in its 39th year of service continues to be a social change agent advocating for the poor, the hungry, homeless, and striving to protect human dignity by empowering those who walk through our doors.

In every anniversary, we recognize our Lord's unending love and goodness, and we are thankful for the opportunity entrusted to us in serving the hundreds of persons who knock at our doors seeking someone to understand them, identify with their experience while at the same time receiving hope and guidance. As an agency we are committed to serve the marginalized in our society by providing quality, compassionate service to make a difference in the lives of the people we serve.

We provide seniors with hope, create leadership in youth, serve at risk populations, contribute to social stability through job placement services and support to families via crisis intervention. The Center does what it does by relying on a team of dedicated bilingual and bicultural staff. Our team gives its best everyday to serve...
the disenfranchised and most vulnerable residents of the City of Passaic.

**Community Services:** The Community Services component’s mission is to provide clients of low to moderate means with information and resources that will enhance their economic self-sufficiency. The dedicated team of Community Workers accomplish their goals by providing such services as case management, job placement, apartment search, emergency shelter, emergency assistance to persons facing eviction or utility shut-offs, and emergency food and clothing, etc. The Center reaches its objectives by maintaining an open-door policy which allows people to visit and bring to the Center situations that are beyond their control for which Agency staff advocate on their behalf. This year 256 persons were assisted with job search; 378 with emergency food, 123 rental and 77 utility assistance, 9 with emergency furniture and 166 with clothing.

**Health Outreach:** The Center, in cooperation with St. Mary’s Hospital and the Commission for the Blind continues to render an invaluable service to Passaic residents with limited income and lack of medical insurance with vital services such as screenings for high blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, and eye screenings, etc. Consumers assisted by the staff of St. Mary’s have been able to make necessary changes in their lifestyle to improve their quality of life. This year 542 people were served.

**Homebound Program:** The goal of this program is to assist seniors in maintaining their autonomy, improve their quality of life, and prevent institutionalization. The seniors feel at home with a culturally sensitive staff that ensures that seniors feel comfortable in calling and visiting our Agency. The program provides transportation to clinics, hospitals, doctors, social security office, and interpreting and translation of documents.

This year with the assistance of community benefactors, we were able to host our Annual Mother’s Day and Christmas Luncheon. At these events, the seniors are personally served by the entire staff. This year the program served 277 unduplicated clients and 1,155 duplicated clients.

**Foster Care Program:** In operation since 1985, the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services has entrusted the Hispanic Information Center with the mission of recruiting and training resource families to offer their homes as a haven for children who have suffered a history of abuse or neglect. In July, the program celebrated 25 years as the only Hispanic organization to operate and maintain its own Foster Care Program in Passaic County and Hudson County. From January to December 2011, the Foster Care Program served 50 unduplicated cases and 298 duplicated cases in Passaic County. In Hudson County, we served 21 unduplicated cases, and 86 duplicated.

The children remain in foster care homes for six months to one year, but longer if necessary. They attend school in their respective foster family’s school district. Children who are unable to attend regular school schedules are encouraged to apply for alternative schooling. One of the biggest components of the Foster Care Program is the advocacy with which the case managers handle some of the most urgent and complex cases.

This year we are also proud to report that through the dedication and hard work of the foster care staff four children were reunited with either their biological parents or relatives; and three children who are not related were adopted by their foster mother. As an agency the
Hispanic Information Center is very proud of these accomplishments in knowing that through our efforts we have made a tremendous difference in the lives of many children.

**Youth Services Program:** Since 1975, HIC has offered support and guidance to assist local youth with behavior and learning difficulties in school, and social adjustment on the street. In 2011, The Youth Services Unit served 89 duplicated and 7 unduplicated youth ages 9 to 12 in our after school program with tutoring, mentoring, and other supportive services that increase academic grades, promotes learning skills, and teaches behavior modification.

The Teen Mentoring Program served 77 duplicated and 15 unduplicated at risk youth ages 13 to 18 that were failing in school, truant, had mild to severe depression, and were engaging in other risky behaviors such as gang activities, teenage pregnancy, and drugs and alcohol experimentation.

