

Bye-Bye to Summer: It was One Sensational Season!

In a once-vacant Hill District lot, residents of St. Joseph House of Hospitality cultivated a garden and new friendships. In the Susan Zubik Welcome Center downtown, children were fed a healthy lunch, enjoyed creative activities, danced to a Deacon DJ, and high-fived a bishop. Further south in Greene County, “Rollercoasters” (a program for children undergoing life-altering transition) was running. If it feels like it was a good summer, that’s because it was.

Harvest Hospitality on the Hill

...is the name of the garden adjacent to St. Joseph House of Hospitality that was made possible through a grant from the Edible Gardens program of the City of Pittsburgh. St. Joseph’s Administrator Tom Kneier said that the garden brought so many people together. “The City’s Green Team got us up and running, the residents planted and tended to the garden, and helping hands were provided by the Cliffside Block Club and the ACH Clear Pathways day camp for children. While the garden harvested vegetables and fruit for us, it also yielded new relationships and an awareness of the homeless and the men that we serve.” See page 6 for St. Joe’s end of summer event “Jazzed About Veggies.”



St. Joseph’s Harvest Hospitality on the Hill gardening team.

Our Summer Lunch Program

...sponsored by Touching Families, provided 923 free meals to children ages 18 and under throughout the summer at the Susan Zubik Welcome Center, but lunch wasn’t the only thing that was served. Creative enrichment activities like crown-making, a “dancing banana,” DJ Dancin’ Fridays hosted by our own Deacon Cliff Homer, and an appearance by special guest Bishop David Zubik who high-fived, pounded fists, and blessed the heads of the youngsters in attendance. The Bishop also blessed more than 350 backpacks and school supplies that were donated by Mercer, CentiMark, Jennings Chiropractic, Saints Simon and Jude, St. Bernard, and St. Kilian parishes.

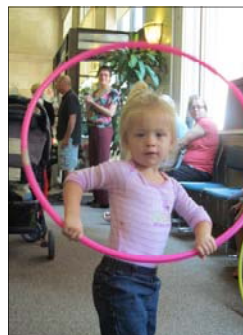
“As this was our second year for the Summer Lunch Program, I’d say that we really stepped things up for the kids,” said Volunteer Coordinator Bonnie Rolison.



Bishop Zubik, Executive Director Susan Rauscher and a student with his newly blessed backpack.

“Thank you to our college interns and Red Cross foster grandmas for their help.”

This little girl found a creative way to dance to the music played by Dancing DJ Cliff Homer.



Rollercoasters Program

...a Greene County office program, presented a summer version of its successful school-based “Rollercoasters” program to children at the WWJD Center in Waynesburg. The program utilizes creative play and artwork to help children learn how to manage their feelings when dealing with family transition or the effects of bullying. “Our summer ‘Rollercoasters’ program served 43 elementary school-aged children who had a wonderful time with our counselor while learning effective coping skills,” said county office Director Elizabeth Smith.

Counselor Lorie Zator added that when the children were asked what they liked most about “Rollercoasters,” they replied, “all of it!” The children also expressed that while it is very hard for them to concentrate in school and other activities when they worry about their family’s problems, they are now able to understand and love their family more as a result of being in the group.



A generous donation from the Greene County Memorial Hospital Foundation is helping fund Rollercoasters. Pictured above is Greene County Memorial Hospital Foundation’s Executive Director David Jones (center) presenting a check to therapist Lorie Zator and Deacon Cliff Homer.

For more photos and stories of our sensational Catholic Charities’ summer, see our “Mission on the Move” on pages 5 and 6!



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www.ccpgh.org



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Visit us on Facebook for up-to-date information, photos from past events, event calendars, videos and much more.

County Offices

Allegheny.....412-456-6999
Beaver.....724-775-0758
Butler.....724-287-4011
Greene.....724-627-6410
Lawrence.....724-658-5526
Washington.....724-228-7722

Program Sites

Free Health Care Center
412-456-6911

St. Joseph House of Hospitality
for Older Homeless Men
412-471-0666

Challenges: Options in Aging
724-658-3729

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, rooted in the Gospel and social teachings of the Church, is the primary social service agency of the Diocese, serving all regardless of religious affiliation, in their time of greatest need.

MISSION POSSIBLE

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Catholic Charities

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Susan Rauscher

“There is much social work to be done.”

A Message from Susan Rauscher, Executive Director

I recently had the unique experience of reading a collection of minutes from the Butler County Catholic Charities in the 1940s. A particular passage caught my attention because it could so easily be incorporated into today's paradigm of service and outreach.

