WELCOME to Our Inaugural Issue!

We are happy to share with you our first quarterly newsletter highlighting the work of the Bishop’s Annual Appeal and the impact your gift has throughout the Paterson Diocese. We hope you find it to be a “quick read” with information that will help you gain a better understanding of how your participation in the Annual Appeal helps bring the Gospel message of love and compassion to people in our local community.

Spotlight on Sussex County
Your support of the Bishop’s Annual Appeal helps make the following outreach possible for Sussex County residents:

- Partnership for Social Services

  Emergency Support: Provides help to individuals who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless, throughout Sussex County. The agency offers short-term financial assistance to families or individuals in need and helps connect those who are struggling to longer-term solutions. This may include connecting those without permanent housing to organizations or government entities that can provide direct housing assistance.

  Partnership for Social Services also helps individuals in need enroll in homeless prevention programs, assists in directing people with emergency medical needs to the immediate and proper care and provides spiritual support.

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Food Pantry and Thrift Store: Based out of Wyker Road in Franklin, the food pantry and thrift store operates Monday through Friday and on the second Saturday of each month. The majority of people who seek assistance are senior citizens who often are served in collaboration with the Meals on Wheels Program.

- **Meals on Wheels**
  Meals on Wheels provides a hot, nutritionally balanced meal to residents of Sussex County who are aged 60 and older and who are homebound, isolated and unable to prepare meals independently. This service is available five days a week and frequency of delivery is based on each person's individual needs. The volunteers who deliver food to seniors in need are sometimes the only friendly face they see each day and they often develop many lasting friendships with those they serve. In addition to delivering food and offering companionship, volunteers will intervene when they see an emergency situation and connect clients to medical assistance or other immediate care as needed.

- **Wallace House, a Group Home for Disabled Adults in Sparta**
  The Department for Persons with Disabilities (DPD), an agency of Catholic Charities in the Paterson Diocese, operates a group home in Sparta, Wallace House, for five men and women with special needs. In addition, DPD operates a support coordination program for over 200 individuals and their families throughout Sussex County. DPD helps connect this often underrepresented population to needed services including residential, social, vocational and recreational support.

- **Support for Those in Recovery**
  Catholic Charities is here to answer the call of those suffering with addictive disorders. Straight and Narrow is the largest and longest running nonprofit drug and alcohol treatment center in the country. Though based in Paterson, Straight and Narrow supports individuals anywhere in our Diocese who come to our center looking to break the scourge of addiction.

- **Veterans Services**
  The Veterans Services Program is available to veterans throughout our Diocese, including those living in Sussex County. The program provides supportive services to veterans with very low income who are literally homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Such services may include short-term financial assistance to veterans and their families to help them get back on their feet. Veterans will also be connected to other services at Catholic Charities, such as food pantries, to assure that urgent needs are met. In addition, veterans in Sussex County have their own "Veterans Clothing Closet" that provides season-appropriate clothing for men, women and children.
Spotlight on Kathy Talmadge, Sussex Site Manager Catholic Charities

How long have you been working with Catholic Charities in the Paterson Diocese?
I have been with Catholic Charities for 20 years. I have worked every aspect of the Meals on Wheels program. From kitchen work, delivering meals to clients and visiting the seniors at their homes.

Can you describe a typical day at Meals on Wheels?
By 6:00 am the meals are checked and picked up by the assigned driver at Newton Medical Center. After all the hot and cold food is placed in containers, they return to the Meals on Wheels site to pack and distribute the food into the proper carriers and place them in the vans. Four vans then distribute food to three Nutrition Centers and nine drop off centers located in Sussex County. Volunteers in that area will then pick up and deliver to the homebound seniors. If our drivers or volunteers notice a problem with a client that sends up a red flag, our office will immediately contact emergency personnel, or the individual's family member, to connect them to needed resources.

Is there one specific situation of assisting someone that especially touched you?
I remember one situation in particular that involved a female living alone in a cluttered house with no heat in winter. She was in serious condition when we first met her. Upon arriving at her house, Meals on Wheels immediately started helping her. After several attempts to reach out to her family to no avail, we began contacting appropriate agencies in Sussex County. Catholic Charities provided her with fuel to heat her house and gave her clothes to keep her warm. Meals on Wheels continued to check in on her every day while delivering her meals to make sure her needs were met and that she had heat. Eventually, with everyone's help, she was moved into a smaller, more manageable home. Without the initial assistance from Meals on Wheels, I believe the outcome would have been very different.