The Youth Services Program also serviced an additional 49 cases with the following services: tutoring, mentoring, counseling, advocacy, college preparedness counseling, and other services. Of these cases 5 were duplicated.

The Youth Program had an exciting and productive year with an 80% retention rate, and 50% of our parents gained knowledge on parenting styles, and new disciplinary strategies. 80% of all our participants increased their academic grades by one letter grade or more, and 80% of our participants demonstrated an increase in positive decision making skills, and behavior modification.

As we enter our forty-first year at Hope House, we have much to be both thankful and hopeful for. While 2011 has continued to be challenging for all, we look back with pride and look forward with renewed energy and optimism.

Hope House is proud of its ability to serve more people with limited and stretched resources. Our Community Support Services which include the HIV services, Senior Services, Case Management and food pantry assistance, saw significant increased demand for assistance. With the Morris County Office of Temporary Assistance closing the Dover office, more individuals sought basic-needs assistance at Hope House. Thanks to the generous support of the community, we were able to meet the demand. In 2011, the community again has rallied to support Hope House Food Pantry and all the services provided here. Overall we benefited from over 9,000 hours of volunteer services with a value of $185,000, received and distributed over 148,566 pounds of food and served over 5,117 families, 21% more households in 2011. Volunteers from multiple communities assisted with the third annual “Ray of Hope” vegetable garden which grew 170 pounds of produce (34 pounds of tomatoes!) for distribution through the food pantry.
As a result of the changing needs of our community, we added services for two additional populations. These are the people affected by Hurricane Irene and subsequent floods and Veterans and their families. Through the Disaster Response program of Catholic Charities, Hope House was on the ground assisting individuals with crisis counseling, case management and direct assistance. Long term recovery continues and will be the collaborative effort of local resources coordinated through the Morris County Voluntary Organization’s Active in Disaster, VOAD, and the Unmet Needs Committee. As local veterans return to our area, they are faced with two economic challenges, secure employment and affordable housing. Through collaboration with Community Hope and funding from the Veteran’s Administration, Hope House is able to provide direct housing assistance to low income veteran’s at risk for homelessness via the Special Services for Veteran Families or SSVF program.

Hope House community-based Senior Services (Hope Connection, Operation Fix-It, and Chore Program) designed to assist seniors safely age-in-place in an adapted environment, served 332 Morris County residents. Services provided to 198 people living with HIV/AIDS included transportation, case management, counseling, housing assistance, education and spiritual support.

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Hope House Behavioral Health Clinical Services provided services to 398 individuals in 2011. Our Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health services continue to serve new populations with funding from United Way, the NJ Office of Faith Based Initiatives, the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey and the County of Morris, Board of Chosen Freeholders. In 2011 the Substance Abuse
Intensive Outpatient Program continued to grow. Our Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) client outcomes for its first year, affirmed what we know, Hope House clients receive quality services that change their lives. Per the June 30, 2011 NJ Substance Abuse Monitoring System (NJSAMS) Hope House IOP clients who completed the treatment plan was 61.8% compared to the NJ State benchmark of 37.4%.

With grant support from The Sami Foundation, Inc. located in Unionville, CT, we also addressed spiritual needs with a new innovative program called Wellspring. Included in this project was the creation of a meditation garden thanks to the assistance of Gene Cracovia and others from the Rutgers University Master Gardeners of Morris County.

In spite of a lack of funding for the La Cocina Latina Drop-In Center, we have continued to provide the services with innovative strategies. On average 13 women participated in the weekly information groups, 55 unduplicated women were served. Offered again in 2011, was the LEAP program, an afterschool dance program for low income minority children. The school age students held a community recital during Dover Day celebration held in the late spring of 2011.

Hope House, a licensed provider of Behavioral Health Services, was re-accredited by the Council on Accreditation in 2011. Our next survey for accreditation will be in 2015.

Hope House depends significantly on support from the greater community in order to sustain the level of services provided. We are very grateful for this generous support and the kindness of all.