On July 7, 1943 the minutes of the Executive Committee recorded that Miss Henrietta Halleran, social worker, gave a resume of her activities, reporting 43 children and adolescents under her supervision; 5 children in boarding homes and 63 in St. Paul's Orphanage; and 97 families for which she is doing case work. She went on to report that “there is much social work to be done.”

It is clear that Miss Halleran was cut from the same cloth of today's staff and volunteers at Catholic Charities. Significant case loads, limited resources, but an abundance of love and caring. Whether helping to place and care for children entering a foster home, helping a client gain the skills needed to find and keep a job, or working through a myriad of trials to find an address for someone with no place to call home, our Catholic Charities staff and

volunteers do remarkable things day in and day out in each of our 25 programs.

In talking with my colleagues it becomes apparent quickly that many of them fail to recognize just how “remarkable” their accomplishments are. Some because they do them so frequently they begin to feel commonplace. Others because they take the many difficulties inherent to social work to heart. And still others struggle to see the significant impact of their work because they are part of the bigger structure of care that would suffer without their input.

From where I sit, I can attest that each of our 115 person staff and our 530 volunteers at Catholic Charities make a difference each and every time they act in service. This past year that incredible group of people touched our neighbors and impacted their lives more than 239,000 times. This remarkable number was only possible because of the generosity and sacrifice of our donors who make our work possible.

And so I thank all those who continue on in the “remarkable” tradition of Miss Henrietta Halleran giving in love, acting in charity, and making a difference every day.



Students Learn and Serve During Summer Internships

Someone once said that there is no substitute for learning about the world of work than being in the world of work. Internships are one way that students learn more about their career interests while acquiring practical skills.

Catholic Charities was blessed with more than 32 student interns during the summer from 9 academic institutions with majors in social work, counseling, business, and marketing. Two students from City Charter High School in Pittsburgh were among them.

Bonnie Rolison, the agency's volunteer and intern coordinator said that while students can intern with Catholic Charities throughout the year, like most employers, summertime is prime intern time. “They come in here so excited to get a break from school and really focus on learning, and serving. Many think they have an idea of what we do at Catholic Charities, but once they're here, they're



Kirstyn Smith from City High helps organize food items for our Summer Lunch program for children.

Read an excerpt of Kirstyn's note of thanks to Catholic Charities. See page 6.

amazed at the reality of our outreach and how many people we help, with their help.”

Students interested in interning at Catholic Charities should contact Bonnie at 412-456-6696 or broli@ccpgh.org.



Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center

Making Way for Medical Expansion

Phase one of our renovation plan is now underway! Demolition of our second floor space was completed over the summer so that construction can begin on the expansion of medical services from four to six treatment suites in order to better serve our patients. Once the renovation is completed later this year, the ophthalmology suite and offices of the Volunteer Medical Director and eligibility volunteers will also be housed on the floor.

Phase one funding was generously provided by UPMC Diversified Services–UPMC Health Plan through \$150,000 in tax credit funding from a Neighborhood Assistance Program grant, and \$200,000 from the County Infrastructure and Tourism Fund (CITF). Phase two renovation funding is being committed at this time and will be designated for dental services expansion.



Making Miracles Happen On and Off the Golf Course

Before the field of golfers set foot on the course at Longue Vue Golf Club on September 9, CCFHCC's 5th Annual Golf Classic was already shaping up for success! At the time this newsletter went to press, 115 golfers were getting ready to play golf, enjoy great food, and support the efforts of CCFHCC through a silent auction and a raffle for a chance to attend the 2014 Masters (winner TBA in our Winter Newsletter).

Thank you to our event chair and CCFHCC Board President Richard Kidwell, our volunteer committee members Jim Corbett, Cathy Craig, Carl Dozzi, Maria Durrant, and Tom Frampton, and to our sponsors:

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(in memory of Helen Blazina)

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Quest Diagnostics
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Steel Valley Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine

Highmark Continued Its Support: Foundation Also Issues Match Challenge!



CCFHCC Volunteer Medical Director Dr. Ed Kelly, Administrator Annette Fetchko, dental patient Idida Cruz, and Highmark Health Services Vice President of External Affairs and Communications Dan Onorato.

During a press conference held in July at the CCFHCC conference room, Highmark Health Services announced that it would provide \$400,000 in grants to continue its longstanding support of the Free Health Care Center. The funding, which will be used to support Center operations and medical and dental services, was provided by Highmark Health Services and Highmark Foundation. Center Administrator Annette Fetchko said, "We are grateful for the support we have received from Highmark because it enables us to continue as a vital safety net for the uninsured in our local communities."

