Helping Working Families through Childcare Scholarships

Beginnings

Demonstrating a commitment to help working families who still struggle to make ends meet, The Diocese of Providence established the Cabrini Childcare Scholarship Fund to provide families a choice when selecting an affordable and quality child care for their children. Through the Cabrini Fund, eligible families are provided financial assistance to help cover the costs of child care.

Ministry Impact

Funded by the Catholic Charity Appeal, The Cabrini Fund has helped more than 1,200 Rhode Island families with financial assistance for child care expenses. Despite being a job, many parents still need to provide compensation that will cover all expenses.

Last year, The Diocese provided $166,500 from the Catholic Charity Appeal to help more than 220 families with childcare expenses with an average award of $1,200. Working families who benefit from the Cabrini Fund are provided critical resources to ensure the safety and well-being of their children while at work.

"Thanks to the Cabrini fund my son is now eager to a meaningful learning environment. He really enjoys playing with his friends, too!" – Maria

"Without the scholarship from the Cabrini Fund it would have been financially impossible to have my daughter in daycare and go to work. It is truly a blessing." – John

For more information on the Cabrini Fund contact Fatima Garcia, 401.421.7833 ext. 223, email fgarcia@dioceseofprovidence.org.

Neighborhood Friendly Visitor Program

Beginnings

Since 1978, The Diocesan Neighborhood Friendly Visitor Program (NFVP) has reached out to the homebound elderly of Rhode Island. Diocesan staff works with parishes, social service agencies and faith-based groups of all denominations to recruit and train volunteers who visit the homebound in need of companionship and support.

The Neighborhood Friendly Visitor Program provides a welcome relief to the isolation that many homebound people experience. Visits are also made to those in Nursing Facilities to offer a friendly conversation when no family or friends can visit.

Ministry Impact

According to the Census Bureau, Rhode Island has the highest percentage of residents over the age of 85. Both a gift and challenge, The Neighborhood Friendly Visitor Program provides isolated elders with a connection to their parish and the community.

For some families, the time spent each week by visitors provides a break to a caregiver who has around the clock responsibility for an elderly and/or disabled spouse, parent or sibling.

"This program brings comfort and joy to those who are lonely," says Ellen, a Friendly Visitor for many years, "I go to bring comfort and come away comforted myself.

Glenn, another Friendly Visitor, shares, "It helps you to grow as well and become closer to God. You laugh when they laugh and cry when they cry."

"Thank you to the Cabrini fund my son is now eager to a meaningful learning environment. He really enjoys playing with his friends, too!" – Maria

"Without the scholarship from the Cabrini Fund it would have been financially impossible to have my daughter in daycare and go to work. It is truly a blessing." – John

For more information on the Neighborhood Friendly Visitor Program contact Linda A’Vant-Deishinni, 401.421.7833 ext. 228, email ldeishinni@dioceseofprovidence.org.

Your Donations At Work....

Your donation to the Catholic Charity Appeal makes a tremendous impact on individuals and families and brings hope to those in need.

Thank you and God bless you for your continued support! • www.dioceseofprovidence.org
Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Diocese of Providence:

Once again I am in my pleasure to introduce a “user-friendly” format for the financial report of the central services of the Diocese of Providence for the fiscal year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012. The independent financial auditors, Mayer Hoffmann McCann P.C., have completed their comprehensive audit of our financial activities and the Diocesan Finance Council and I have carefully reviewed and accepted their report. This present “user-friendly” report has been simplified to summarize the audited report and to focus on the minimal activities that are supported by the General Fund or the Catholic Charity Appeal. For those who might be intimidated in more detail, the complete audited financial report of the Diocese is also available on our diocesan website (www.dioceseprovidence.org).

Although there are a few signs that indicate a positive change to the general economic state of Rhode Island and the nation, the improvement is very slow. As you review the past year’s figures for the areas featured in this summary report you will note a breakdown result for our Administration funds and positive results for our Catholic Charity Fund. An important factor in achieving these results was that in recent years the diocese initiated some internal reorganization. The savings achieved from these internal changes have been continued to be very helpful. It is especially important since parish assessment income has declined as some parishes continue to struggle with effects of the prolonged economic downturn.

For several years now the financial world has experienced an almost unprecedented volatility, and there is no way to completely predict financial performance in the future. As the Diocese of Providence continues to focus on the spiritual initiatives begun during the Year of Faith we will also continue to do our best to be the steward-shield of our resources, by relying on the providence of God and, also, from the guidance, ownership and support that we receive from our diocesan family.

Thank you for your continued and generous support during this challenging time and may God bless you and your families.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas J. Tobin
Bishop of Providence

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Catholic Charity Fund Report

Since 1925 the Diocese of Providence through the annual Catholic Charity Appeal, has generated resources to support the social, spiritual, and educational work of dozens of the diocesan agencies and parishes in our state. Through our work, these agencies and programs, for the last 87 years, have helped to provide basic needs to those in our community who are at risk: from hunger, poverty, and of course, various forms of homelessness.

Fresh excitement in the Catholic Charity Appeal occurs when we see the ability to be generous on our part. This year we have met our goal to increase the Catholic Charity Appeal by $2,000,000, from $7,678,872 to $7,875,872.

Addressing the growing need for shelter space, the Diocese opened Emmanuel House as winter emergency homeless shelters exceeded beyond capacity. The shelter now in its third year of operation, provides a safe, secure and warm place to those Rhode Islanders who have no place to stay for 45 individuals per night. Funded, in part, by the Catholic Charity Appeal, Emmanuel House also provides support for those struggling with addiction.

With more than $1.6 million in heating assistance provided to more than 6,000 Rhode Island families, Keep the Heat On is making a real difference for Rhode Islanders who cannot afford to keep their homes warm during the winter months. Funded by the Catholic Charity Appeal and from generous dinners, “Keep the Heat On” is able to serve as an option of last resort for those with no place left to turn for help.

“I am so grateful to the diocese for Emmanuel House. I don’t know where I would otherwise sleep on these cold winter nights.”

“My family is very grateful to the diocese for helping us stay warm. I didn’t know where else we could turn to for help.”

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The financial report of the central services of the Diocese of Providence is included in this summary report but not necessarily in their entirety. For those who might be interested in reviewing the financial report of the central services of the Diocese of Providence, the complete report can be accessed by visiting our diocesan website (www.dioceseprovidence.org).

Note: Certain reconciliations have been made in prior years amounts to conform to the current year presentation.

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The financial report of the central services of the Diocese of Providence

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