Of course, we are grateful for each person who seeks our intervention confident that, in Straight & Narrow, there is an organization that may not provide the solution but the opportunity. Our reputation and success are owed to the thousands who have benefitted from our services over the years. Our statistical highlights for 2011 include: Outpatient – 418; Intensive Outpatient – 35; Methadone – 239; Medical Detox – 351; Adolescent Residential Treatment – 117; Women’s Residential Treatment – 379; Men’s Residential Treatment – 371; IDRC – 4270; Medical Day Care – 102; and Children’s Day Care - 330.

In 2011, we sought to augment our professional development efforts to provide our great staff with the most current thinking and approaches to enhance, not only their skills, but their capacity to achieve greater efficiencies. In this regard, we have collaborated with William Paterson University and the U.S. Department of Labor. When viewed against our 2010 experience, Straight & Narrow increased staff retention by 38%.
With the kind assistance of City Green, Straight & Narrow clients are maintaining four distinct gardens while enjoying the fruits (and vegetables) of their labors. When that which is harvested has exceeded our need, donations were provided to organizations for the homeless. As one of Holiday Express's ongoing projects, our

We are mindful of those agencies and institutions that refer and follow their clients through and after their Straight & Narrow experience. Although the volume of referrals speaks to a significant level of confidence, we elected to develop and distribute a referral satisfaction survey to lend some science to the process. Over 95% of those solicited rated us “Excellent.” We will endeavor to address those areas that were identified by the other 5%.

We are delighted to announce that La Vida Child Care Center has been awarded accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. With that honor, both child care centers now enjoy full accreditation.

As in years past, our annual auction was a critical and financial success. 300 attendees generously and enthusiastically supported this event which netted almost $60,000 for our programs. A $75,000 foundation grant has permitted us to begin the development of office space for our counseling staff serving female residential clients. Clients have moved into newly renovated space at 396 Straight Street as we continue to address upgrading of our client environment.

The S&N Gospel Choir pictured here sings in a different parish almost every Sunday of the year.

Clients enjoy relaxing free time in the men's lounge.

With the kind assistance of City Green, Straight & Narrow clients are maintaining four distinct gardens while enjoying the fruits (and vegetables) of their labors. When that which is harvested has exceeded our need, donations were provided to organizations for the homeless. As one of Holiday Express's ongoing projects, our
clients are the beneficiaries of great Christmas gifts, a holiday banquet and professional entertainment. All such philanthropy provides much needed resources but, perhaps, more important, it reinforces the view that we live in a kind world with an expansive heart.

Our Gospel Choir has earned well deserved acclaim for both its talent and fervor. It is virtually "booked" throughout the year.

In addition to upgrades to the Straight & Narrow website, we have entered the universe of social networking via Twitter and Facebook, generating active participation by former clients and friends alike.

While 2012 will be a year of political rhetoric and posturing, the organizational agenda for Straight & Narrow is set. Exigencies in funding and shifting priorities in the health and social welfare fields notwithstanding, our challenges are constant and our energy and commitment unyielding.

**Congregational Health Ministry Program (CHM)**

**Disaster Response Program**

RITA KELLY, RN, Liaison

24 DeGrasse Street ● Paterson, New Jersey 07505

Telephone (973)279-7100 x33 ● Fax (973)523-1150

Email: rkelly@catholicharities.org

Website: www.catholicharities.org

**Congregational Health Ministry**

The mission of the Congregational Health Ministry (CHM) is to address the health needs of our communities through services that provide, restore and maintain well being. The term health ministry is used to include everyone who is called to work for the promotion of health and wellness; this includes a parish nurse and others in the faith community. Health ministries at parishes in the Diocese provide support to members of their local faith community. Often the health ministry includes an outreach component where parish volunteers reach out to the homebound, sick, dying or bereaved. In addition, health ministry volunteers often help families to navigate the health care system, access care, obtain accurate information for disease management and connect to services for the elderly, chronically ill and medically underserved.

Catholic Charities Congregational Health Ministry program exists as a support and resource to the members of the faith community interested in implementing a parish-based health ministry. The role of the liaison is to meet with the pastors, speak with the pastoral staff or interested parishioners and assist with the formation of a health ministry program, or offer support to existing programs. Assistance may include program development, mentoring of health ministry leaders, volunteer training, networking with the hospitals, other parish nurses and community resources.