The Highmark Foundation has also issued a Match Challenge to donors. The Foundation will provide the Center with an additional \$100,000 if donors contribute a total of \$100,000 through year end. We would be grateful for your support of this effort. Gifts may be made online at www.freecarephg.org or through the mail to CCFHCC, 212 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. Make sure you designate your gift to Highmark Challenge.

Miracle Maker: Former Patient Gives Back!

For 2 years when she could not afford to pay for health insurance, Jamie Hines was a patient at the Free Health Care Center. "They were all very loving and caring," she said.

Now as a health care concierge for UPMC Health Plan, Jamie regularly speaks with the Center's eligibility volunteers to verify that prospective patients no longer have health insurance,

thus making them eligible to receive free medical and dental care.

"In a way, I'm giving back what was given to me," Jamie said. "I appreciate the work they do for the community."



Mission on the Move . . . News & Notes

2013 Bishop's Dinner Celebrates Good Mornings and Better Days!

Hosted by Bishop David Zubik, the 32nd Annual Bishop's Dinner for Catholic Charities on May 13 lived up to its theme of "Making Good Mornings and Better Days Possible" as the nearly 800 guests who attended at the Westin Center Convention Hotel were thanked for their generous support in ensuring the event's success by co-chairs Susie and Neal Shipley. Bishop Zubik and program clients of the agency presented Caritas Awards to David J. Malone, Duquesne University, St. Bernard Parish in Mount Lebanon, and the first-ever "Pure of Heart Award" to Catherine Howe, Kathleen Ruppel and Kathy Slencak. The dinner raised more than \$630,000 in support of the agency's outreach.



Co-Chairs Susie and Neal Shipley



Susan Rauscher, David J. Malone and Bishop Zubik

SAVE-THE-DATE

Next year's Bishop's Dinner
"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2014

Visit our website for details
including sponsorships.

Executive Director and Free Health Care Center Administrator Compete in "Dancing with Celebrities of Pittsburgh"

After months of practice, costume fittings, and friendly bantering, Catholic Charities Executive Director Susan Rauscher and Free Health Care Center Administrator Annette Fetchko took to the dance floor with their instructor-partners during the May 4 event at the Westin Convention Center Hotel. Rauscher performed the fox trot, while Fetchko danced the bolero. Proceeds benefitted the Free Health Care Center and Kiwanis Club of Pittsburgh Foundation. Catholic Charities Board director Mike Clark served as emcee.



Annette Fetchko and dance instructor Christopher Roth of Steel City Ballroom performing the bolero.



Annual Golf Classic Benefits Washington County Office

While sprinklings of rain could be felt early on, June 27's 20th annual golf event got underway for a most glorious day at Southpointe Golf Club. Golfers enjoyed food, awards, auction prizes and of course lots of golf and networking while benefitting the programs and services of our Washington County office. Thanks to all who participated!

Windows R Us, long-time sponsor of the event, golf foursome: (l-r) Tom Knouff Sr., Tom Knouff Jr., Don Trozzi, Ralph Schwartzmiller.

Catholic Charities 2nd Annual Sporting Clay Shoot at Nemaquin

The Shooting Academy at Nemaquin Woodlands Resort was poppin' with the sounds of our Sporting Clay Shoot, June 7. Thanks to Catholic Charities Board member John Hartzell and his committee for organizing the event and to the many individuals and corporations who supported the event including MSA, Gateway Health Plan, Hefren Tillotson, Houston Harbaugh, McGervey Electric, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley, Nemaquin, US Steel, and State Representative Mike Turzai.



MSA shooting team: (l-r) Jason Fox, David Blanco, Steve Blanco and Mark Deasy

Bethel Park Chiropractor Blesses Catholic Charities with Backpacks!

Referred to lovingly by Catholic Charities staff as the "Diaper Diva" for her huge donations of diapers in support of the agency's Pregnancy and Parenting Support Program, Dr. Amy Jennings and her patients at Jennings Chiropractic and Wellness Center provided more than 200 backpacks and school supplies last month for distribution to students. Thanks to Dr. Amy and Carol McAninch at Saints Simon and Jude, who helped to coordinate the donations.

Look for Dr. Jennings in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* this month as she was nominated for a Jefferson Award for all the good that she does for community organizations.



Greene County Classic Car Show

Classic cars, lots of food, oldies music with WANB Radio's Doug Wilson, "The Greaser," kid activities, and auction items—there was something for everyone at the June 29 show. Special thanks to County Director Elizabeth Smith and her staff for pulling all of the event details together.



