The youth volunteers recently visited Catholic Charities from throughout the country

When people think of summer vacations - exotic locations, tours through European cities, or the boardwalk at the Jersey Shore might come to mind. But, for a group of teens from the Catholic HEART Workcamp, their summer vacation meant cleaning homes, working outside and making a difference in the lives of those in need.

All three of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson’s Agencies (Catholic Family and Community Services, the Department for Persons with Disabilities, and Straight and Narrow) had volunteers donate their time from Catholic HEART Workcamp for the twelfth consecutive year. From July 22nd – 26 these young leaders helped children, seniors, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and those in recovery.

“Each year, we have had different groups of young people come from all over the country to have an experience of ministry as well as an opportunity to bond with other teens for spiritual enrichment. The beauty of this Workcamp program is that in addition to the students sharing their time and talent with us, they also have the opportunity to see the wonderful programs that we offer. The teens always seem to be impressed with DPD and Catholic Charities,” said Joanna Miller, Executive Director of the Department for Persons with Disabilities.

Catholic HEART Workcamp is based in Orlando, FL. The Founders/Directors are Steve and Lisa Walker. The first Workcamp was established in 1993 and has increased in size every year. The Catholic HEART Workcamp mission is to revitalize communities and beautify homes for the elderly, disabled and those who cannot afford needed repairs. Their goal is to inspire participants to serve in their local communities.
Dear Catholic Charities Friends, Volunteers and Supporters,

Catholic Social Teaching is at the heart of all we do here at Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson.

From conception through natural death, we believe that every life is sacred in the eyes of God. We provide help and create hope from birth, within our Targeted Evaluation Team, right through one’s golden years, within our senior programs. We do so much for so many for all ages in between.

No story from our history better epitomizes this value than “Walter’s Story.”

Walter, a man who happened to have intellectual and developmental disabilities, moved into our Department for Persons with Disabilities over 50 years ago. When he was born, the doctor who delivered Walter told his mother that he should be institutionalized. Over 50 years later, he went on to save the life of a newborn infant. To read all of Walter’s Story, turn to Page 5.

“Walter’s Baby” celebrates her 46th birthday on August 17th.

Your continued assistance allows us to provide help and create hope for individuals in need like Walter.

May you enjoy what remains of your summer with the ones you love!

Sincerely,
The Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson
Executive Team
Thank you to Babyvision for recently donating infant and toddler items to Straight and Narrow for our Mommy and Me Program!

Courtney, Megan, Mary and adult volunteer Kim expressed deep appreciation for the opportunity to spend time in the homes and to meet the residents. Serving people with developmental disabilities was a new experience for them and certainly one they will not soon forget. They are thankful for the insight and understanding they gained through their time here and will go back to their respective states bringing with them new eyes when it comes to the dignity of all people. We very much appreciate all they did with such a glad and generous heart,” said Patricia Barrett, Director of Pastoral Care, Department for Persons with Disabilities.

In addition to working at the Department for Persons with Disabilities, the Workcamp volunteers helped at each of Catholic Charities food pantries; pulled weeds, mulched and beautified the 508 parking lot, the 508 “Secret Garden,” and the 410 garden sitting area at Straight and Narrow; provided friendship for those served at the Paterson Adult Day Center and Senior Activities Program; and painted a mural at Friendship Corner II, one of Catholic Charities Early Learning Programs.

“The teams are usually really good but this year's team was exceptional. They were enthusiastic and did whatever was asked of them from assisting our janitorial staff with cleaning to assembling and moving furniture and, of course, playing with our little ones,” said Gloria Bodker, Director Early Learning Programs, Friendship Corner II.

“As a nonprofit organization, volunteer help is always appreciated and very much needed. Not only did the young women and men provide valuable service for our programs, they also showed how good-natured they are. They treated the poor, seniors, those with disabilities and those in recovery with the highest level of respect and dignity. We are truly grateful for our long-lasting partnership with the Catholic Heart Workcamp,” said Scott Milliken, Catholic Charities Chief Operating Officer.

Help grant our wishes. You can make a restricted donation towards a particular program for a needed purchase. Call our Development Office at (973) 944-5992 or visit ccpaterson.org to contribute.