Each parish creates a ministry that is unique to its needs and resources. The presence of a health ministry builds community while bridging the gap between professional health care providers and local community resources.

Bishop Serratelli comforts a Hurricane Irene client outside a Paterson shelter.
Most health ministries provide regular blood pressure screenings throughout the year, identifying many individuals with hypertension in need of medical follow-up. As a parish nurse, the liaison for Congregational Health established both a monthly free Blood Pressure Program at CFCS and a Health Education Bulletin Board to provide ongoing screening and education to both staff and the community.

As a parish nurse, the liaison for Congregational Health also sees those from the community, at the office at 24 DeGrasse Street, who have now become uninsured or underinsured and are in need of assistance in locating the resources and referrals necessary to access medical care and continue much needed medications and health related treatment options.

William Paterson University senior nursing students, in collaboration with the liaison, offered a health fair for the seniors at the Governor Paterson Towers, a nutrition program both for the parents and staff at Friendship Corner and the clients of the Paterson Adult Day Center. More than 100 clients and staff attended these health education programs and this collaboration will continue in 2012.

**Disaster Response Program**

Catholic Charities continues to play a key role in disaster and in 2011 we were challenged beyond our expectations.

**March 2011 Floods**

March again saw major flooding in our Diocese especially in Passaic and Morris County. The disaster response program assisted with the immediate needs of the residents hardest hit by the storm. More than 110 families were served by this program, with referrals and resources, such as food and clothing, advocacy and support. As greater needs were identified a long term case management program was then established to guide these clients through the system, help them to relocate, find much needed resources and begin to move forward.
Hurricane Irene At the end of August, Hurricane Irene struck Northern New Jersey, devastating areas of Morris, Passaic and Sussex counties. Many residents were forced to evacuate their homes and seek refuge at shelters or with friends and family. The disaster response program again assisted with the immediate needs of the residents providing food and clothing, advocacy and support. The disaster case management program was again established, providing assistance to over 2000 clients in need of resources and referrals and advocacy to begin to recover from this major disaster.

Project Recover A need for crisis counselors to be available for those affected by the Hurricane Irene was identified and Project Recover, a FEMA grant program was established in September. Catholic Charities was awarded this grant which offers individual crisis counseling, group counseling and information and referrals. The program goal is to help survivors understand their reactions, improve coping strategies, review their options and connect with others who can assist them. In 2011, the crisis counselors reached out to over 13,000 residents affected by the floods by canvassing neighborhoods, being present at the FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers, participating in town hall meetings and providing group sessions for the children in the schools in the affected areas.

THE MIGRANT MINISTRY COMMUNITY OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE (MM)
Fr. Rafael Pisso, ST, Director
Luis F. Arias, Associate Director
Br. Raúl Mejía, ST and Br. Henry Guerra, ST
Kevin Wright, MCV
12 Columba Street, Morristown, NJ 07960
Telephone: (973) 896-0444 or 973-818-0075
Email: themigrantministry@hotmail.com
Website: www.catholicharities.org

In 2011, the Migrant Ministry team experienced some changes, as Kevin Wright MCV, moved on to another assignment in his religious community. We thank Kevin for his three years of dedicated and loving service as an MCV (missionary cenacle volunteer) in the Migrant Ministry. We were blessed by the arrival of Br. Henry Guerra, ST for his year of mission in the Migrant Ministry.

As always, one of our primary concerns this past year was meeting the spiritual, pastoral and sacramental needs of individuals and families in our communities. We also continued to tackle prevalent issues in our communities such those dealing with: immigration status, landlord tenant problems, employment, medical needs, alcoholism and domestic violence, among many others.
None of our work is possible without the support and the generous involvement of priests, religious, and parishioners and volunteers from St. Joseph (Newton), St. Peter’s (Parsippany), St. Anthony’s (Butler), St. Mary’s (Pompton Lakes), Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha (Sparta), and the Shrine of St. Joseph (Stirling). We are grateful to all!

A look at this year’s accomplishments and statistics:

1) 120 volunteers offering over 18,000 hours of mission work, including Kevin Wright, full-time volunteer with the Missionary Cenacle Volunteers program.