Congressman Tim Murphy, Susan Rauscher, Lorie Zator and Murphy aide Nate Nevala.



WANB Radio's Doug Wilson

Congratulations! Team HOPE Recognized for Outcomes Success by Funder

Over the summer, Team HOPE staff and volunteers received a congratulatory letter from Allegheny County Department of Human Services, a major program funder, for “**achieving outstanding results**”—having exceeded enrollment by 108% and helping 93% of program

Team HOPE (Help on the Path to Empowerment) is an Allegheny County service initiative that the agency launched two years ago with the goal of moving participants from one-time assistance and dependency to a greater level of stability by offering customized bundled services appropriate to their needs.

The Team provides an individualized service plan to each participant that may include a variety of services—employment preparation and placement, budgeting, computer skills and nutrition classes, parenting support, and help with food or paying utility bills while participants are enrolled in the program.

Cathy Niebel, director of Outreach Services and the first director of Team HOPE was elated when she received the letter from the county. “This recognition that followed a rigorous monitoring of our service delivery means so much to every member of our team. When we started out two years ago, it was difficult for many of our clients to grasp that we were undertaking something new that was in their best interest in the long term,” she recalled. “Due to the success of Team HOPE, we are looking to duplicate this model in other counties where Catholic Charities serves.”

Key to the program’s success is the network of community partners that have joined the Team and provide classes and mentoring to program participants. Partners include University of Pittsburgh, Dollar Bank, Manchester Bidwell, Allegheny County Community College, and Family Services.

Current Team HOPE Director Constance Mayer says that the success of the program can be attributed to a staff and volunteers who go above and beyond. “Absolutely, it’s the cohesive way we coordinate efforts. Exceeding goals is part of the culture of Catholic Charities. We appreciate Allegheny County recognizing Team HOPE for our work with county



Team HOPE participants learn culinary skills and healthy cooking from instructors at Manchester Bidwell Training Center for Culinary Arts.

residents in need, because those statistics represent not only individual residents, but also the work of individual Team HOPE members.”

An Intern’s Note of Thanks to Catholic Charities

I am very happy that I was able to learn the ins and outs of being in a business setting such as Catholic Charities. Everyone that I have had the opportunity to work with, I am truly blessed and thankful that you all welcomed me with open arms and taught me so much. I have grown as a person and I will never forget my experience at Catholic Charities.

Kirstyn Smith

“Jazzed About Veggies”

St. Joseph House of Hospitality, one of five Edible Gardens program sites in Pittsburgh, was awarded a mini-grant of up to \$2,000 to sponsor an end of season event. The event called “Jazzed About Veggies” is **FREE and open to the public, and will be held outdoors on the grounds of St. Joe’s, 1635 Bedford Avenue, Saturday, October 5 from 3 to 5 pm.** Festivities include a jazz band and a chef from the Food Revolution Cooking Club demonstrating how to make salad dressings from scratch. Hors d’oeuvres will be served.



Vehicle Donation Program: An Easy Way to Support Catholic Charities



Have an old car or truck taking up space in your driveway? Donate it to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pittsburgh!

Janice owned her Ford Explorer for more than 20 years. It got her to and from work, lovingly transported her mother to medical appointments and survived some pretty harsh winters. Last month, it just quit.

Janice learned through a relative that Catholic Charities accepted vehicles—working or not—through its vehicle donation program. She called the toll-free number and was told that all she had to do was have the title ready and that a tow truck would come to her home to pick up the Explorer. That’s exactly what happened. As Janice said, “It was an easy way to support Catholic Charities with a donation that I didn’t have in cash. I was happy to do it.”

Catholic Charities accepts not only cars and trucks, but also boats, motor homes and motorcycles. And, all donations are 100% tax deductible.

For more information about the vehicle donation program, visit www.ccpgh.org or call our toll free number 877-595-4483. Operators answer seven days a week.



“Day of Giving” October 3, 2013 Your Gift Will Be Matched

Help us spread the word about this giving opportunity because it's so easy. Gifts made on this date and online at www.pittsburghgives.org will be matched! Make a gift to Catholic Charities or the Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center (CCFHCC) during the 24-hour giving period, and your donation will receive a pro-rated portion of the match pool, to be determined.

Last year, Catholic Charities and the CCFHCC received combined total gifts of nearly \$50,000. We would like to increase the number of donors this year in order to maximize donations and our portion of the match.

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www.pittsburghgives.org

1. Log in online on Thursday, October 3 at www.pittsburghgives.org. Gifts may be made from 12 am through 11:59 pm.
2. Make your credit card-only donation to Catholic Charities and/or the Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center. The minimum gift is \$25. There is no limit to the amount of money you may give; however, only the first \$1,000 will be counted toward the matched pool. Only MasterCard and Visa donations will be accepted.