**our wish list**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Veterans Program</th>
<th>Department for Persons with Disabilities, Nursing</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walmart or Shoprite Gift Cards for Veterans in need</td>
<td>2 Phillips HeartStart On-Site AED Machines</td>
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<tr>
<td>$100 Each</td>
<td>$2,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Learning Programs</td>
<td>El Mundo del Nino, Early Learning Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching Supplies</td>
<td>Outdoor Classroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mommy and Me Program</td>
<td>Improved Fire Evacuation Route for Barnet House, Pompton Lakes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Straight and Narrow</td>
<td>Department for Persons with Disabilities</td>
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<td>Diapers for new babies</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>$150</td>
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<td>Department for Persons with Disabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broadway Show or Pro Sports Game</td>
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<td>$200 Each (for 1 staff and 1 resident)</td>
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<td>Father English Community Center</td>
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<td>Leaf Blower and Weed Wacker</td>
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<td>$300</td>
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<td>Support Coordination, DPD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funds for individuals with disabilities to take college courses (Sussex Community College LACE Program)</td>
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<td>$300 per student</td>
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<td>Catholic Adult Religious Education, DPD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Picture Bibles for adults of all abilities</td>
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**Food Pantries**

Diapers, Laundry Detergent and Personal Hygiene Products are all in great need.

**Senior Day Programs, CFCS**

Donations for Bingo games

**In-kind item of your choice**

**Men's Residential Unit**

Straight and Narrow Personal Hygiene Basket

$50 (per basket)

**Workcamp Volunteers with CEO Scott Milliken, at our Community Garden in Paterson.**

Thank you to Babyvision for recently donating infant and toddler items to Straight and Narrow for our Mommy and Me Program!
Volunteer Spotlight: The Kuba Family

Thank you to Diane Kuba, her daughter Brooke and son Brendon. This lovely family donates their time each month at our Department for Persons with Disabilities. They are part of the People Needs Friends Program which features over 100 volunteers for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

They are one of a few families who together volunteer their time to Catholic Charities.

Diane and Brendon started volunteering at DPD’s CARE (Catholic Adult Religious Education Program) over 4 years ago and Brooke joined them about 2 years ago. CARE is a monthly spiritual enrichment program for people of all religious backgrounds at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Jefferson Township.

Brendon started his volunteer journey as a service requirement for school, but never left. God bless the Kuba Family who bring much to our ministry!

Berkeley College Helps at the Father English Center

Eighteen Faculty and Staff from Berkeley College, Woodland Park, volunteered in late June at the Father English Food Pantry and Thrift Shop.

In the pantry, they sorted food and stocked shelves and sorted clothing for the Thrift Shop. Berkeley faculty, staff and students have been volunteering at various Catholic Charities sites for several years. This year, the College celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Berkeley Cares: Positively Impacting Society program and presented our Catholic Family and Community Services with a certificate in recognition and appreciation of our many contributions to the community.

The volunteers were impressed by the number of persons our food pantries serve and by the amount of food and donations that are needed on a weekly basis.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

We are looking for devoted volunteers who would like to make a difference in the lives of those in need. To learn more about our volunteer opportunities at any of our agencies, please email info@ccpaterson.org or call any of our volunteer coordinators.
They took my Baby! Walter’s Story

Walter came to Murray House, Paterson, in 1972 after his mother passed away. We never knew exactly how old Walter was, but somewhere in his 60’s was everyone’s best guess.

Walter did not speak very much, but one of the few phrases that he mastered was, “None of Your Business”, which was his response to most questions asked of him; including: “How old are you?”

Walter was quite a character and had a great sense of humor. He had qualities that brought out the best in everyone.

During the summer of 1973, Walter moved to one of our programs in Jefferson Township. One of his favorite tasks to do around the house was to check the mail. It was an essential part of his daily routine. It was his job and his job alone. He would check the mail several times a day and took great pride in bringing the mail home and handing it out to his housemates.

One hot summer day, Walter went to the mailbox and came back with quite a surprise – in his arms he cradled a newborn infant, hours old, wrapped in an old army blanket!

The police were immediately called. It was a miracle; Walter saved this beautiful newborn’s life. It was something we never forgot, and it was certainly something that Walter never forgot.

After the shock wore off, Walter was furious and would often say, “They took my baby; where is she?” He never did quite understand and was always a little suspicious. All we ever really knew was that the baby was fine and that she was adopted.

Twenty one years later, on December 29, 1994, a woman (the Baby) came to Jefferson Township. She had a news-clipping from 21 years prior that her adoptive parents had given her. She introduced herself to us and was elated to meet the people that were there at the time.