2) More than 279 Masses were celebrated including the beautiful celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12th, 2011 attended by over 550 persons. At this event, five migrants from the community of Butler, completed the sacraments of initiation receiving First Communion and Confirmation. A special thanks to Fr. Dennis Berry S.T., Fr. Gonzalo Torres O.F.M. and Deacon Glen Murphy for concelebrating over this year’s celebration. We also want to thank Msgr. Kieran McHugh and the staff of Pope John XXIII High School in Sparta for hosting us. Guadalupe celebrations were also held in Pompton Lakes attended by over 250 people, Butler by 300 people, and Parsippany by 300 people. Holy week, Easter, and Christmas for the first time in Newton, were also special celebrations/events in various Migrant Communities, (including Posadas and “Adopt a Family” projects).

3) Community-wide, 25 infants, youth and adults were baptized. 1 couple was married. 1 of our faithful passed away and was sent home to God.

4) A confirmation retreat was held in Stirling for those to receive the sacraments of initiation in December. Two retreats for men and two for women to reinforce faith and self-esteem were offered to all the communities. A Families encounter was hosted by the Missionary Servants in May at the Shrine of St. Joseph. A Bible Study group meets in Newton and Sparta twice a month.

5) Members from the migrant communities attended the celebration for Spanish Heritage with Bishop Seratelli in Paterson on October, 2011.

6) Nearly 5,000 meals were served after the celebrations throughout the year (These meals regularly take place after some of the masses at St. Joseph’s in Newton and Blessed Kateri). Meals are also served after special celebrations like Our Lady of Guadalupe. In all, we provided transportation for 2,100 persons in Sparta and Newton to Blessed Kateri and St. Joseph Church for Monday evening masses. 100 persons were provided with transportation for masses at St. Anthony in Butler.

7) During 2011 we continued to be in partnership with Christ Episcopal Church at the resource center, “El Refugio,” for the migrant community in Newton. Br. Henry Guerra began providing more of a presence to the community of Newton by holding office hours at El Refugio’s office. The same can be said for Br. Raul Mejia who established office hours at St. Anthony’s in Butler due to the generosity of Fr. Michael P. Jones, OFM and his staff.
8) 144 ESL classes were held for 60 people, for a total of 290 hours in Butler and Sparta. 5 volunteers were needed to transport many of the students to the classes and back home each evening. The volunteers put in 120 hours of driving this past year.

9) In 2011 we were able to provide two mobile clinics from the Sussex County Health Department. The clients were screened for oral cancer and provided with flu shots.

10) The Blessed Kateri Migrant Ministry has continued providing a variety of services through the Help-Line 1(877) 724-5112 for the area of Newton and Sparta. The Help-Line gives information on transportation, clothing, furniture, ESL, and Mass schedules. However, the most important use of the Help-Line is for requesting medical appointments and expressing medical needs. Again, this year 8 volunteers spent 1,247 hours attending the Help Line. Around 536 people received medical or dental appointments. There were an additional 4,172 hours in transporting our clients and doing follow-up appointments. This year’s Blessed Kateri Migrant Ministry MOM’s group met once a month to support each other through the challenges of being a new mother in a new country and culture.

11) We provided several recreational activities: 15 families participated in the “Trinita Family Life Summer Camp” in New Hartford, CT. There was a Thanksgiving Dinner/Dance celebration at the College of St. Elizabeth put on by the college students for the different migrant communities. Here, Luis C. Mendez, one of our long time volunteer was recognized for his hard work in the ministry for over ten years. The Jornada Latina was celebrated monthly at St. Joseph’s Shrine, Stirling.

12) 2011 brought more uncertainty and often times fear to our migrant communities. Again we experienced the trauma of the threat and reality of immigration raids and detentions. Handing out educational pamphlets, informational workshops and the word in the pulpit, had been the prompt ways to respond to these events in all the communities. Also we have taken part at different state wide prayer vigils and national campaigns to promote and advocate to the reform of the immigration law and the DREAM Act.

13) On numerous occasions we have been called to visit migrants in jail and offer assistance obtaining legal counselors.