Questions? Call the Office of Advancement at 412-456-6969.



Thumbs Up **WHEN YOU CHOOSE** Catholic Charities!

When you choose to give to **Catholic Charities and/or the Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center** through your employer's workplace campaign for United Way or the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), your gift will bless our neighbors in their time of greatest need.



Catholic Charities **United Way Contributor Choice Codes:**

Allegheny County employers whose employees want to give to Catholic Charities in other counties, if they choose to do so or live there, should use these codes:

- 4206** All Catholic Charities Programs
- 95** Allegheny County
- 604** Beaver County
- 2445** Butler County
- 1943** Greene County
- 2111** Lawrence County
- 9062472** Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center
- 290** St. Joseph House of Hospitality



Catholic Charities **Combined Federal Campaign Codes:**

The following codes are for Federal civilian, postal and military employees.

- 39262** All Catholic Charities programs
- 64793** Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center



Spreading Holiday Cheer to the Less Fortunate



It's Not Too Early to Start Planning!

Are you and your family, friends, business or parish looking for ways to help others during the upcoming holiday season? Catholic Charities would be grateful for your support to provide gifts, food, or assist with sorting and delivering gifts to those less fortunate. Please contact one of our offices below for details!

Allegheny County Team HOPE
412-456-6920

Beaver County Office
724-775-0758

Butler County Office
724-287-4011

Greene County Office
724-627-6410

Lawrence County Office
724-658-5526

Washington County Office
724-228-7722

St. Joseph House of Hospitality
412-471-0666



CATHOLIC CHARITIES 5TH ANNUAL

Be The Blessing

November 8, 2013

6:30 PM, LEMONT RESTAURANT

**Food, Fun
and
Friends**

\$65/person



RSVP: 412-456-6695

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, rooted in the Gospel and social teachings of the Church, is the primary social service agency of the Diocese. Our mission is to serve with excellence, professionalism, integrity and compassion, the human needs of individuals and families, regardless of their religious affiliation, and to provide leadership in mobilizing the resources of parishes and the wider community in addressing these needs.



MISSIONPOSSIBLE FALL 2013

The Newsletter for Friends and Supporters of Catholic Charities

Remembering Reverend Monsignor Joseph G. Findlan



Monsignor Joseph Findlan passed away in August at 101 years of age. He served as Executive Director of Catholic Charities, then known as the Commission of Catholic Charities, from 1950–1964. In an interview in 2010 to commemorate the agency’s 100th anniversary, he recalled that his fondest memory was the resettlement of 70 refugees from Hungary in 1956 following the Hungarian Revolution. Monsignor Findlan greeted the newcomers and local sponsoring families at the train station upon their arrival, and even brought a family to the Eudes Institute where he was living and served as chaplain.

To those who knew him, Monsignor will be remembered for his leadership, love of the priesthood, and his sense of humor.

Monsignor’s family has requested that memorial gifts be made to Catholic Charities. If you would like to make a donation in his memory, you may do so online at www.ccpgh.org, or by mail to 212 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.



Catholic Charities Benefits from Sunday *Tribune-Review* Subscriptions

Trib Total Media will make a **\$7.50 contribution to Catholic Charities for each new subscription** to the *Sunday Tribune-Review* for only \$10 a week for 13 weeks. Offer ends December 31, 2013.

Contributions support Catholic Charities’ programs and services. Call Trib Total Media today! 1-800-909-8742



Looking Ahead

- Oct 3 PittsburghGives “Day of Giving”**
Presented by Pittsburgh Foundation. Support Catholic Charities and Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center. Details on page 7.
- Oct 5 Jazzed About Veggies**
Free event hosted by St. Joseph House of Hospitality. Details on page 6.
- Oct 7, 14 Café io Monday Night Fundraiser for Catholic Charities**
21, 28 After 4 pm, 10% of your food bill will be donated to Catholic Charities. 300A Beverly Road, Mt. Lebanon, 15216. Café io, 412-440-0414. Menu and directions at www.cafeio.com.
- Nov 8 Catholic Charities “Be the Blessing” Dinner and Auction**
6:30 pm, LeMont Restaurant, Mt. Washington. Food, fun & games, and friends. For more information and reservations, call 412-456-6695.
- Nov 10 Father Marcus O’Brien Service Awards Dinner**
Benefits Catholic Charities’ Beaver County programs. For more information and reservations, call 724-775-0758.