She was a pre-med student in an Ivy League school. She was so happy to hear the story of Walter and to know that he saved her life. We know that Walter is smiling down on “his baby” and the Catholic Charities Family from heaven!

Walter’s baby celebrates her 46th birthday on August 17th.

Turning Darkness Into Light

Individual from Straight and Narrow, Halfway House shows perseverance, after being shown compassion; given opportunity

Eric watched helplessly as his 3-month-old daughter passed away while waiting for an ambulance to come to his home. This tragedy led Eric to addiction. “If I knew what to do, I could have possibly saved her,” he said. The road back was with obstacles, but thanks to the help of Straight and Narrow, Eric has pushed forward.

He pursued employment in the medical field as a Mobility Assistance Vehicle Operator. A client of Straight and Narrow’s Halfway House, Eric began working at Party Rental in Teterboro so he could eventually pay for a course to be certified as a Mobility Assistance Vehicle Operator.

With encouragement from the Employment Specialist at the Halfway House, he enrolled in the certification program based in Wayne. He successfully passed the exam and was quickly hired by Lincoln Coach Medical Transportation in Clifton.

Eric makes it clear that his mother, an Open Heart Technician at St. Joseph’s Hospital for over 50 years, is a big inspiration in his life. “I’ve been clean for over 1 year now and with this career as an MOVO, I’ve made my mother very proud.”
CREATING HOPE - PROGRAM NEWS

St. Joseph’s Resident Physicians Give Back

"Give your hands to serve and your hearts to love.”

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

"Wow, what an amazing show of support from our friends at St. Joseph’s. These young women and men should be proud of their volunteer efforts. This clothing will help the families who visit our Center throughout the year. We are truly blessed to have support from the community, including St. Joseph’s Health," said Carlos Roldan, Director of our Food Pantries.

St. Joseph’s partnership with Catholic Charities spans decades, and we are proud to be honoring them at our November 2nd Caritas Gala.

"Catholic Charities has a great staff team and do amazing work throughout Paterson and beyond. There are so many people who helped us along the way. I would especially like to thank our Vice chair of Emergency Medicine, Dr. Nilesh Patel who supported this endeavor beyond belief and helped with coordinating transport, storage and did some heavy lifting! I would also like to thank our medical student and resident coordinators Ligaya Day and Dawn Reddin who helped us get volunteers and spread word throughout the hospital. We are proud of our partnership with Catholic Charities," said Sarah Bolan, Emergency Resident Physician, from St. Joseph’s.

God bless the St. Joseph’s Family and those who supported this clothing drive!

Residents from St. Joseph's Paterson, came together to donate over 1,000 articles of clothing for our Father English Pantry.

Thank you to the St. Joseph’s Regional Medical Center Emergency Resident Physicians for running a clothing drive for Catholic Charities’ Father English Center, culminating in August.

The group was able to donate over 200 bags of clothing, with the help of the entire St. Joe’s Family. The clothes were even sorted and divided into children, adults, winter clothing, and footwear. This took hours of work and plenty of volunteer support.

Aiming High


“I fell on my knees, looked up to God and said, ‘I need your help,’” were some of the inspirational words spoken by Darren Prince at Straight and Narrow on July 26, 2019.

Darren Prince is a sports and celebrity agent who grew up in Livingston, New Jersey. He is globally recognized with such clients as Hulk Hogan. Since 2009, his company Prince Marketing Group has added several Iconic actors from Oscar Nominees Burt Reynolds and Mickey Rourke to Charlie Sheen.

But if you ask Prince his biggest and most important accomplishment, he would tell you is being a recovering addict having celebrated 10 years sober and is a public recovery advocate and speaker who has appeared on Dr. OZ.

In 2018 Darren Prince released his memoir, Aiming High. Aiming quickly became an International best seller in 4 countries and on October 6, 2018 made it to Amazon’s #1 new release list. On October 24, 2018, Darren was 1 of 225 invited guests to the White House for the historic signing by President Trump of the $6B bill to help fight the opiate epidemic.