Serenading the Virgin Mary in Butler, during that celebration of the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Anthony Church.

MM kids from Newton, when their family home was visited by “The Pilgrim Virgin Mary” (La Virgen Peregrina). The Pilgrim Mary goes from house to house every week to pray the Rosary daily.
SECRETARIAT FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES
DIOCESE OF PATERNSON
AGENCY BUDGETS

Catholic Family & Community Services $ 18,771,054
Department for Persons with Disabilities 7,183,740
Father English Center 7,630,160
Hispanic Information Center of Passaic 1,628,908
Hope House 2,240,148
Straight & Narrow, Inc. 18,690,597
Secretariat for Catholic Charities 197,633

Combined Operating Budget for 2011 = $ 56,342,240
Catholic Charities Food Pantries Need to Be Filled and Re-filled

We need your help more than ever!

In Deuteronomy 14:28-29 it is recorded “At the end of every three years, bring all the tithes of that year’s produce and store it in your towns, so that … (those) who have no allotment of their own… who live in your towns, may come and eat and be satisfied”. Hunger in our land today in Morris, Passaic and Sussex Counties is such that we find ourselves living out this passage from Leviticus daily. We are sad that there is such hunger yet we are most happy and glad that so many among us share their food as well as their money to buy food so that the hungry among us “may come and eat and be satisfied.” Psalm 132:15 reads “I will bless her with abundant provisions; her poor will I satisfy with food”. This Psalm passage too is lived out daily in our six CC pantries across the Diocese though often the provisions fall short of being abundant.

As has been the trend in recent years the number of persons coming to our doors asking for food increased significantly. We continue to ask and we continue to receive. This year 68 parishes, schools and other faith groups provided food to one or more of our pantries up from 66 last year. Some of our donors increased the frequency and amount of their donations. 27 other groups, companies, public schools, and other nonprofits also donated food to us one or more times.

The partnership begun last year with a group of volunteers called “Coupons for the Community” has benefited our pantries in Dover and in Franklin. These volunteers collect food store coupons and then shop for needed food with money they raise or our donors give them. This group purchased many tens of thousands of dollars of food for as little as 10 cents on the dollar.

This year at Catholic Family and Community Services we fed over 20,000 people up from 14,000 in 2010. In the last quarter of 2010 the Father English Community Center fed over 4600 people monthly up from 3800 last year providing a total of 980,157 meals. Hope House in Dover provided people who were hungry 148,566 pounds of food in 2011 serving 1000 people each month. Our Hispanic Information Center in Passaic fed 420 people in 2011, the only one of our pantries not to experience an increase.

Those who were hungry asked of us food and they received. We again asked of you for food to feed them or money to buy that food and we received. We did not quite live out Psalm 132 in that our shelves were not abundantly filled. I am happy to say there were some occasions in 2011 when some of our pantries had their shelves filled abundantly for a few days and never were they completely bare. We are getting there. Many thanks!

We are hopeful that the need for food in 2011 will not grow as much as it did in 2011 Yet we do expect it to grow. So, we again ask your help. We welcome any food donations especially recurring ones. If you are already one of our food supporters and can increase your support call any of the contacts at the end of this article. If you are not currently one of our food supporters but would like to be, then call any of those contacts listed at the end of this article. Below is a suggested list of items we have prepared for those interested in conducting food drives.

**FOOD DRIVE ITEMS**

- Cash
- Supermarket gift cards
- Canned meats
- Canned fish
- Canned soups
- Canned stews
- Canned fruit
- Canned vegetables
- Canned spaghetti sauce
- Canned spaghetti
- Various pasta products
- Boxed macaroni and cheese
- Hot and cold cereals
- Powdered milk
- Parmalat
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Canned juices
- Healthy snack foods
- Crackers
- Manual can openers
- Granola bars
- Canned milk
- Powdered drink mix
- Instant cocoa
- Boxed rice products
- Baby formula
- Diapers
- Hygiene products
- Breakfast bars
WHERE TO GIVE FOOD FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES FOOD PANTRIES

I
Call one of our individual agencies and programs to deliver food directly to their pantries