Is there any message you would like to give to our Bishop’s Annual Appeal supporters?
There are many seniors living alone with no family or with little support from their family. Delivering the meals and spending a few minutes chatting with them, checking on their well-being and just knowing that we care means a lot when you are alone. We never ask a senior for payment. Meals are given to our clients at no cost. Your support to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal helps to keep the seniors of our community living in their home as long as they can. Thank you for your support!

“Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.”
– Matthew 25:40
My son Billy lives at Wallace House – a group home for developmentally disabled adults in Sparta that is part of the Department for Persons with Disabilities in the Paterson Diocese. Just recently, I attended a birthday party that Billy was invited to by a friend named Dennis from one of his programs. I didn't know Dennis -- but Billy certainly did! It turns out that Dennis had specifically requested that Billy be there for his 70th birthday. I knew immediately that they must be good friends from their enthusiastic reaction to each other. It’s just one example of the growth that I have seen in Billy since moving to Wallace House.

It is wonderful to see him taking part in all the different activities he has been provided since joining the house a few years ago. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and looks forward to meetings. He has grown as a person because of this type of contact with the outside world, which is something that was missing from his life with us. He is ready to take part in things that continue to surprise me all the time. But most of all, I am so pleased with the way he has become part of the Wallace House family.

This was such a concern when the time came for him to move in, but the staff was so reassuring that it would all turn out well. I have been at the house often and have seen the residents living like any other family and eating their meals together.

My entire family is so happy knowing that Billy is safe and happy for the long term. It was something that I worried about since my first heart attack at 34.

When my wife passed away after a long illness at home, our world turned upside down. My daughter, Tresha, had returned from California to help with the hospice care for my wife, but after her death it was unknown if she would return to her career. As I advanced in age, I became more worried about Billy and his future and like any 40+ year old living at home, Billy yearned for independence. When I heard about Wallace House, I knew this was a blessing from heaven! I now am secure in knowing how happy he is at Wallace House and how they are caring for him in ways that I simply am unable to do. My daughter and I appreciate all the hard work that our Diocese and the Department for Persons with Disabilities does for the families of people with special needs.

In deep appreciation, William F. Bisang

“All good giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no alteration or shadow caused by change.”

– James 1:17
Meet Our Staff
Our Development office is here to help you meet your philanthropic goals, whether it is making a gift to our Annual Appeal, remembering the Church in your will and estate plans, establishing an endowment in memory of a loved one or supporting any other cause that is important to you.

Tim Potter
Chief Development Officer
Tim has headed up our diocesan Development Office for over 26 years. In addition to being responsible for the Annual Appeal, Tim oversaw the Partners in Faith diocesan campaign. He also provides counsel to parishes, assisting them with their individual fundraising needs. Tim is a member of the Board at St. Paul Inside the Walls Catholic Center for Evangelization in Madison and on the Board of Trustees for Catholic Charities where he serves as Chair of the Development Committee. Tim enjoys volunteering at the Department for Persons with Disabilities as part of their “Saturdays at the Center” program. He and his family are parishioners of St. Virgil Parish in Morris Plains.

Mary Beth Green
Manager of Development Operations
Mary Beth serves in an operational support role, responsible for the day-to-day gift processing and donor related inquiry services for our office. She has 24 years of corporate marketing and non-profit development experience and is delighted to serve a development role in her home Diocese of Paterson, where she grew up attending Catholic elementary and high school. She and her husband, Michael, have two teenage sons and are parishioners of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in North Arlington in the Archdiocese of Newark.

Sean Hughes
Database Administrator
With 17 years of Database Management experience, Sean has been the Development Database Administrator for the Diocese for 5 years. Sean is responsible for managing the daily donations for the Bishop's Annual Appeal as well as our diocesan capital campaign, Partners in Faith. Sean is extremely passionate about the mission which drives the Diocese of Paterson to succeed and in the calling of Jesus Christ to be the local expression of the universal Church in faith, worship and service.

Year-End Giving
We are so grateful for your support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal and ask you to consider an additional Appeal gift as part of your year-end philanthropic giving. Online gifts can be made at www.2019appeal.org or checks can be mailed to the Bishop's Annual Appeal at P.O. Box 2095, Paterson NJ 07509. All gifts postmarked December 31, 2019 or earlier can be part of your 2019 tax preparation.

More to Come...
We hope that this first issue of IMPACT gives you a good snapshot of some of the ways your Annual Appeal gift makes a genuine difference in people’s lives. In future issues, we will share with you how the Appeal supports many other important ministries, such as seminarian education and support to our senior priests as well as our ongoing Catholic Charities outreach.