Mr. Prince kindly donated his time to speak to those in recovery at Straight and Narrow. 250 guests attended this presentation and question and answer session including Straight and Narrow Staff, individuals from our Halfway House, women and children from our Mommy and Me Program and all of the individuals who are currently residing at our mens and womens inpatient programs.

continued on pg 7
Aiming High cont’d

Darren spoke about avoiding the pitfalls of addiction, learning to feel comfortable in one’s own skin and hanging with the right crowd in the right settings. He spoke about his own despair of a 23 year plus opiate addiction while representing some of the most iconic figures of our time.

"Thank you Mr. Prince for coming out and donating your time today. If you can beat addiction, so can I," said Mark, an individual at Straight and Narrow.

Mr. Prince was later presented with a plaque recognizing his work with those in recovery, by Catholic Charities CEO Scott Milliken.

"Everyone knows someone struggling with the horrors of addiction. We need more people like Darren Prince, who are willing to speak from the heart about the troubles they have faced. Mr. Prince not only donated his time tonight, but took the time out to relate to and get to know the people in recovery at Straight and Narrow; for this we thank him," said Scott Milliken, CEO of Catholic Charities.

Forever in our Hearts, Frank Sickinger

Frank Sickinger was a gentle and pure soul; a family man; a hard worker who rarely missed a day of work; a fun-loving, diehard Mets Fan; a friend to all. Frank passed away on Christmas of 2017, but his memory will live on forever.

Frank also happened to have an intellectual disability. For nearly 20 years, Frank lived in Catholic Charities, Department for Persons with Disabilities group homes and worked at the Department’s Gruenert Center.

“Frank is here with us today, looking down from Heaven,” Billy said.

Housing Crisis Needs Immediate Assistance

By Scott Milliken, Catholic Charities CEO and the 4 leaders of Catholic Charities, New Jersey

Appeared originally in the Star Ledger: July 17, 2019

Mull for a minute New Jersey’s nickname, the Garden State. It suggests bounty and security. And indeed, New Jersey regularly ranks near the top of the richest states in the country.

Yet poverty is pervasive in New Jersey. One in 10 New Jerseyans lives below the federal poverty line, and more than 40 percent of New Jersey households are considered “the working poor,” a 2018 United Way study found.

At the same time, housing costs are soaring. New Jersey is the sixth most expensive state for renters, with rental costs jumping 16 percent since 2001. A family must earn at least $28.86 an hour to afford a small two-bedroom home, far more than the state’s $10 minimum hourly wage. A fifth of New Jerseyans forks out more than half their income for rent, an imbalance that sinks them even deeper into poverty.

New Jersey’s five Catholic Charities in the dioceses of Trenton, Camden, Newark, Paterson, and Metuchen are on the front lines in the fight to end homelessness and housing insecurity. We offer specialized services to help move people into stable, affordable homes through programs like Rapid Rehousing, Keeping Families Together, and Supportive Housing. We also offer services to help people recover from countless other crises, including addiction, mental illness, unemployment, and natural disasters.

Full the full article visit:  www.ccpaterson.org/news/housingcrisis
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
August 2019

August 1 – August 31st
Collection for Father English Center, Passaic
ShopRite, Paterson
Time?

August 31, 2019
Straight and Narrow Family Success Center
10 Year Anniversary Family Reunion, Paterson, Time?

October 26, 2019
Dunk for Disabilities
Jefferson Township
High School, 5pm

October 2, 2019
Catholic Charities Caritas Gala
www.ccpaterson.org/Caritas

October 24, 2019
CFCS Christmas Concert
Holy Family Chapel
in Convent Station, 3pm
Reception to Follow at Academy Study Hall

October 5, 2019
Autumn Outdoor Memorial Mass
Oak Ridge, 11am

January 10, 2020
Dunk for Disabilities
Jefferson Township
High School, 5pm

February 16, 2020
50th Annual
Murray House Dinner Dance.
The Brownstone, Paterson, 6pm

November 2, 2019
Straight and Narrow Fundraising Concert
Concert for Hope
St. Anthony’s Parish, Hawthorne, Time TBD

November 24, 2019
Catholic Charities Caritas Gala
Birchwood Manor, Whippany
www.ccpaterson.org/Caritas

November 26, 2019
Straight and Narrow Fundraising Concert
Concert for Hope
St. Anthony’s Parish, Hawthorne, Time TBD

December 10, 2019
Dunk for Disabilities
Jefferson Township
High School, 5pm

February 16, 2020
50th Annual
Murray House Dinner Dance.
The Brownstone, Paterson, 6pm

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