Catholic Family & Community Services
Emergency Services
24 DeGrasse Street, Paterson, NJ 07505
Rosita Kardashian ● (973) 279-7100, x 41

Catholic Family & Community Services
Partnership for Social Services Family Center
48 Wyker Road, Franklin, NJ 07416
Sister Thomasina Gebhard ● (973) 827-4702

Hispanic Information Center
186 Gregory Avenue, Passaic, NJ 07055
Delia Rosario ● (973) 779-7022

Catholic Family & Community Services
Parents Place
26 DeGrasse Street, Paterson, NJ 07505
Rose Kardashian ● (973) 279-7100, x 41

Father English Community Center
435 Main Street, Paterson, NJ 07501
Carlos Roldan ● (973) 881-0280

II
Organize a food collection
at your parish
at your school
at work
among your neighbors

III
Donate funds directly to Catholic Charities Emergency Food Fund by check or at our website for secure donations
www.catholicharities.org

and send to

Catholic Charities
Emergency Food Fund
c/o The Office of Development
777 Valley Road
Clifton NJ 07013

The community garden at Hope House produced over 170 lbs of fruits and vegetables last summer for the food pantry.

The food pantry at the Hispanic Information Center of Passaic - an important charity work.

When the day’s supply of filled bags are given out, at FEEC these shelves will again be empty.
The Secretariat for Catholic Charities
Roman Catholic Diocese of Paterson
Paterson Diocesan Center
777 Valley Road - Clifton, NJ 07013
Phone: 973-777-8818 ex 278
1-800-494-3292
Email: jduffy@patersondiocese.org
Website: www.catholiccharities.org

Catholic Family & Community Services
Comprehensive Human Services Programs
24 DeGrasse Street - Paterson, NJ 07505-2001
Phone: 973-279-7100
Email: info@catholiccharities.org

Department for Persons with Disabilities
Group Residences/Employment, Spiritual & Volunteer Programs
1 Catholic Charities Way - PO Box 2539 - Oak Ridge, NJ 07438
Phone: 973-406-1100
Email: info@dpd.org

Father English Multi-Purpose Center
Community Center & Human Services Programs
435 Main Street - Paterson, NJ 07501-2817
Phone: 973-881-0280
Email: admin@fatherenglish.org

Hispanic Information Center of Passaic
Community & Human Services Programs
186 Gregory Avenue - Passaic, NJ 07055
Phone: 973-779-7022
Email: hicpassaicinc@aol.com

Hope House - Catholic Social Services of Morris County
Community Social Services / Outpatient Substance Abuse Programs
19-21 Belmont Avenue - Dover, NJ 07802-0851
Phone: 973-361-5555
Email: information@hopehousenj.org

Straight & Narrow, Inc.
Comprehensive Substance Abuse Treatment Programs
508 Straight Street - Paterson, NJ 07503-2004
Phone: 973-345-6000
Email: info@straightandnarrowinc.org

Congregational Health Ministry & Disaster Response
Health and Wellness Programs, Parish Nurses, Continuing Education
24 DeGrasse Street - Paterson, NJ 07505
Phone: 973-279-7100 x33
Email: rkelley@catholiccharities.org

The Migrant Ministry
Advocacy for Human Rights - Spiritual and Day to Day Living Needs
12 Columba Street - Morristown, NJ 07960
Phone: 973-896-0444 or 973-818-0075
Email: themigrantministry@hotmail.com

Office of Public Relations & Development
Public Awareness and Responsible Stewardship Programs
777 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013
973-523-4456
Email: email@catholicharities.org

Consider Catholic Charities in your Will
As you plan for the future, consider Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Paterson in your estate plans.
You can establish a legacy gift by simply naming Catholic Charities
in your will as a beneficiary. Consult your estate advisor.

To include Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Paterson, please use the following language:

I give, devise or bequeath to Catholic Charities, a charitable organization located at
777 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013
$___________ for the general charitable and educational purposes in carrying out its mission.

Thank you for considering Catholic Charities in your estate plans.
For more information, please call
Father Edward Lambro in our planned giving/development office at 973-777-8818 ex 294 or 257